

UFFINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Lynne Padmore
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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7.30pm on 25 March 2024 in Uffington Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors L Padmore (Chair), C Ashton, P Daimond, S Poole, E Strawbridge and Shropshire Councillor L Picton

Clerk: Lisa Harris

Also present: 21 members of the public

89.23 Chairman's welcome

Councillor Padmore welcomed all to the meeting.

90.23 Apologies for Absence

None.

91.23 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.
- b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

92.23 Public Participation Session - *a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 5-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.*

[Councillor Picton temporarily left the meeting]

The Chairman permitted a slightly extended public participation period to allow parishioners time to express their views on planning application 24/00724/FUL - Installation and operation of a solar farm together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure on land west of Haughmond Quarry. Councillors listened to the concerns raised.

99.23 Planning

(This item was moved up the agenda at the discretion of the Chairman to facilitate a better flow of the meeting)

1. Decisions to note

a. Ref: 23/05231/AGR

Address: Sunderton Farm Uffington Shrewsbury Shropshire SY4 4RR

Description: Erection of an agricultural livestock building and all associated works

Validated: 05 Dec 2023

Status: Prior Approval Required and Approved

2. Planning applications for consideration

a. Ref: 24/00724/FUL

Address: Field West Of Haughmond Quarry Land South Of B5062 Uffington

Description: Installation and operation of a Solar Farm together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure.

Validated: 14 Mar 2024

Status: Pending Consideration

The Councillors, having listened to the concerns of the parishioners, discussed the application at length. They concluded that the proposed solar farm would have a negative impact on the area and as such Uffington Parish Council would submit an objection to the planning application due to the following material considerations:

- Detrimental effect on the landscape and visual impact
- Loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land
- Adverse ramifications on ecology
- Archaeological significance

ACTION: Clerk to submit a planning objection to Shropshire Council before the consultation expiry date on 14 April 2024.

[The members of the public left at this point and Councillor Picton rejoined the meeting]

93.23 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 January 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

It was proposed by Councillor Padmore and seconded by Councillor Daimond and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 January 2024 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly.

94.23 Clerk's Report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting in January 2024

- Streetlight – the new streetlight outside The Corbet Arms will be installed on 24 April.
- The precept request was submitted to Shropshire Council prior to the 31 January deadline.
- VAT reclaim for all eligible payments to date has been submitted.
- Advert for Clerk/RFO position was prepared and placed with SALC on 26 January.
- Handover document created for new Clerk/RFO.
- Paperwork prepared for upcoming audit and will be finalised on 31 March. Audit report will be put in handover file and given to Councillor Padmore on 30 April.

95.23 To receive report from Shropshire Councillor

Councillor Picton presented a report which covered:

- Waste Services Consultation – Shropshire Council will shortly be launching a public consultation regarding waste services which will include: green waste; permit schemes; and household recycling centres. Participation in the consultation is encouraged.
- Riverside Development – the existing buildings should be demolished by the end of the year.

- North-West Relief Road – the conditions have now gone through and now waiting for the planning notice to be issued. Then there is a 42-day waiting period to see if a judicial review has been requested. In the meantime, borehole testing will take place.

96.23 To receive defibrillator report for the period

MedUK had confirmed that a monthly health check on the defibrillator had been performed on 23 February 2024 and 14 March 2024 and that it is ready for use as and when required.

97.23 Current Financial Matters

a) Payments

Payee	Description	Amount
Miss L Harris	Clerk's expenses February/March/April	£ 99.45
Miss L Harris	Clerk's salary February/March/April	£ 1,427.64
HMRC	PAYE on clerk's salary February/March/April	£ 357.00
K J Symonds	Internal Audit – 2023/24	£ 175.00
Shropshire Council	Joint Energy Cost – Quarter 4	£ 71.16
TOTAL		£ 2,130.25

It was proposed by Councillor Padmore and seconded by Councillor Daimond and **resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

b) Bank reconciliation to 17 March 2024

The bank was reconciled at £21,359.49, being the online banking balances on the date the accounts for the meeting were prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly. A VAT claim has been submitted in the amount of £1,531.71 for all eligible payments to date and the refund should be received into the bank within weeks.

98.23 Highway Matters

Non road legal motorbikes are frequently being ridden on the canal path causing a safety issue. Councillor Picton will report to the relevant team at Shropshire Council.

100.23 Recruitment of new Parish Clerk/RFO

Recruitment is underway with interviews having taken place. Handover document has been produced and will be given to the incoming clerk on 30 April 2024, being the current clerk's last day in post.

101.23 Correspondence

None.

102.23 Future agenda items

None.

103.23 Date of next meeting – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting

Monday 13 May 2024, 7.00pm, Uffington Village Hall

Councillor Padmore thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: 13 May 2024