

ULLESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Ullesthorpe Parish Council held in Ullesthorpe Village Hall on 16th January 2023 at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: Simon Smith, Marion Coombes, Nick Mooney and Julie Kavanagh.

In attendance: District and County Cllr Rosita Page, Katherine Clarke (Parish Clerk) and eight members of the public.

23-001 To receive Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence received.

23-002 To receive an update on the Casual Vacancies

No update to report.

23-003 To receive Declarations of Members' Interests on items on the agenda

Members are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the agenda. Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct which took effect from 7 August 2012 provides that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interest at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is prejudicial, they should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter.

- Cllr. Smith declared an interest in any matters relating to the Joint Burial Board as he is the UPC representative on the Board.
- Cllr. Kavanagh declared an interest in any matters relating to the Playing Fields Association as she is a Trustee.

23-004 To sign as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022

Cllr. Smith proposed approving the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022 as accurate, Cllr. Kavanagh seconded the proposal.

23-005 To note any questions or comments from the public (15 minutes)

- Eight parishioners were in attendance regarding ongoing concerns with the Joint Burial Board.
- Parishioners have formed a Burial Committee, a spokesperson for the Committee, submitted a complaint to the Clerk for the attention of UPC. The Clerk acknowledged receipt of the complaint.
- A parishioner raised concerns regarding the recently installed CCTV at the cemetery and the potential invasion of privacy. Cllr. Smith advised that the CCTV had been installed following the theft of signage and noticeboard posts.
- A parishioner asked if they could request access to the CCTV footage.
- A parishioner asked why CCTV was not implemented when there were thefts from the car park.
- A parishioner advised that vases and flowers have been removed from the cemetery.
- A parishioner asked if UPC have received the legal advice they advised they had requested at their meeting in December 2022. Cllr. Mooney advised that UPC have done what was asked of them and have obtained legal advice, UPC now need to move along the process and resolve concerns to the best of their abilities.
- Cllr. Page asked how UPC will process, will they put the Joint Burial Board on their agenda each month? Cllr. Smith advised that the Joint Burial Board is already a standing item on the UPC agenda, every month.
- A parishioner commented that Claybrooke Magna Parish Council and Claybrooke Parva Parish Council both denied that UPC had requested a joint meeting of the three Councils. UPC advised that a request had been made.

- Cllr. Coombes noted to those present that the UPC meetings are public, parishioners are welcome to attend and minutes are published on the UPC website.
- Cllr. Smith advised parishioners present that it is important that they also raise their concerns directly with the Joint Burial Board, they can use the correspondence they receive to monitor concerns and identify where changes need to be implemented. Cllr. Page advised that it would be beneficial for parishioners to copy in the three parish councils to their correspondence to the Joint Burial Board.
- A parishioner expressed concerns about writing to the people they are raising concerns about.
- Cllr. Coombes advised the parishioners present that in addition to the concerns of the parishioners, UPC also have questions that they would like answers to, from the Joint Burial Board.
- UPC advised that they are hopeful there will be a meeting between the three parish councils.

Eight members of the public left the meeting at this point.

23-006 Matters arising from District and County Councillor Rosita Page

Cllr. Page has been in regular contact via phone and email throughout the month with the Councillors and the Clerk updating and advising on issues concerning UPC and assisting with any concerns UPC have raised.

23-007 Planning Matters:

a. To consider planning application 22/01956/FUL

Erection of a two-storey rear extension, loft conversion with dormer windows to the front and rear, conversion of garage to create habitable accommodation

8 The Leys, Ullesthorpe

Resolved: UPC has no objections to the application.

b. To consider planning application 22/02077/TCA

Works to trees (fell)

The Chequers Country Inn, Main Street, Ullesthorpe

Resolved: UPC has no objections to the application.

c. To consider planning application 22/01282/FUL

Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension

Hall House, Hall Lane, Ullesthorpe

Resolved: The Parish Council has no objections to the application.

d. Any other planning matters

No other planning matters raised.

23-008 Financial Matters

a. To note the Bank Reconciliation to 16th January 2023

The last bank statement received, dated 5th January 2023, has been reconciled to the cash book. The reconciled balance on the account is £30,632.51.

b. To approve accounts for payment

Cllr. Smith proposed, and Cllr. Mooney seconded payment of the following accounts:

CHQ NO	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
001582	Ullesthorpe Village Hall	Room hire	£316.00
001583	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses	£379.70

c. To set the precept requirement for 2023/24

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to set a budget of £23,205.00 for financial year 2023/24, and unanimously agreed to send a precept request to Harborough District Council for £15,606.00. This will present a charge of £33.42 per year for each Band D household, an increase of 0.9%, £0.28.

d. Any other financial matters

No other financial matters raised.

District and County Cllr. Rosita Page left the meeting at this point.

23-009 To receive an update and discuss matters arising regarding the Joint Burial Board

- Cllr. Smith advised that there have been no meetings of the Joint Burial Board since the UPC meeting on 05.12.22.
- Cllr. Smith advised that the Claybrooke Magna Parish Council representative on the Joint Burial Board resigned from the Joint Burial Board and Claybrooke Magna Parish Council at the Claybrooke Magna Parish Council meeting held in December.
- UPC have received legal advice from LRALC regarding their concerns about the operation of the Joint Burial Board. UPC discussed the advice received.
- Following the discussion, Cllr. Mooney proposed that the UPC representative on the Joint Burial Board, Cllr. Smith, does not take part in any decision-making for the Joint Burial Board, until a representative for Claybrooke Magna Parish Council is appointed and there is a quorum. *UPC notes that the recently adopted constitution for the Joint Burial Board states that meetings of the Joint Burial Board are quorate with two representatives, however, the legality of this is contradicted by the advice received from LRALC.* Cllr. Coombes seconded the proposal, Cllr. Kavanagh agreed.
- The Clerk noted that UPC received correspondence from the Joint Burial Board on 03.01.23, the correspondence was an advice note regarding the May 2023 Parish Council elections and Joint Burial Board representatives. Following the legal advice received from LRALC, UPC questions the validity of the correspondence, the Joint Burial Board cannot convene a quorate meeting at this time. *UPC notes that the recently adopted constitution for the Joint Burial Board states that meetings of the Joint Burial Board are quorate with two representatives, however, the legality of this is contradicted by the advice received from LRALC.* Cllr. Mooney proposed that the Clerk writes to the Joint Burial Board to advise them of the concerns of UPC and that UPC want to meet with the other two Parish Councils to discuss concerns. Cllr. Kavanagh seconded the proposal, Cllr Coombes agreed.

23-010 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

No matters raised.

23-011 A.O.B. – FOR NOTIFICATION ONLY

- Cllr. Kavanagh advised that the Playing Field Association is in the process of organising an AGM. The purpose of the AGM is to facilitate the constitutional changes necessary to allow the Association to function effectively. Cllr, Kavanagh advised that they are struggling to find someone to prepare the accounts for the AGM. The UPC Clerk offered to prepare the accounts as a one-off for the AGM.

23-012 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of UPC will take place on Monday 6th February 2023 at 7.30pm in Ullesthorpe Village Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

APPROVED AS ACCURATE ON 06.02.23.