

The Minutes of the Meeting of the **General Purposes Committee**
of **Upchurch Parish Council** held in the Committee Room, Upchurch
Village Hall
on **Wednesday 15th November 2017**

Present: Cllr Tyrone Ripley (Chairman), Cllr John Arnold, Cllr Stephen Hunt, Cllr Peter Masson, Cllr Louis Newbery and Cllr Gary Rosewell; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

75. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Pam Denny; apology accepted.

76. Declarations of Interests

None were declared.

77. Public Time

No members of the public were present.

78. Paddock and Recreation Ground

i. To receive an update

Cllr Ripley informed Members that a claim has been lodged in respect of the matting damage, the Insurers are questioning whether the surfacing is covered. The contractor will carry out the repairs next week.

ii. To consider additional bins in the Paddock

Councillors considered three quotations for litter bins and agreed to refer the matter to Full Council. The Clerk will apply for a grant.

iii. To consider quotes for security at Recreation Ground.

Councillors considered three quotations at length and agreed to recommend to Full Council acceptance of the quote for bollards from contractor C.

iv. Recreation Ground gate lock

Cllr Ripley said the car parking agreement has been drawn up and the key deposit needs to be decided. There needs to be a sign warning people the car park is locked outside of surgery hours.

Councillors agreed that a key deposit of £20 should be charged and lost keys would be charged at £20 each.

ACTION: Clerk to draft wording for sign and circulate to Committee Members.

79. Allotments

Cllr Ripley said a resident from Lower Halstow has asked for a plot, there is no one on the waiting list.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the person could have the plot for free until the end of the financial year and then would pay the revised schedule for new plot holders from April 2018.

Cllr Ripley asked whether the water is turned off to protect the pipes.

General Purposes Committee

ACTION: Cllr Masson to turn off the water.

Councillors considered the existing fees and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to increase the fees by £1.00 for residents and £1.50 for non-residents.

ACTION: Clerk to send out new agreements in January 2018.

80. Burial Ground and Churchyard

Cllr Ripley informed Members that he has chased up the tree surgeon for a date when work will commence. UK Power Network will cut off power on 27th November to allow the power line protectors to be installed and will inform residents.

Cllr Ripley said the Village Caretaker is putting bags in the bin, it is looking likely that it will require his weekly attention. No problems have been reported and the Village Caretaker will keep the Council posted if there are any disposable issues regarding volume of rubbish.

Cllr Hunt reported someone had reported an ashes plot had been tampered with. The slab appeared to have been taken off.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the family of the plot.

Cllr Ripley said a request for a copy of the application for a Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial has been received. The Clerk will investigate.

81. Highways and Street lighting

Cllr Arnold reported that three companies had been approached for quotes to replace the bus stop light but only two have tendered.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quote from Street Lights pending further information regarding the specification.

82. Footpaths

Cllr Ripley said that some people may not use the footpath ZR10 because it goes onto a busy road. The issue regarding parked vans blocking the entrance has been reported to the Parish Council by a resident.

ACTION: Clerk to report to KCC PROW.

83. Environment

Cllr Arnold reported he is still waiting for the group to supply details of the areas to be planted. A map of the village would be helpful.

Cllr Newbery said he had sent Cllr Arnold a map for the planting areas.

84. Church Clock

Cllr Masson said quotations have been obtained.

Referred to Full Council.

85. Community Spring Clean 2018

Cllr Newbery reported that he has liaised with Vikki Sedgewick, Swale Borough Council, and Community Spring Clean events will be running through March 2018. Swale will lend equipment and promote the event.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to have the Spring Clean on 2nd -4th March 2018.

86. Any other matter arising

Cllr Ripley said Swale Borough Council have asked Berrymans to remove the bottle banks in Oak Lane again.

November 2017

Cllr Ripley asked whether the Shining Star charity still wanted to use the Recreation Ground car park.

The Clerk said she has asked for a copy of the insurance and risk assessment for the event but had not received a response.

Councillors agreed that a copy of the emergency action plan was required.

Cllr Ripley said that correspondence had been received about The Battle's Over commemorations planned for 2018. The Parish Council should have a beacon which could be a permanent fixture.

Cllr Masson said Kew has a document and map which showed where the original beacon was.

ACTION: Cllr Masson to research the site of the original beacon.

Cllr Ripley said churches are asked to ring their bells on 11th November 2018. There should be an event in the Parish to commemorate the anniversary and a sub-committee should be formed to progress this.

ACTION: The Battle's Over commemoration to be referred to Full Council.

87. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20th December 2017 at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Dated: 7 December 2017

General Purposes Committee