

Fields in Trust – The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge
CCC – Passenger Transport Services – Proposed changes for April 2011
CCC - Highway Wardens – Mr Sisman volunteered to be local Highway Warden for Upwood
Breheny Ltd – Company introduction
HDC - Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy consultation
Navigus Planning – Localism Bill
HDC – Ramsey Youth Forum
Passenger Transport – Changes to Stagecoach bus times from 17th April 2011
CCC – Passenger Transport Services – Contracted Bus Service Tenders
Email – Mr B Holder – advice of extension to drop bolt on cemetery gates
CARESCO – letter and poster – change in legal status
Wicksteed Playscapes – leaflet

6. Cheques

Daval Computers	£86.40
Clerk	£345.90

7. Maintenance

Mr Racey advised that several tiles were stacked up on village sign. Suggested Clerk contact Andy Davis who may be able to assist with this small matter of repair.

Mr Racey advised that two windows have been smashed in the telephone box. Clerk advised nothing further heard from Derek Seaton, and will therefore chase. Mr Racey suggested that the 'phone box needs a thorough professional clean.

Mr Racey advised that the hedge on each side of the vicarage paddock usually receives attention and indeed is in need of attention now. Mr Racey suggested that he could approach Mr Papworth to undertake this work if the Council approved. Mr Howe proposed that work should be undertaken up to the sum of £50, seconded Mr Perkins. All in favour.

8. Allotments

Upwood and Great Raveley Allotment Group notes for the Parish Council meeting were distributed to Councillors.

Mr Gowler suggested that the notes, as they are quite detailed, should be taken away and any comments brought back to next meeting.

Ms Ali Miles from the Allotment Group requested that one or two minor items be discussed at this meeting.

Mr Bryce asked that the Minutes be annotated to read that the water tap is allocated for the allotments. Mr Gowler not in agreement with this. Mr Sisman commented that it should be noted that the tap is for use for both allotment holders and users of the cemetery.

Mr Paine asked for clarification on the tap. Councillors agreed that a usual faucet should be used rather than a push button. Proposed by Mr Sisman, seconded by Mr Bryce. All in favour.

Ms Miles gave a report on the meeting held on 15th February. She advised that as many allotment holders as possible were contacted and that the majority are aware of the discussions taking place.

The Allotment Group is looking at amending the rules and having additional guidance notes for allotment holders, broken down into key issues.

Ms Miles requested that a notice board be sited near the tap in order that notices can be displayed advising allotment holders of seeds or plants other allotment holders may have spare, or other notices of interest.

Mr Sisman proposed that a notice board is erected at Upwood, near to the tap, and to be provided at the Allotment Group's own cost and is responsible for any future repair and maintenance, seconded by Mr Perkins. Mr Gowler and Mr Bryce declared an interest. Ms Miles is prepared to construct such a notice board.

Clerk to include in welcome letter reference to the Allotment Group and give contact details of Ali Miles.

The Group is looking for agreement to have shelters to harvest rain water. Mr Paine advised that he would not wish to see large areas of roofing. It was suggested that at the largest a shelter could be 1.5-2 metres high and 150cm wide. Ms Miles advised that it would be used purely for a shelter and not a shed for security purposes.

Mr Gowler suggested that members need to go away and think about this proposal.

Mr Racey feels that all the shelters should be of the same colour in sited in the same place on the allotment. This would keep the area looking tidy. Mr Gowler commented that it could also be a tidying exercise and could lead to the allotments being tidier in the future.

Ms Miles considers that allotment holders should only be responsible for the inner side of the hedge, rather than the outer side, especially for the hedge running alongside the footpath adjoining Huntingdon Road. Mr Racey advised that allotment holders do not have to undertake the work themselves if they consider there are Health & Safety issues, but could employ a contractor to undertake the work. This issue to be discussed further.

The subject of dwarf fruit trees was discussed and it was agreed that they could be allowed, together with raspberry canes, gooseberry bushes, etc.

Mr Gowler mentioned that at the start of the middle track of the allotments there is rather a lot of standing water. This may be caused by a broken drain and perhaps the matter should be investigated.

Allotments is Agenda item for next meeting.

9. Gypsy and Travellers Sites

Mr Howe advised that he has nothing further to report. HDC will not make any move until Localism Bill published later in the year. He advised that HDC's stance appears to be that they are waiting for the new guidelines to be published. Mr Howe understands that HDC are still in the process of reading the letters submitted.

10. Planning

1001729CAC - Demolition of single storey dwelling – 66 High Street Upwood - *PC cannot comment and not in agreement until plans for erection of new dwelling are seen.*

1001728FUL – Erection of two storey dwelling and garage – 66 High Street Upwood - *PC cannot comment and not in agreement until plans for erection of new dwelling are seen.*

Advice of Appeal by Strawsons Development. Mr Paine commented that nothing materially has changed.

11. Any other business

Mr Gowler queried the amount of interest received by the Parish Council as noted in the Annual Accounts. Clerk advised that it was due to a considerable reduction in interest rates and also the fact that there are now just two tiers of funding amounts on which interest is earned, rather than several tiers as previously.

Mr Bryce mentioned the poor state of the road in Little Raveley. Also mentioned the problem of flooding in both villages, even when there has been no rain. Suggested that this is perhaps something that could be dealt with under the new Highway Warden scheme.

Mr Paine advised that HMRC is introducing new PAYE and NI scheme for all Parish and Town Clerks and naturally this affected our own Clerk. Clerk advised that she will register the Council and report back at next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm