

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Upton Parish Council.
October 12th 2015
Held at the Oak Room, Berrywood Hospital Northampton

Present: Cllr R Barrett, Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Lawrence, Cllr R Barrett, Cllr H Barrett, Cllr D Stevens. Loraine Foyer (Clerk)

Also in attendance: No public or other.

01. Opening Procedures

01/1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr A Earle, Cllr P Chauhan, Cllr G Barrett, Cllr P Evans and Cllr M Ingram It was RESOLVED to accept the apologies.

Cllr R Lawrence notified that he would need to leave the meeting at 21.00hrs.

It was also discussed that all Cllr's need to email the Clerk with apologies and give a brief reason, i.e. Business, illness or Personal.

01/2 Declarations of interest

None.

01/3 Confirmation and Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting on September 14th 2015.

Cllr A Bottwood requested that his opinion of the election statement was not included as asked in the meeting, it was agreed to add this in to the minutes however Cllr R Barrett (chairman) will seek advice for his reasons and will request it is removed if these are found to be invalid.

01/4 To appoint Loraine Foyer as the councils Responsible Financial Officer.

Cllr D Stevens Proposed, Cllr A Bottwood 2nd and all other Cllrs Agreed.

01/5 Clerk report on matters arising from previous minutes/correspondence

It was decided that we should arrange a meeting with Mr Acford re the Cricket/Bowls Club and the issue with the lease, a Task and Finish group was formed of Cllr R Barrett, Cllr A Bottwood and Cllr D Stevens with the Clerk to writ to Mr Acford with proposed date before the next council meeting. Also letter to be sent to Keith Mitchell to check that we are right that we do not need to have a lease in place.

The Chairman Cllr R Barrett will look into getting 3 quotes for supply and install of noticeboards for south of A4500 and contact Steve Jelly (Chairman of Hunsbury Meadows council) re details of where they got theirs.

02. Police and Public Session

None.

03. Developments in the Parish

Community Centre plans have been redone and going back out for public consultation. All Cllrs decided to move discussion to next meeting when more Cllrs are present.

04. Planning Matters

None received.

05. Finance

Cheque 673 £13.10 Paid to Cllr R Barrett for Go Daddy proposed by Cllr D Stevens 2nd by Cllr A Bottwood and All other Cllrs agreed.

Cheque 672 to BDO LLP went to a vote

Cllr H Barrett, Cllr R Barrett, Cllr D Stevens and Cllr A Bottwood **Abstained**
Cllr R Lawrence **Fore**

Deferred to next meeting

06. Other Matters

06/1 Cllr Bottwood – Maintenance of St. Neophytos' churchyard

Agreed to defer to December meeting.

06/2 Cllr Stevens – Conduct of councillors at council meetings

Councillor Stevens raised the issue of the behaviour and conduct at the councils September meeting. He highlighted the fact that he had been contacted by a member of the public who had attended the meeting who had detailed their "shock" by the hostile and intimidating behaviour of some councillors towards others, commenting that two elected councillors were referred to as "kids". Councillor Stevens also cited the content of an email received by council following Septembers meeting by another member of the public referencing the same and pointed out that given that the writer had not attended the meeting nonetheless the same demeaning references were used highlighting that Councillors must have still quoted the same offensive terms after Septembers meeting to members of the wider public? He stated that those under scrutiny were "Councillors" and the derogatory terms used by both councillors and contributor were "proposterous", "patroinising" and "condescending". Councillor Stevens went on to highlight the accusations by Councillor Bottwood that his co-option to the council had been "fixed" (rigged) an accusation that he (Councillor Stevens) wanted minuted and that he (Councillor Stevens) was "disgusted" by the comments which "put a cloud over his election" he lambasted those who turned on the chairman and two democratically elected members. Councillor Stevens then sort an apology for the unfounded accusations and disgraceful remarks from Councillor Bottwood.

Councillor Bottwood denied calling any Cllr's "Kids" and refused to offer an apology stating he "had nothing to apologise for"!

06/3 Discuss Redesign of the UPC website. Quotes

Cllr R Barrett (Chairman) to send out an email asking all Cllrs to look into 2 or 3 other Parish Council website to decide which ones like the look and usability of so that a decision can be made at the next meeting.

06/4 Reinstate and Rename previous approved parish sub groups(s) (planning and parish plan)

Disposal of all formed Committees
Proposed by Cllr A Bottwood
2nd by Cllr D Stevens
Agreed by all other members.

Renamed "Working Parties"
Proposed by Cllr D Stevens
2nd by Cllr A Bottwood
Agreed by all members.

06/5 Request from Cllr Barrett to formally annul/withdraw all and any previous delegated power{s} to council members with immediate effect and to review and re-assign delegated powers as the current council may require.

There have been no delegate power since the re-election in May 2015

07. Communication

08. Borough Councillors Report

NBC won a silver gilt award for flowers in bloom only 5 points short of gold award.

09. Service Requests and Reports from Members

Until we have a disclosure form from all Cllr's whether they would like private/PC emails or telephone number circulating/passing on could all queries please be sent to the Clerk to pass on the relevant Cllr.

10. Time, Date and Place of Next Meeting to be agreed

Where possible the council meets on the first Monday in the month (19.30 start), if this is a bank holiday it would be the following Monday.

Next meeting dates in 2015:

November 2nd

December 7th.

Meeting closed 21.36pm