

UPTON UPON SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES
OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 18th JULY 2006 IN THE
MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Chairman Cllr J Thompson (Town Mayor)
Vice Chairman: Cllr T. Perry (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillors: T. Dickson, P. Martin, J. Surtees, S. Walsh, T. Drake, C. Mair,
M. Morgan, P. Thomas, E. White, S. Yates, & S. Wilkinson (also acting as
clerk for this meeting).

1. To receive apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies Cllr A. Morgan, Cllr J. Dean & the Clerk. Cllr S. Yates declared an interest as the Chairman of the Community Pride Group (Item 7).

2. To agree the minutes of the Town Council meeting of 20th June 2006. **Agreed.**

3. To welcome Nigel Potter, Rural Housing Enabler, of Community First to explain Affordable Housing allocation and use of rural exception sites. Mr Potter explained his role. A Housing Needs survey within the parish would identify whether there was a need for affordable housing by those with a local connection. He would draw up the survey in consultation with the Council and would analyse the results. He would appreciate help with the distribution of the survey. The results would be discussed with the Council. A panel from the Council would be involved in the allocation of the houses. Land for affordable housing would be sought which was just outside the settlement boundary and which could thus be acquired for only a small premium over the price of agricultural land, these were “rural exception sites”. Mr Potter answered questions about the “right to buy” – not possible - , restrictions on extensions, brownfield sites, ecological considerations and undesirable tenants. On the last question he said that the tenants had to have a local connection: this did not mean that everyone would regard all of them as ideal tenants. Mr Potter said that he was currently working with Hanley, Eldersfield and Pendock, so would like to be involved in Upton as well. He was thanked by the Town Mayor for his presentation.

4. The Town Council to decide on an Affordable Housing Policy for Upton upon Severn Including a lettings policy designed to ensure local needs are addressed. The Town Council **resolved**, unanimously, to asked Mr Potter to initiate a Housing Needs Survey for Upton. The consideration of any other policies would depend on the outcome of the survey.

5 Adjournment for Public Participation. There was none.

6. To adopt the Planning Committee Meeting minutes of 20th June 2006 & 4th July 2006. Minutes of 20th June **adopted**, Minutes of 4th July spellings amended – applications 06/00901/FUL3 Berrow Court, 06/00810/FUL disabled and then **adopted**.

7. To adopt the minutes of the Open Spaces & Cemetery Committee of 27th June and to agree to pledge £15000 capital funding/officer time to Parks Scheme funding application subject to funding being withdrawn if application fails. The Minutes were amended to change “Picnic Area” to “Town Green” in item 4 and to delete the second sentence from item 8. Cllr White was concerned that the subject of Christmas lights had been raised at Open Spaces. It was noted that no recommendations had been made. The minutes, as amended, were **adopted**. In consequence the second part of this item was not considered.

8. To adopt the minutes of the Hall, Finance & General Purposes Committee of 4th July 2006 and to agree the proposed email protocol. The Minutes and the Protocol were **adopted**.

9. Reports from Councillors

- 1 Cllr S. Walsh reported that she and Cllr T. Perry had attended the most recent meeting of the Skateboard Management Committee as observers. The SMC constitution had been amended and would be returned to the Clerk by Cllr Perry.
- 2 Cllr Mair reported that he had made a useful local contact concerning the use of the Memorial Hall as a cinema.
- 3 County Cllr Bob Bullock reported that he had followed up the matters raised at the last meeting with Mr Mike Davis and with the help of Cllr Surtees. He reported on the changes in the management of the highways. He thought that the Council’s concerns about the Bridge should be followed up with Mr Jon Fraser. High Street and Dunns Lane would be resurfaced soon. He had chaired a meeting about the Marina at Ripple. The Town Mayor said that in the course of that meeting he had explained that the Town Council had not supported the application.
- 4 District Cllr Mary Wilkinson complimented those involved in “Upton in Bloom”. She asked for information for the MHDC survey on Gipsies and Travellers.

10. Information/Correspondence:

1. Temporary road closures - Blues Festival/Remembrance Day. Noted
2. Temporary Speed Limit- Welland Rd. Noted
3. Upton Hub – update. An email from Mr McIlveen had confirmed the report which District Cllr Mary Wilkinson had made to the previous meeting.
4. Note & Comment on Waiting restrictions in London Lane. The Council resolved that they would wish the double yellow lines on both sides of London Lane to be extended only as far as the mortuary.
5. Note, and if thought appropriate, comment on letter about steps on Riverside. The letter should be acknowledged, and the concerns expressed noted. They were being followed up.
6. Note and if thought appropriate, comment on letter about changes at County Highways. Noted. County Cllr Bob Bullock had already reported on the changes.
7. Note receipt of MHDC Executive Agenda. Noted: agenda in Committee Room.
8. Note Receipt of Report from Marches Housing. Noted: Report available in Committee Room.

11. Emergency Expenditure

1. To agree expenditure on repairs to the hall. A recent thunderstorm had resulted in a considerable flood. An estimate for repairs had not yet been received. It was resolved that power to authorise the necessary work be delegated to the Town Mayor with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Hall, Finance and General Purposes Committee.

12. Date of next meeting 19th September 2006.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.