

UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council : Robert Hodgson
Lower Beer,
Uplowman,
Tiverton EX16 7PF
Tel/fax: 01884-821239
E-mail : UplowmanPC@btconnect.com

12/11/23

All Parish Councillors

Dear Councillors,

UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL - NOTICE OF MEETING THURSDAY 16th November 2023, at 7.30pm IN UPLOWMAN VILLAGE HALL

The next meeting of this Council will be on **THURSDAY 16th November 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, UPLOWMAN**, starting at 7.30pm.

I attach a list of updates and proposals for decision, which I hope will be useful.

Fay Cross of AIRBAND will attend at the start of the meeting to update us on plans for installing Fibre to Premise broadband in the Parish

The main item this month will be a discussion of the budget for next year. The paper attached is to provide background information. **This is the time to consider (a) what special projects you would like UPC to undertake, and (b) where money might be obtained.** One possible item might be replacement of the rails behind the Redwoods Skittle Alley, costed at £2600.

The following meeting dates are arranged for 2023: I have booked the hall for the following dates in 2024 (all Thursdays): 18th January, 21st March, 16th May, 19th September, and 21st November.

Sadly, the 'usual' date for our July meeting, which should be 18th July, has been booked for over a year by a Caravan Club. Lynne says UPC can have the 17th or the following Thursday (25th). **Unless anyone prefers otherwise, we will book 25th July.**

Yours sincerely,

Robert

Robert Hodgson (Clerk to Uplowman Parish Council)

UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL
AGENDA FOR MEETING on THURSDAY 16th November 2023
To be held in Uplowman Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm

The meeting will start with an open session, when parishioners may raise matters of concern. AIRBAND will give a presentation on their proposals for Uplowman's broadband at the start of this meeting.

1. Attendance & Apologies for absence.
 - 1.1 Proposals to fill vacancy arising from uncontested election
2. Reports from DCC and MDDC.
3. Minutes of last meeting (21st September 2023).
 - 3.1 Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting not covered elsewhere.

4. Finance and procedures

4.1 Current position :

Bank balance at last meeting :	£5,422.11
Income since last meeting (dons for trimtrail)	£155.00
Expenditure authorised on 21Sept 2023:	£1,156.55
Current balance:	£4,420.56

- 4.2 Payments for approval:
 - Payment for sign, £300, to be confirmed (invoice awaited)
 - Redwoods Inn, grass cutting (£70.00p)
 - UPCC, upkeep of functioning churchyard, £350.00
 - Royal British Legion, Remembrance wreath, £30.00
 - Torrige, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice, donation, £25.00
 - CHAT, donation, £25.00
 - Mid Devon Mobility, donation to Ring & Ride, £25.00
- 4.3 Consider budget needs for 2024-5. Should there be an allocation to cover trim-trail maintenance?

5. Planning

- 5.1 23/00684/PIP: Land at Stonebridge, 2 self-builds, UPC objected, decision awaited
- 5.2 23/00354/FULL: Willow Barn, erect holiday cottage. UPC objected, decision awaited
- 5.3 DCC/4358/2023: Greenway landfill. UPC objected on grounds of access. Decision awaited
- 5.4 23/01332/FULL: The Beeches shed. UPC no objection, MDDC Approved
- 5.5 23/01358/FULL & 23/01658/CLU: Uplowman House, erect 1 residence. Approved
- 5.6 23/00919/FULL: Cott farm, erect 2 shepherd's huts for holiday let, Approved
- 5.7 23/01624/FULL: Rosebank, erect shed. UPC objected as excessive and unsuitable.

6. Community Projects and matters.

- 6.1 Village signs need to be finished and erected (Cllrs Westerman & Adcock).
- 6.2 Broadband update – Airband to make presentation at this meeting
- 6.3 Proposals for use of £275 from Parish Magazine plus £250 held from 2022-3 (Cllr Adcock)

7. Environment & Healthy living

- 7.1 Taking a lead on reducing Uplowman's carbon footprint

8. Correspondence (See attached list plus any correspondence received after this notice)

- 8.1 Environment, SWW, etc:
- 8.2 Local Plans and Surveys.
- 8.3 General Correspondence
- 8.4 Village projects

9. Hall & Recreation Association Report

10. Emergency Planning & Neighbourhood Watch

- 10.1 Review of parish areas and way forward.

11. Parish Roads/Paths.

- 11.1 Timing of Whitnage road repairs.
- 11.2 Snow Wardens and salt bins (Cllr Westerman)
- 11.3 Signage to reduce use of Whitnage Lane by large vehicles
- 11.4 Speeding at Crossways,
- 11.5 Replace rails (a) by and (b) behind Redwoods Skittle Alley.

12. Date of next meeting (Thursday 18th January 2024).

CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING (21 Sept 2023)

5. Finances

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
910	30/10/23	MDDC	Precept request needed by 24 Jan	

6. PLANNING & LICENSING

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
1002		MDDC	23/01332/FULL: The Beeches shed. UPC no objection.	22/09/23
1003	27/09/23	MDDC	23/01451/FULL : Upplowman Primasy School temp. classroom	
1003	29/09/23	MDDC	23/01332/FULL: The Beeches shed. Approved	
1004	19/10/23	MDDC	23/01624/FULL: Rosebank, Ag Storage Shed. UPC objected	08/11/23
1005		MDDC	23/01358/FULL: Upplowman House new build. UPC no ob	23/10/23
1006		MDDC	23/00919/FULL: Cott Farm shepherd huts – No ob	23/10/23
1007	25/10/23	MDDC	23/01658/CLU: Upplowman House change to garden.	
1008	30/10/23	MDDC	23/01358/FULL: Upplowmand House: erect house, approved.	
1009	03/11/23	MDDC	23/00919/FULL: Cott Fm shepherd huts approved	

7.1 ENVIRONMENT, including Sewerage, Recycling, Roads & rivers, Healthy living

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
401	18/09/23	DCC	Survey of flooding following recent storm	20/09/23
402	22/09/23	Cllr Adcock	Drawn blank on replacing fence by green	
403	11/10/23	DCC	Lower Town SP closed 27 Nov to 1 st Dec.	
404	17/10/23	Mr S Badcott	Proposal for slow down signs by school	
405	08/11/23	DCC HO	No idea when rails fixed. will send info on contr'rs	

7.2 LOCAL PLANS & SURVEYS, including HRA

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
335	13/10/23	DCC	Landfill planning policy, forwarded to councillors	
336	18/10/23	Mr S Badcott	Copy of School's emergency plan, circulated.	
337		councillors	Parish list of properties for emergency planning.	01/11/23

7.3 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
1730	22/09/23	MDDC	Dave Parker now Parish Liaison Officer	
1731	25/09/23	CAB	Requesting donation - circulated	
1732	23/10/23	UPCC	Feedback on Creation Hub day	
1733	28/10/23	Dev Air Amb	Asking if there would be fireworks on field – said yes	28/10/23
1734	30/10/23	C&CD	Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.	

7.5 Village projects.

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
360	24/10/23		Meeting Cllr Moore and Mrs M Norman re Trimtrail	

UPDATES AND DECISIONS NEEDED

Item 4.3: Budget

See attached summary of previous 2 years.

Trimtrail maintenance

So far, public contributions to the Trimtrail maintenance fund amount to about half of the expected annual cost of about £450. Would UPC consider increasing the Precept by £200 or £250 to cover the other half in the longer term?

Item 5.6: Inert Landfill & Waste recycling at Greenway

No decision yet. Application has been called in. decision expected December.

Item 6.1: Village signs:

As agreed at last meeting, these need to have lettering coloured and to be oiled for protection before mounting them on the existing poles. **Cllrs Westerman and Adcock to action.**

Item 6.2: Broadband Update

Airband (Faye Cross, Communit Liaison Officer) will attend this meeting to present Airband's plans for broadband roll-out. No further news of the Openreach network development.

Item 6.3: Use of grants from parish magazine

The SP & U parish magazine has generously sent us £275 as our grant this year. £250 remains unspent from last year. **Cllr Adcock to inform meeting of proposals for sound system in Hall for decision.**

Item 10.1 Emergency Plan

Parish properties list was circulated by Circulated by Clerk. **Decision needed on allocation of areas to councillors and process for review of lists.**

11.1 Whitnage road repairs

Repairs will take 2 days to prepare and up to 5 days to complete, during which time the road will be closed. UPC has been consulted and responded that those most critically affected will be Locks Farm and Whitnage Farm as milk lorries need to access at no more than 48 hour intervals. DCC has been informed and asked to liaise. Latest info is that work is planned for the February half term. UPC has pressed for a more timely completion.

11.2 Salt bins

Cllr Westerman Was to look into Snow Warden scheme.

11.3 Whitnage Lane signage

Contact made with Halberton PC, who have already addressed this issue with police specialists. Update at meeting. It has been suggested that getting a prominent sign at each end of Whitnage Lane would result in them being visible on the Google Earth runs and might lead to the lane being taken off sat-nav routes.

11.4 Speeding at Crossways

A parent of children at the School has offered to provide 'slow down' signs. UPC has offered to meet him. **Decision to be made on how to take this forward.**

11.5 Railings by leat and behind Redwoods

The rails by the Green are assumed to be UPC responsibility. **Quotation of £850 has been received from local supplier to replace rails by Green. Decision: does UPC wish to take up this quote?**

DCC cannot tell us when the rails behind the Redwoods Skittle Alley might be replaced. DCC said they will send contact info for the contractors they use.

In the meantime, a Quotation for £2600 has been received from same supplier as for rails by Green to replace 16 posts (ie the section adjacent to skittle Alley) and refix rails. **Decision needed: Does UPC wish to take this forward? If so, how to fund?** UPC might apply for a Locality grant, if any remains for this year, or explore other sources of funds.

UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL

11 Nov 2023

Actual Annual Expenditure 2022-24 (rounded to nearest £) and Budget 2024-25

Figures for current year estimated	2022 to 2023		2023 to 2024		2024 to 2025	
Item	Actual		Estimate		Budget	
Precept	3300		3500		3600	
Grants and other income	1415		18390		205	
HM Customs, VAT rebate			3964			
Clerks' Salary		1450		1500		1550
Clerk's expenses / admin		30		60		260
Chairman's/other's expenses				78		
Hall Hire for regular meetings		105		105		105
Admin (m'rmojo, Zoom, training)		75		75		75
Insurance		182		162		162
Commun Projects /trim trail++		317		2369 2		450
Parish Social		200		0		0
Devon Ass of Parish Councils sub+		84		98		100
Grass cutting/tree cutting		741		650		653
Election (May 2023)		0		127		0
Churchyard support		350		350		350
Support local charities		100		100		100
TOTAL	4715	3634	25854	26997	3805	3805

+ DAPC subscription was deducted at source since 2000-2001. These figs adjusted as if it were not.

++ Community projects exp in 2022-23 include repairs to defibrilator. Trim trail running cost est at £450pa

Current year is estimated. There is now no charge for Annual Audit **but will be in 2024/5 (£200)**

NOTE : A PRECEPT OF £1000 IS EQUIVALENT TO A COUNCIL TAX OF £6.05 ON A BAND 'D' PROPERTY IN UPLOWMAN.

This estimate predicts cash in hand at year-end March 2023 to be £4294 (116% of planned reserves, when allowing for designated funds for trimtrail).

So far, contributions to the Trimtrail maintenance fund amount to about half of the expected annual cost of about £450. Would UPC consider increasing the Precept by £200 to cover the other half in the longer term?