

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

Of a meeting of the Open Spaces & Cemetery Committee held on Tuesday 28th February
2006 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

85/05/06

Present : Chairman Councillor E White
Vice Chairman Councillor A Morgan
Councillors P Martin, J Surtees, T Dickson, S Walsh
Also Present: The Clerk Ms G Jennings

1. To receive apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies received from Cllrs. Perry & Thompson (attending another meeting)
Cllrs Mrs J Surtees declared a personal interest in item 6.

2. Matters Arising

3.3. To receive cemetery layout plan from Councillor Thompson – the plan was now in computerised format

7.3 To receive bulb planting plan from Councillor White – a sketch plan would be passed on to Stoulton Garden Services

2.1 To receive quotation from Play Quest and to consider whether equipment suitable for New St playground – the equipment was considered value for money but not the additional cost of installation and tiles. Also the Committee were reminded that it had been the original plan to get the surface of the playground right before installation of any new equipment. The budget for repairs and renewals did not have sufficient funds for wet pore. The Committee decided to earmark the balance of funds and obtain new quotations for consideration in April. **Action GJ**

3. To progress plans for the New Garden of Rest (Cllr. Mrs Dickson)

Councillor Mrs Dickson produced a sketch plan of her initial assessment. There was a possibility to move the intended area back 1 metre or to move sideways which would mean levelling the bank and perhaps a retaining wall. It was suggested this “retaining wall” could be a new plaque wall. The Committee agreed to meet on site prior to the next meeting to discuss a plan of action.

4. To approve the work to the cemetery chapel roof and ancillary works to chimney/external woodwork.

During the works it was noted that the chimney was in bad repair and woodwork required priming and staining. The extra cost was estimated at £300. It seemed sensible to have the work done whilst the scaffolding was in place and the Committee agreed to meet the additional costs.

5. To consider drawing up a specification for gravedigging.

The clerk suggested that to get the right quality of work the gravedigger should be given a specification to follow. This would be based on the ICCM recommended procedures. The Committee agreed to consider a draft specification. **Action GJ**

6. To consider current applications for field events and to identify any clashes in bookings.

Additional booking from Starcraft Caravan club 24-29 August accepted.
Booking for Marching Band competition on 16th September accepted.

7. To consider requirements of the Youth Event

There was no requirement to use the playing field or tennis court.

8. To make comment on the Park Scheme draft plan

Cllrs Mrs Dickson said that the scheme was a good opportunity to improve the field and vandals should not be allowed to spoil that for everyone else otherwise nothing would ever get done.

Cllr E White was surprised that limes had been chosen for planting along the road front.

He mentioned that two donated trees already planted in the SE corner. Did not think hedge (item7 on plan) was appropriate as it would be high maintenance. Concerned that move to fell trees would upset people. He believed the ponds mentioned were just part of the field drainage and one of them was in private ownership. Thought the railway embankment should not have too much money spent on it as it might be Environment Agency plan to excavate the front half. It was suggested that there was scope for decking over Stock Yatts Meadow and the development of a nature area. He was not sure why path went into Gas Alley instead of following footpath route. Cllr Mrs Dickson felt that Stock Yatts Meadow provided an opportunity for information on eco-systems. She felt that the wild flower planting should be chosen to encourage butterflies.

9. To make comment on the reinstatement of council land following work to the viaduct (Cllr E White)

There was some confusion over how the reinstatement of trees had been traded for 2 bollards but it was a cost saving. The Council were owed 2 trees from the County and the Committee would consider the most appropriate place to plant them now that the viaduct was finished there was a more open view of the river from the road. Cllr White felt that there should be further bollards along the picnic side and the clerk was asked to obtain costs. **Action GJ**

10. Reports from members

1. Cllr Mrs Martin enquired whether Upton still had a street warden and CPO as neither had been visible for a considerable time.
2. Cllr Mrs J Surtees mentioned that there was plenty of mention on MHDC's website of Malvern regeneration and grants for Tenbury shopkeepers but no mention of Upton upon Severn. The clerk was asked to make enquiries of Anthony Colliss. **Action GJ**
3. Cllr Mrs Martin enquired where the Pepperpot Mews sign had gone. **Action GJ**
4. Parish Paths Warden report attached.

11. Information/Correspondence

A letter from the Upton Christian Council requesting road signs to the Upton Churches would be referred to MHDC **Action GJ**

12. Date of next meeting - 28th March 2006

Cllr J Surtees requested a discussion on the Rewards System.

The meeting would take place at the earlier time of 7pm commencing with a site visit to the cemetery.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

PPW Report – Open Spaces Feb 28th

I have attended a meeting of all the County PPWs recently, interesting, but rather long. I am going to one about the P3 scheme of which we are members on March 8th.

The Definitive Map has now been published. It is on the wall of the Committee Room. Unfortunately it contains errors which are admitted and corrected in the letter which is also displayed. The electronic version had yet to be corrected by noon today.

The Severn Way remains blocked at the parish boundary with Holdfast. This is not our direct responsibility. The officer concerned tells us that the dangerous bridge will be replaced by, he hopes, the end of March.

Walk around the historic outskirts of Upton – I have agreed to lead a walk for the WCC around the footpaths on the morning of Wednesday May 10th. Support welcome.