

UPTON UPON SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL  
M I N U T E S

OF a meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2005 in the Memorial Hall at  
7.45pm

32/05/06

Present: Chairman Town Mayor Councillor J Thompson  
Vice Chairman Deputy Town Mayor Mrs S Walsh  
Councillors T Dickson, T Drake, P Martin, A Morgan, M Morgan, T Perry, J  
Surtees, E White, S Wilkinson

Also Present: The Clerk Ms G Jennings,  
Nione Meakin (Malvern Gazette)  
District Councillor Mrs S Adeney

**1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Kerrigan, Councillor S Yates and District Councillor Mary Wilkinson.

The Mayor advised the Council of the recent death of Mrs Hazel Bullock, late wife of Councillor B Bullock. The Councillors asked the clerk to write passing on their sympathies.

There were no declarations of interest.

**2. Minutes**

1. To agree the Minutes of the Town Council Meetings of 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 28<sup>th</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> July.  
**The Minutes were agreed** with exception to the wording of Minute 2 para. 4 (Minutes 28<sup>th</sup> June) "Councillor Mrs S Walsh insinuated that the clerk must have dreamt up the need for fencing" – Councillor Mrs Walsh requested this was struck from the record and replaced with "Councillor Mrs Walsh had sought clarification over the need for fencing" The Council agreed this amendment. The clerk advised the Council that within the recording of any minutes she would reserve the right to protect her position.  
The draft letter to Worcs County Council regarding amendments to traffic calming proposals was approved.
2. To adopt the Minutes of the Planning Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> June **Adopted**
3. To adopt the Minutes of the Open Spaces & Cemeteries Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> June and to agree expenditure on tree felling £1710 and contribution to Upton in Bloom £200.  
Councillor Mrs Walsh requested an amendment to Minute 4.4 line 6 "Garden Road" amended to "Gardens Walk". This amendment was agreed. **Adopted & Agreed**
4. To adopt Minutes of Town Plan Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> July **Adopted**
5. To adopt the Minutes of the Hall, Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> July **Adopted**

An adjournment for public participation was not requested.

**3. Individual Reports**

1. To receive a report from the County Councillor – No report received.
2. To receive reports from the District Councillors – Councillor Mrs Adeney advised that the working party which had investigated the changes in the current planning committee system were satisfied that a single committee would offer a better service. Ward members would be freed up to give better representation to their own patch. The committee system would follow the model of the licensing committee. They would meet every 3 weeks. A large number of applications would be dealt with under officer delegation. Councillor Perry stated that the briefing meeting on Best Value had brought a number of objections to light and there was a clear lack of confidence in the proposed changes. Councillor Mrs Dickson felt that smaller parishes would be under pressure to fit in with the MHDC planning committee deadlines for consultation. Councillor White felt that too much officer power was unwise.
3. To receive a report from the Clerk  
The clerk reported that the RSI had picked up the idea for a town picnic from the town plan questionnaire and were planning an event on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September on the playing field. The

CSO had been reported by a member of the public as being involved in petitioning outside the primary school. She had advised the clerk that her involvement had been limited to asking permission for a child to conduct a petition. The clerk advised the meeting of Hall FGP would be cancelled due to the laying of a new floor in the public areas. She had met with Malvern Town clerk to exchange information on common ground and would meet on a regular basis with Tenbury also. Progress with County Council adoption of the street lighting maintenance was being progressed but testing of current lighting was necessary at a cost of £308.77. The Town Council's ownership of the Grafton allotments would be progressed with a claim letter. A confidential report was circulated.

4. To receive reports from Town Councillors

1. Councillor Mrs Walsh reported that she and Councillor Perry had attended a meeting of the RSI (Skateboard Park) the previous week as private individuals. The clerk advised the Council that a report was not appropriate at this meeting. The Council agreed that Cllrs. Walsh and Perry should make a written report when the subject came up at a future meeting of the Council.

2. Councillor Wilkinson advised he had attended a meeting regarding the Upton hub. He was dismayed that the matter had not progressed since the last meeting in May and the meeting concentrated on looking at a design brief which had been produced in March 2005. A project manager had not yet been appointed and hub was not likely to be opened until July 2006.

3. Councillor Mrs Surtees raised a query with District Councillor Adeney about the lack of equipment supplied to the street scene warden who had been seen trying to pick up litter one piece at a time. **Action SA**

4. Councillor Wilkinson also queried the stance MHDC were taking with the "disposal" of the public conveniences by the Kings Head. It was reported in the minutes that MHDC would only run one set of toilets in each town with any others being devolved to the Town Councils. Did MHDC realise the budget restrictions of the Town Councils and had they thought to consult on shared arrangements for cleaning & maintenance etc? **Action SA**

5. Councillor Thompson noted from MHDC minutes that consideration was being given to either requesting traffic warden powers for the street scene wardens or funding of a traffic warden. He advised Upton would appreciate being kept informed on this matter. **Action SA**

#### **4. Council to adopt An Equal Opportunities Policy proposed by the Hall, Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The policy attached to the Minute Book was adopted.

#### **5. To appoint a working party to look at investment arrangements**

Councillors Wilkinson/Dickson and Drake were appointed.

#### **6. To authorise payments**

Cheques 4616 – 4631 were agreed for payment.

#### **7. Correspondence for Action**

1. Consultation on 4 options for the future of Malvern Hills Primary School – The Council declined to comment.

2. Letter from resident re: New Street play area – The Mayor read out a letter from a resident concerned that the play area might be relocated. The Council had no definite plans to relocate the play area and the clerk was asked to advise the resident accordingly.

3. Upton Trade & Tourism Association the resignation of Mr Dovey as Chairman and appointment of Mrs Sue Walker was noted.

#### **8. Date of Next Meeting**

20<sup>th</sup> September 2005

#### **9. Correspondence (listed for information)**

1. Environment Agency Severn Catchment Flood Management Plan – mentions "permanent defence in Upton not viable, the use of temporary defences along the river frontage is now being considered"

34/05/06

2. Reorganisation of Special Schools has been approved as set out in the public notice published on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2005.
3. Transfer of Justices Off Licence – Countrywide Store -Buckle/Bentley to Easthope/Bentley
4. Complaint letter re: Cllr. Perry – reply circulated for information only
5. Occasional Public Entertainments Licence – Upton Water Festival 26- 28 August

The Mayor read out a letter of thanks from the Parish Church for a donation to floodlighting from the Mayor's Charity Account in the sum of £300.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm