MINUTES OF A MEETING OF UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday, 6th October at 7.30 p.m. at Upwood Village Hall

Present Mr D Paine Chairman

Mr T Bell Mrs J Paxton Mr J Rignall Mr A Perkins Mr C Racey Mr K Sisman

Clerk and 6 members of the public

1. Apologies

Mr N Gowler, Mrs F Hopkins, Mr D McCreadie. Mr Perkins had sent his apologies, but arrived during the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 1st September 2008.

Mr Rignall requested two minor amendments. The word 'joint' in Item 7, bullet point 5 should be stricken and an 'a' added to the word 'are' to make it 'area'. Subject to these two amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 1st September 2008 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

Mr Paine advised that there was no further progress with regard to the bier in the Chapel of Rest, where it remains.

Mr Paine advised that the tiles surrounding the village sign had been repaired and a good job had been done by Mr Gray.

Mr Paine advised that quotations were still awaited with regard to the felling of the offshoots of the tree in Mr Silcock's garden.

Mr Racey queried whether the wheelie bins in the cemetery had to be moved out onto the pavement for collection; Mr Paine advised that the refuse operatives collected the bins from inside the cemetery.

5. Correspondence

Letter – Frances Ashfield – advising of overhanging hedges in various locations in Upwood village

Peterborough City Council – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste (Preferred Options 2) enclosing plans and CD

Huntingdonshire District Council – Register of Electors 2009 – notice for display on Parish Notice Board

Ramsey Town Centre Partnership – Healthy Walks letter and leaflet (also discussed as an agenda item)

Huntingdonshire District Council – invitation to Reception, Councillor John Davies at St Ivo Centre

Huntingdonshire District Council – Countryside Events and Activities poster for October 2008

Cambridgeshire County Council – Ramsey Market Town Transport Strategy

Cambridgeshire County Council – circular letter advising of roadshows throughout the county during October

The Standards Board for England – Town and Parish Standard newsletter

Open University – Open Near You Event

Development Control Panel Agenda for meeting on 13th October 2008

Huntingdonshire District Council – Art Attack posters

Society of Local Council Clerks newsletter

COPE Newsletter No 49 October 2008

Huntingdonshire District Council – Public Meetings Schedule October 2008

6. s137 Donation Requests

St Peter's Church Upwood

Letter received from Mr Garvey seeking assistance from the Parish Council to help with the church's insurance policy.

Mr Racey queried whether the church is able to secure grants to help with insurance cover.

Mr Sisman advised that he was not agreeable to the Parish Council giving a donation.

Mr Paine felt that the Parish Council should support the church and asked for a proposal for a donation to be made of an agreed sum. Mrs Paxton proposed, Mr Racey seconded. Mr Paine then asked for a vote -3 for, 3 against, Mr Paine cast the deciding vote in favour of supporting the church.

Mr Paine then asked for the amount of the donation to be specified. Mrs Paxton advised that she would like the amount to remain at least the same as last year. Mr Rignall raised the question of whether the Parish Council would support requests from other denominations. Mr Paine advised that should any other denomination represent itself in the village and an approach was made then the request would be given due consideration. Mrs Paxton proposed the sum of £600, Mr Racey seconded.

Magpas

Mr Sisman advised that he would like this request to be given consideration and indeed an increase on the figure donated last year as it is a very worthwhile service. Mr Sisman therefore proposed the sum of £150, Mrs Paxton seconded, all in favour.

7. Cheques

L T Gray	£319.50
Village Hall	£16.68
B C Edwards	£71.97
Clerk	£222.09

8. Maintenance

Cemetery hedge adjoining Meadow Road

Quotations recently received from Andy Davis and also Lynda and Dave Johnson (Forking Good). Further quotations to be requested from Mr Papworth and Barries Gardening Needs.

Felling offshoots of the tree behind Mr Silcock's house/garden – no further progress on this matter. Quotations to be sought.

The older part of the cemetery is overgrown with brambles and Mr Paine feels that attention needs to be paid to this area and also to the Chapel of Rest. Mrs Paxton raised the question of whether the building was listed. Members of the Parish Council not aware. Mr Sisman suggested that a quotation should be sought and Mr Paine advised that Mr Edwards' son had expressed interest in undertaking this work. Mr Paine will endeavour to ascertain whether anyone else is interested in undertaking the work.

9. Allotments

Clerk advised that replies had been received to the letters sent in connection with the allotments at Great Raveley. It would appear some confusion has arisen with regard to the plots being cultivated by Mr Glover and Mr Dodson. Mr Glover is cultivating Plots 1 and 2 and it is unclear what allotment Mr Dodson is cultivating. Mr Paine and Mr Racey to liaise in this connection.

Mr and Mrs Nel have relinquished their plot which can now be allocated to Mr Bryce who had enquired about a plot at Great Raveley earlier in the year.

10. Adopt/Sponsor a Kiosk

BT intends to remove the kiosk in Upwood. Mr Paine looked into the costs of adopting the kiosk and was advised that the cost to maintain an operational kiosk

is approximately £1,000 per annum and the Parish Council would be liable to bear all maintenance costs of upkeep and glass etc. Mr Paine to investigate further.

11. Emergency Planning Awareness Session

This item agenda postponed until the New Year.

12. Healthy Walking signage

Letter received from Ramsey Town Centre Partnership seeking permission to erect an interpretation board in Bentley Close. The Partnership to be solely responsible for the design, fabrication, installation, maintenance and insurance of the board. Discussion took place on the siting of the board and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to advise that the Parish Council suggests the board is erected close to the position of the telephone kiosk in Upwood.

13. Planning

0801204FUL – Land including and rear of Highfield Raveley Road Great Raveley - letter from HDC advising of an appeal to Secretary of State against decision to refuse planning permission

Any other plans received

14. Any other business

Letter received from Frances Ashfield with regard to overgrown hedges in the village. Clerk to write to Highways Authority.

Mr Racey advised that the Parish Council could assist the allotment holder with the hedge adjoining his property as it runs the length of his allotment, whereas the other allotment holders only have a small section of hedge to maintain.

Mr Racey advised that the electricity board have been trimming boughs off trees in the vicinity of the village sign and along Huntingdon Road and have just left the branches behind. Clerk to write to Highways Authority.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all those present and closed the meeting at 8.35 p.m.

Mr Paine then welcomed Adrian Sail of Strawsons, owner of RAF Upwood, and Victoria Walker of Beattie Communications. A master plan of the site was exhibited and discussion took place with regard to the concerns raised by the parishioners present with regard to sewerage, water and transport. Questionnaires had been available at the meetings organized earlier in the month and Mr Sail and Ms Walker advised that further exhibitions will be organised.