

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Monday 4th March 2024 at Magelake

Meeting Open – 19:02

24.01.01 Apologies for absence

Chairman: P Cornish

Present: R Kingdom M Bodger R Keeling T Pointing P Hallchurch
T Edwards (19:03) S Lane (19:03)

Apologies P Blackman A Logue

24.01.02 To approve of the Minutes of Meeting held on 15th January 2024

The minutes were agreed as an official council record. Councillor Kingdom requested previous minutes and documents to be provided to members further ahead of meetings going forward.

Public Session

There were 2 members of the public in attendance. The 2, being Members of the Uffculme Green Team, attended to provide thanks for Council support (both in their aims and in providing funding) and also to request support in raising the profile of litter picking by displaying junk art within the village. Request to identify ownership of land and request permission where necessary. Repair café is currently being replicated in Cullompton and assistance is being provided with this. Markers Pond is attended every Sunday by volunteers.

24.01.03 County Councillor's Report

Councillor Radford provided a report ahead of time (appended). Councillor Edwards raised comment in regards to potholes and it was agreed that this is prominent on the Parish Council agenda as a rural area and only link to and from the village of Ashill is affected as such. Mud on roads also to be raised with Highways for comment/assistance.

24.01.04 District Councillor's Reports

Councillors Conner, Glover, Clist and Bradshaw were not in attendance and did not provide a written report. Councillor Poynton did not provide report ahead of time, however, raised the following:

- 1) Potholes are an issue within the area
- 2) Budget setting is now balanced
- 3) Side waste change now in place - 3.5% of people still have additional waste and recycling rates need to be raised
- Councillor Pointing advised that the Community Fridge has a provision in place for clean soft plastics
- 4) Uffculme Straight is a current focus for safety
- 5) Mobile library is no longer in operation

24.01.05 Parish Council Vacancies

The Clerk advised that there were 3 vacancies currently. Councillor Pointing has also requested to adopt a less active role, by way of a 6 month sabbatical. Responsibilities to be reallocated as follows:

Planning Chair – Councillor Lane, Traffic Lead – Councillor Cornish, Police Lead – Councillor Logue, Magelake – Councillor Bodger. Proposed by Councillor Edwards, Seconded by Councillor Cornish, all in agreement. Handover and assistance to be provided where possible.

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24.01.06 Finance

24.01.06.01 To approve December, January and February Financial Statements

The December, January and February financial statements were approved as official council minutes.

24.01.06.02 Training

Training for all Councillors possible through DALC in a group, in person, session. 3 Hours on either weekday evenings or Saturday mornings. Up to 10 + £200+VAT + milage, up to 16 = £250+VAT + milage. Proposed by Councillor Pointing, Seconded by Councillor Keeling, all in agreement. Intention for new Councillors to be in place for training, however, to continue even if no vacancies filled (by end May 2024).

24.01.06.03 Magelake – MUGA Repair - 2022

Clerk advised of invoice received for repair works to MUGA in 2022. Works completed and authorised by Magelake. Countrywide advised only Council to approve quotations going forward (prior to works taking place). Invoice to be paid to the value of £407.84. Proposed by Councillor Hallchurch, Seconded by Councillor Bodger, all in agreement.

24.01.06.04 Grant Request – Village Volunteers

Grant request received (appended). Proposed by Councillor Lane, Seconded by Councillor Keeling, all in agreement.

24.01.06.05 Grant Request – Online Parish Calendar

Grant request received (appended). Designated contact needed to moderate and manage going forward – Clerk to confirm that this is as per Council expectation prior to award. Proposed by Councillor Cornish, Seconded by Councillor Kingdom, all in agreement.

24.01.06.05 Square Planters – Phase 1 – Additional Costs

Further associated costs received regarding Phase 1 (appended). Proposed by Councillor Lane, Seconded by Councillor Edwards, all in agreement.

24.01.07 Business Arising

24.01.07.01 Hillhead/Broadpath

Councillor Edwards advised that a liaison meeting took place on 05/02. Multiple attendees. Chair elected as Andrea Glover. Full report to follow. Plant down on production – Bagging was 35 loads, now 12. Pensale future plans to be open for discussion in June – It was requested that there be an open Parish event to consult on this

Next meeting due to take place on 10/06.

24.01.07.02 Mole Valley Feed Mill

Councillor Pointing advised a meeting was due to take place 05/03. No complaints have been received recently.

24.01.07.03 Uffculme Men's Club

No updates were provided.

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24.01.07.04 Uffculme Bowling Club

Councillor Keeling advised that there are issues regarding the access ramp not being the correct gradient in order to be classed as a disability compliant access point – this was due to limitations on land available for adaptations. Also issues with the floor currently. Report to be received in due course.

24.01.07.05 Green Team

Council considered the request raised by the members of the public. 5 locations were requested throughout the Parish. It was resolved to allow an unlimited number of pieces (only restricted by available space) to be affixed to the railings surrounding the playparks at Highland Terrace (gallery effect) for the litter art. Green Team must be responsible for regular monitoring and also to ensure fixings properly secured. Proposed by Councillor Keeling, Seconded by Councillor Bodger, all in agreement.

24.01.07.06 Allotments

AGM has taken place and minutes to follow in due course. Clerk advised that figures for Council contribution for 2024 were still not received.

24.01.07.07 Parish Maintenance Update

Clerk advised that damage has taken place to the public toilets due to vandalism. Hopes to have a repair quotation in place for discussion at next meeting.

Mud on road and white lines around the square also discussed. Clerk to raise with Neighbourhood Highways Officer.

24.01.07.08 Traffic and Speeding Issues/Community Speed Watch

Councillor Pointing advised that after there was a road/cyclist incident within Uffculme, a collective approach is underway with Halberton, Willand and Sampford Peverell to address the speed limits when entering the village (currently 60MPH) and to press Highways for a reduction. Survey results presented. Next meeting to take place on 21/03 – Councillor Cornish to attend the next meeting. Council resolved to work together with neighbouring parishes for this purpose. All in agreement.

24.01.07.09 Schools Update

No updates were provided. Clerk advised that a grant request was raised for the next meeting (Clerk to confirm Power to Spend is available for request ahead of meeting).

24.01.07.10 Uffculme Village Hall

Letter of thanks received (appended). Projector is due to be installed. The Panto was a great success and positive dishwasher feedback continues to be received.

24.01.07.11 Magelake Committee / Repairs

No updates were provided.

24.01.07.12 Youth Working Group

Councillor Logue provided a report (appended). Feedback was positive.

24.01.07.13 Community Crisis (previously Ukrainian Crisis)

No updates were provided.

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24.01.07.14 Play Areas

Inspections have taken place with very little requirements – copy of report for Ashill to be forwarded to Councillor Edwards. Clerk to approach other providers to provide costings for services for the next financial year.

24.01.07.14 Letter of Support – D Day Celebrations

Letter of support requested (Appended). Proposed by Councillor Pointing, Seconded by Councillor Edwards, all in agreement.

24.01.08 Police Report

Councillors Pointing advised FOI request was unfruitful. Request to be sent to Adrian Legg to provide a local report to allow for visibility of incidents affecting the parish.

24.01.09 Clerk's Report

24.01.09.01 Culm Valley and Pippins Field Play Area Leases

Clerk advised that queries had been reviewed by MDDC and that negotiations are ongoing in regards to lease wording.

24.01.09.02 Cemetery

Clerk advised that correspondence had been received by members of the public regarding issues surrounding dogs in the cemetery, cigarette ends and the condition of some plots. New shelves should assist with plot condition, smoking is allowed currently within the cemetery and dogs are prohibited. Clerk to arrange for a sign to be erected on fence to advise of “no dogs”,

24.01.09.03 Town and Parish Charter

Updated charter received from MDDC – detail how MDDC and the Parish Council work together. Resolved to adopt going forward.

24.01.09.03 Annual Parish Meeting

Parish Meeting to be in the format of information stalls for Parishioners to attend individually. Refreshments to be provided – tea, coffee, cake. Invites to speakers to include Hitchcocks, Bridwell, Coldharbour Mill, Green Team, History Group (perhaps to promote online calendar), Mole Valley and Village Hall. Clerk to invite and arrange.

24.01.09.03 Queer Spirit Festival – Music festival (no alcohol) - August

Clerk advised of licence application received for event due to take place in August. No negative feedback received in regards to the event that took place in 2023 so no objections or comments.

24.01.09.03 LCWIP Draft Document – Consultation

Document reviewed – number 4 would have the addition of a crossing as a preference. If number 7 is not an option (although Council's preference), there needs to be an 8th option which would adopt the same desire line (direct route, parallel to road perhaps?).

Meeting Close: 20:50

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 8th April 2024, subject to confirmation by the Clerk.

4/15

March Report

1 message

Councillor Ray Radford

Mon, Mar 4, 2024 at 9:42 AM

To:



Dear Gemma & Members.

March Report.

On Wednesday 14 February, councillors agreed a 4.99 per cent increase for our part of the council tax for this coming financial year.

It comprises 2.99 per cent for general services with an extra two per cent specifically for adult care.

It means an extra £1.56 a week on their bill for the average Band D householder.

It allows an increase of 10.4 per cent in spending on children's services, six per cent on adult services and 4.7 per cent on climate change, environment and transport.

Councillors also agreed an extra £1.5 million to boost regular road drainage since the target budget was set last month to tackle the increase in potholes caused by this winter's heavy rainfall.

Agreement was also given to bring the homelessness budget back up to £1.45 million to support the work of district councils and homeless organisations for another year.

A six-week public consultation was launched on Monday 12 February, on the draft proposal to create a Combined County Authority (CCA) for Devon and Torbay to oversee new powers and funding transferred from Government.

The ground-breaking devolution deal announced by Levelling Up Minister Jacob Young last month, proposes to create the CCA, which would be a formal partnership of elected members drawn from the councils of Devon and Torbay, including district councils, together with representatives from business and education.

People are being invited to have their say on how the CCA would work, the powers that it would have and the functions it would be responsible for. These include investment in local economic growth, delivering affordable housing, improving public transport, and meeting net zero ambitions.

Further information about our joint consultation with Torbay Council and details of how to respond are available at www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk

By far the biggest issues raised at Parish Council meetings are roads and their maintenance, very rarely anything about Adults and children's services, with a combined budget of £588.7k out of County's overall revenue budget of £743.3k. That only leaves £155k to run all other services, including Roads/Highways.

5/15

In 2023, we assessed 57,000 public reports of potholes of which 12,000 were ultimately assessed as duplicates.

We repaired over 53,000 potholes.

Each report we receive is assessed onsite by a trained highway safety inspector. We do not ignore any reports that we receive, however, we do have to prioritise our funding as we cannot afford to fix all of the problems that are reported to us.

We prioritise repairing potholes, on roads, that have a 40 mm (4 cm) vertical edge and are 300 mm (30 cm) wide as these are the biggest risk to highway users.

All reports should be assessed onsite within seven calendar days. Following the assessment, repairs will be carried out by the end of the next working day, seven or 28 calendar days (depending on the outcome of the assessment) if confirmed as a priority pothole.

We will repair smaller potholes, and other road surface issues, as and when resources are available and as part of our planned works programmes.

I am waiting for the latest on the 20mph scheme, A consultation would have been sent to the Parish Council for your consideration, subject to any public concerns it should be ready for implementation.

We have had our Locality Budget restored for small donations to local organisations/clubs etc.

Regards,

Ray

Ray Radford

Devon County Councillor

Willand & Uffculme Division

6/15

Village Volunteers requirements

Naturescape.co.uk

40 native bluebells	£21.60
30 wood anemones	£10.44
50 wild daffs	£26.00
5 marsh marigolds	£19.50
postage	£5.99

Subtotal **£83.53**

Amazon:

Wire: 120m	£22.16
Pond skimming net	£21.85
Long handled weeding forks x 2	£36.26

Subtotal **£80.27**

Grand total **£163.38**

Application for funding

1 message

Chris Coopey [REDACTED]
To: Gemma Cole [REDACTED]

Wed, Jan 17, 2024 at 4:29 PM

Hi Gemma,

I've thought for a while that having a local online calendar for the Parish would be a good idea - it would be one location where each of our community groups (and individuals and organisations such as the Parish Council) could create recurring events on a month by month basis as well as individual events into future months.

Spotlight does a fabulous job but is limited to that particular month and has a strict deadline for print. An online version, as well as being a useful 'portable' event diary could stretch into the future and help to avoid event clashes as people will be able to check before scheduling.

There is a lot going on in and around the village and it would be a good way of keeping people informed. I've run it past several group leads who agree it would be very useful.

To ensure people who are not online can access the info a monthly print out pinned up in the Parish noticeboard, Village Hall and Square Corner have been suggested, which is also a good idea.

The annual subscription is about £40 and I was wondering whether the Parish Council might agree to meet the cost at their next meeting?

Here is the link to follow: <https://localendar.com/public/UffculmeDiary>

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Chris Coopey
Chair, Uffculme History Group.

8/15



accounts@labdon.co.uk
01884 33405



LABDON BUILDING SUPPLIES
PALMERS BRIDGE
STATION ROAD
CULLOMPTON
DEVON
EX15 1BQ

Invoice

Invoice To:

Counter Sales
UFFCULME PARISH COUNCIL
THE GREEN TEAM
UFFCULME
*
*

Deliver To:

Counter Sales

Date	Your Reference	Account	Our Reference	Invoice No.
12-01-24				

QTY	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	PRICE/PER	VAT CODE	DISC %	NET VALUE
1	TANALISED FENCE POST 2.4M 4"X4" - 8' 100X100 UC4 TREATED	211490	19.53 EACH	6	20.00	15.62

Labdon Building Supplies

Station Road
Cullompton, EX15 1BQ
0188433405



Total £18.74
CREDIT CARD SALE £18.74
VISA 6132

Retain this copy for statement validation

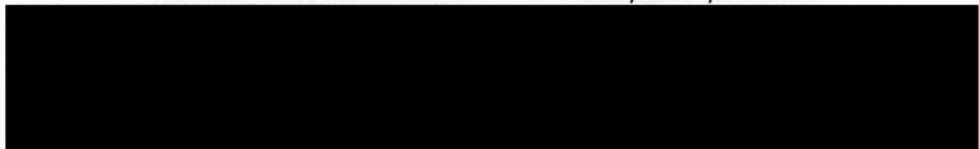


VAT			
%	Net	Tax	Gross
0	18.74	0.00	18.74

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Thank you for your custom.

VAT		
6	20.00%	3.12

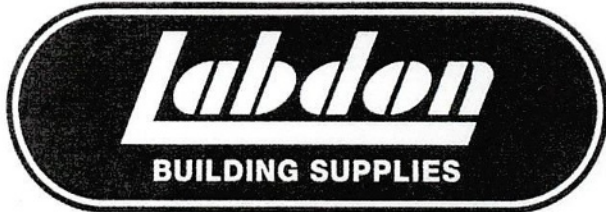


Goods Value £15.62
Total VAT £3.12

Invoice Total £18.74

All goods remain in our ownership until paid in full.

all



accounts@labdon.co.uk
01884 33405



LABDON BUILDING SUPPLIES
PALMERS BRIDGE
STATION ROAD
CULLOMPTON
DEVON
EX15 1BQ

Invoice

Invoice To:

Counter Sales
THE GREEN TEAM
UFFCULME
DEVON
*

Deliver To:

Counter Sales

Date	Your Reference	Account	Our Reference	Invoice No.
15-01-24				

QTY	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	PRICE/PER	VAT CODE	DISC %	NET VALUE
1	GP CHIPPY SCREWS UNIFIX 5.00 X 90	185898	4.64 Each	6	20.00	3.71
1	IN-DEX TIMBER SCREW W/H - GRN	106986	16.64 Each	6	20.00	13.31

Labdon Building Supplies

Station Road
Cullompton, EX15 1BQ
0188433405

Total £20.42
CREDIT CARD SALE £20.42
VISA 6132

Retain this copy for statement validation

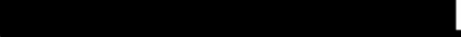
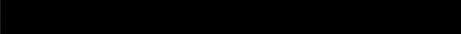
VAT			
%	Net	Tax	Gross
0	20.42	0.00	20.42

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10/15

Re: Grants Available - Village Halls

1 message

Sally Bookings 
To: Gemma Cole 



Mon, Feb 19, 2024 at 6:46 PM

Hello Gemma

Thank you for forwarding this information.

Also, somewhat belatedly, please pass on our thanks to UPC for the funds received to help pay for the new dishwasher in the Village Hall. We are most grateful that it is now installed. Not least because the Seniors Lunch had a visit from an Environmental Health Officer on Tuesday 6 February and they were pleased to see that we had all the proper equipment in place, especially a dishwasher that sterilises when rinsing. We were awarded a 5 rating so that's most pleasing.

Best wishes
Sally

From: Gemma Cole 
Sent: 17 February 2024 13:07
To: Sally Bookings 
Subject: Grants Available - Village Halls

Good afternoon,

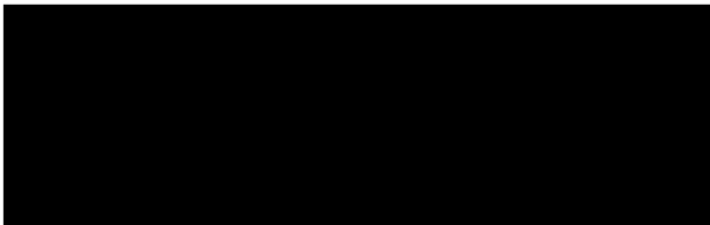
I have been advised of this which I think may be of interest to the hall for the washroom facilities:

<https://acre.org.uk/press-release-small-grants-made-available-to-village-halls-in-england/>

Kind regards,

Gemma

Gemma Cole
Uffculme Parish Council Clerk



11/15

Uffculme Youth Group Survey Plan

Andrew Logue – 04/03/24

In the absence of any feedback or results from the original Facebook survey, I wanted to plan a new survey – content and distribution/reporting – to better understand:

1. The youth demographics in and around Uffculme (age brackets, proximity, free time slots, special needs)
2. Existing resources/interest groups within Uffculme (sports facilities, venue hire, community projects)
3. How we could distribute the survey and collect results (social media, email campaign to households, school involvement)
4. Youth knowledge of/interest in existing activities
5. Youth interest in potential activities we could offer using the approved budget (youth group £6,000 + parks and equipment £20,000)
6. Reporting and feedback to youth + interested parties
7. Activity planning and budget allocation

Part 1: Establishing Uffculme youth demographics

- Define target age range (based on gaps in coverage/local incidents/national data for antisocial behaviour)
- Determine age groups/school-year populations from school admission data or census
- Determine accessibility issues for potential facilities/activities based on youth within walkable distance vs. those that need public transport/personal vehicle
- Consider special needs if there are structured activities (quiet activities or parent/carer-supervised options)
- Use this data to subdivide budget

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Part 2: Establish existing Uffculme resources and interest groups that could be used/expanded

- Interest groups – like sports trainers, local schools/library, charities, community projects – that might participate if funding opportunities exist (direct payment from allocated budget/an event fee/tuck shop)
- Existing charity/community projects that would assist if it meant potential volunteers
- Public paths/routes for physical activities likes walking/running/cycling
- Playgrounds and picnic spots
- Exercise equipment for supervised or unsupervised training
- Magelake Parish Pavilion for physical activities, movie/series screenings, or video game/board game activities
- Village Hall for movie/series screenings or video game/board game activities
- Interest groups that could use activities for awareness campaigns (physical or mental health/local employment opportunities etc.)

Part 3: Survey design and delivery method justified by what we can/could offer, while also considering any privacy issues dealing with youth

- Survey type and delivery (social media, email campaign to households, school involvement)
- Age/school-year grouping
- Free time slots
- Assess current activities and interests (socialising, sports, board/video games, other)
- Assess knowledge of existing activities/facilities (socialising, sports, board/video games, community projects, religious events, etc.)
- Interest in supervised activities vs. unsupervised facilities
- Interest in structured sports/physical activities vs. unsupervised outdoor/indoor activities
- Interest in joining existing charity/community/religious initiatives
- Interest in movie/series screenings + tuck shop snacks/drinks (maybe an entry fee towards charity/community project?)
- Interest in video/board game events + tuck shop snacks/drinks (maybe an entry fee towards charity/community project?)

- Assess willingness to provide feedback on supervised and unsupervised activities for reporting purposes (social media check-in/digital surveys through email campaign/school involvement)

Part 4: Tabulate, visualise, correlate survey results with age/school-year brackets

- Current activities + knowledge of activities/facilities already present
- Preference for supervised vs. unsupervised facilities
- Optimal time slots for potential activities or facility use (weekday afternoons vs. weekends)
- Interest levels in indoor/outdoor physical activities vs. indoor movies/series and video/board games
- Willingness to spend on entry fee/tuck shop if it's going to a charity/community/religious project
- Willingness to participate in a charity/community/religious project as a volunteer
- Willingness to accept awareness campaigns as part of activities

Part 5: Feedback and further planning/engagement

- Tabulate/visualise key findings in report for youth participants and interested parties
- Council meeting with interested parties to discuss results and viability of providing new or expanded activities/facilities based on allocated budget, engagement levels, and potential optimal time slots
- Run awareness campaigns for existing activities/facilities of all types (sports, charity, community, religious projects)
- Discuss survey/feedback structure, reporting mechanisms, criteria for ongoing funding
- Call for community input and support of proposed plans
- Finalise plans and approve youth/park budget spends in council meeting
- Decide on feedback type and interval for subsequent meetings

Please let me know if you have any feedback on these suggestions before the next council meeting (currently 08/04/2024) and we can begin to take some early steps like putting together a list of potential interested parties/charities/projects in Uffculme, and make enquiries as to whether the schools would facilitate a survey (which might result in a larger, more a representative response).

14/15

On Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 9:04 PM Patricia Blackman [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Lawrance** [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, 16 Jan 2024, 20:46

Subject: D Day anniversary events

To: Patricia Blackman [REDACTED]

Gemma Cole

Dear Patricia

Here are the details of the events compiled by Chris Coopey our Chair. This is a joint collaboration with Uffculme History Group and Coldharbour Mill. The attachment gives more information about the Second World War American Forces links with Uffculme.

Kind regards

Michael

cc Gemma Cole

Dear Patricia,

I wonder whether on behalf of the Parish Council you would be prepared to sign a letter of support for an event that the Uffculme History Group is organising with Coldharbour Mill.

As you may know, 2024 is the anniversary of the D-Day landings. The History Group and Mill are looking to put on an exhibition and a number of events to celebrate the role of the 17th Field Artillery observation battalion who were billeted at Grantlands. between November 1943 and May 1944 when they embarked for the D-Day beaches.

We have an ambitious programme of events planned together with an exhibition in the Mill and have the opportunity to apply for a grant to the National Archive to help us achieve our aims but unfortunately the due date is Friday 26/1/24 so ideally, we would need to receive the letter (scanned is fine) a few days before.

I attach a precis of the programme. All we would need for our application is a short letter on headed paper saying something like:

**

To The National Archive,

The Parish Council fully supports the bid being made by Coldharbour Mill in partnership with the Uffculme Local History Group for a grant to assist them in facilitating the exhibition and events titled 'From Uffculme to Omaha Beach'.

Our parish is proud of the role it played in hosting the U.S. Army in the area during the Second World War, and this programme will certainly help our community - young and old - to recall and commemorate the brave soldiers who, for a short time, were able to call Uffculme their home.

Yours...

15/15