



Upavon Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 17th July 2024 7pm

Village Hall, Andover Road, Upavon

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

24/039	Absence apologies and Declaration of Interests (CLB) Present: Chairman Charles Leigh-Bennett (CLB), Vice Chairman Andrew Flack (AF), Anthony Gallagher (AG), Tom Bradshaw (TB), Rosalind Ayling (RA), Rebecca Lamb (RL), Bee Barff Clerk (BB), Paul Oatway WCC (PO), Anna Morton Avon Valley Practice (AM) and 11 members of the public. Apologies: Apologies were received from Grant Ingleton Lt Col.	
24/040	Minutes of previous meeting (CLB) The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15 th May 2024 were approved with minor adjustments and signed as a true copy by the Chairman. (CLB).	
24/041	General Updates I. Updates from PO Discussed highway funding for both A roads and C roads, emphasising the significant £40 million investment due to the poor condition of roads in the area. Highlighted completed resurfacing projects on the A342 from Charlton to St Peter's, the A345, and other roads. Given these efforts and the results from Wiltshire Highways, PO does not support PCAP's motion against them. PO also mentioned plans for a planning application to demolish unfit World War I buildings at Trenchard Lines and construct new ones. II. Trenchard Lines – no report submitted. III. Anna Morton from Avon Valley Practice AM presented the results of the GP patient survey. Overall patient experience improved with a 90% satisfaction rate. Addressed concerns about phone access and wait times, AM explained efforts to improve phone system efficiency and promote online services. A member of the public praised the reception staff at Avon Valley Practice, and Anna acknowledged this feedback. AM emphasised the importance of primary care, noting that Avon Valley is currently providing services beyond what is covered by the NHS. However, she mentioned that changes in government policy could impact this. Several members of the public asked questions, all of which were answered. IV. Village Hall Lesley presented a list of social events planned for the village hall from August to December. The schedule includes: Bingo evening in August, Coffee morning in September, First-aid course (limited to 14 people) in October, Board games night	

	<p>in November, Hall open day in December. The village hall is always open to feedback and suggestions for future events. PO encouraged Lesley to apply for the hall improvement funding from WC, which offers a £1,000 grant.</p>	
24/042	<p>Recruitment of Councillors – CLB mentioned that UPC currently has three more spaces available for new councillors and welcomes anyone who is interested in joining.</p>	
24/043	<p>Finance Bank reconciliation 8th July 2024 has been shared and approved.</p>	
24/044	<p>Councillor updates of work undertaken since last meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. SIDs police reporting (AF) – CLB and AF had a successful meeting with the commissioner on July 4th, stepping up the pressure on the issue. AF has a few more meetings scheduled with the speed enforcement team. The two new posts for SIDs on Pewsey Road will be installed by the end of this month. II. Potential raised pavement (current white line only) corner of Jarvis Street (AF) – This topic was discussed at the last LHFIG meeting. An outline drawing has been prepared and shared, and it will be discussed further at the next LHFIG meeting. III. Rights of Way & Landmarc update (TG/CLB) – TG reported that the footpath has been cleared and is now walkable, though more work is still needed. Volunteers from Watson Close are needed to assist with further efforts. IV. Proposed A345 Riverside Park to Village Centre pavement update (CLB/AF) – CLB reported that, despite significant efforts and offering several options, negotiations with the owner of Grey Flags were not successful. UPC is now exploring the possibility of setting the pavement on the other side of the road in collaboration with Highways. PO suggested that with LHFIG funding and a partnership with WC, this project could proceed on the other side of the road. V. CIL money - CLB reported that the outdoor gym, table tennis table, and benches have been purchased and are partially installed, with completion expected soon. Additionally, the boules court is currently under consideration, and a quote is pending. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Football pitch - The football pitch is currently being assessed for improvements, and it will be used by local clubs once these enhancements are implemented. 	
24/045	<p>Issues for discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. The Posts for the SIDs fund – Currently awaiting the bill from WC, with the total cost amounting to £1,050. LHFIG will contribute £500, and UPC will need to cover the remaining £550. This amount to be paid by UPC was voted on and approved at the meeting. II. Additional bin – TG reported that the additional bin will not be funded by WC. UPC will need to purchase and maintain a new bin, which requires further investigation. III. Avon square – The bin at Avon Square falls under the responsibility of the landowner, Aster. Despite numerous 	

	complaints from villagers, the issue remains unresolved. UPC will send a formal request to Aster to address the situation.	
24/046	The Blue Bus Youth Club - The Blue Bus Youth Club has been very successful not only in Upavon but also in Burbage and the surrounding areas. Newcomers are always welcome, and the upcoming dates will be advertised in due course.	
24/047	Clerk's Report & Correspondence – BB reported that recent CIL project payments have been processed. New picnic benches have been purchased for both playgrounds. Additionally, BB announced that UPC will host a Village Party at the Upper Playground on August 3rd. RA has put in significant effort to organise the event, which will feature a BBQ, a bouncy castle, craft activities, and various other attractions.	
24/048	Reports from other bodies – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) – AF attended the LHFIG meeting, and the content has been covered above. II. Pewsey Community Area Partnership (PCAP) – The next PCAP meeting is scheduled for July 18th. PO reminded the councillors that he does not support their motion of no confidence in WC Highways, as previously mentioned. He believes that WC and Highways have been making significant efforts, with many roads already resurfaced. III. Pewsey Area Board - none 	
24/049	Questions and queries from the public A member of the public inquired about the possibility of installing a toilet at St. Mary's Church, which was a popular idea for CIL funding. CLB responded that UPC had investigated this possibility and received positive feedback. UPC is now awaiting the details of the plan from the church. Another member of the public questioned whether the Parish Council intended to allocate funds directly to the church, as CIL funds should not be passed to the church. CLB replied that UPC would consider funding the toilet project for the church after reviewing the submitted plan. The member of the public was dissatisfied with this response and left the room. Lesley asked for the current figures regarding CIL usage, balance, and potential plans, to which BB provided answers. Another member of the public requested the purchase of an additional SID. AF replied that, after the current SID plans are settled, this request would be reviewed. Additionally, it was noted that the dog poo signs around the village are of poor quality and should be replaced with better ones.	
24/050	Close The meeting closed at 8.25pm.	

Bee Barff
Clerk to Upavon Parish Council

26/07/2024

Dates of future meetings all at 7pm
Wednesday 18th September 2024
Wednesday 20th November 2024