

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Monday 13th May 2024 at Magelake

Meeting Open – 19:05

24.05.01 Election of Parish Council Chair

Councillor Cornish nominated. Proposed by Councillor Cornish, Seconded by Councillor Kingdom.

Councillor Blackman nominated. Proposed by Councillor Edwards, Seconded by Councillor Hallchurch.

Vote carried out 4/2 majority Councillor Cornish.

23.05.02 Election of Parish Council Vice Chair

Councillor Kingdom nominated. Proposed by Councillor Cornish, Seconded by Councillor Edwards, all in agreement.

24.05.03 Apologies for absence

Chairman: P Cornish

Present: R Kingdom M Bodger R Keeling P Hallchurch
T Edwards S Lane A Logue (19:20)

Apologies T Pointing (Sabbatical) P Blackman (ill)

24.05.04 To approve of the Minutes of Meeting held on 8th April 2024

The minutes were agreed as an official council record.

Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance.

24.05.05 County Councillor's Report

Councillor Radford provided a report ahead of time (appended). The Councillors expressed their thanks for Councillor Radford's involvement and asked the question as to the total budget allocated for Highways for 2024 – Clerk to raise with Councillor Radford.

24.05.06 District Councillor's Reports

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

- 1) Community Payback scheme in place currently and Parish Councils are urged to provide suggestions of where this can be utilised within their Parishes. Clerk requested Councillor input for suggestions by COB 17/05.

Uffculme Parish Council
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Monday 13th May 2024 at Magelake

Councillor Clist did not provide report ahead of time, however, raised the following:

1. 1st anniversary of term with MDDC.
 - a. Prior to change of office, there was a financial £5.6m overspend. This has now improved to £40k in bank, with no service cuts and a balanced forecast.
2. There has been an increase in Social Housing
 - a. 70 planned this year
 - b. 5 year plan in place to achieve 1000
3. Improvements to green agenda
 - a. Electric Vehicles
 - b. Net gain positive moves
4. Decision making to include Towns and Parishes going forward.
 - a. New cabinet "Parish and Community Engagement" in place
 - b. To include a planning policy
5. Sustainable business grant now available
6. Care provision £16m. £8m allocated to Devolution and Torbay and £8m allocated to all other areas.
 - a. Bid for £800k funding is being applied for at MDDC
7. Homes England have been approached regarding Cullompton
 - a. Relief road needs to be completed prior to construction
 - b. Currently estimated at a spend of £35m

Questions raised by Councillor Edwards regarding point 4 (above) as to whether more support would have been available had this been in place at the time, when negotiating the Boundary Review. As Boundary Review affected multiple Parishes, support would have been provided to all (as was the case in the most recent review).

24.05.07 Parish Council Vacancies

The Clerk advised that there were 3 vacancies currently and precis received from an applicant was discussed. Councillors decided that they would like prospective new Councillors to attend meeting in person, in the case of any applicant, prior to co-option. All in agreement.

24.05.08 Working Groups 2024

Councillor Keeling requested a diary to be held in the No11 Café for members of the Parish to use for any issues raised (as the current contact for Maintenance). All in agreement. Clerk to arrange for purchase.

Working Groups document and group allocations worked through at meeting (appended). All in agreement.

24.05.09 Finance

24.05.09.01 To approve April Financial Statement

The April financial statement was approved as official council minutes.

24.05.09.02 Council Insurance - Renewal

Clerk advised renewal quotation had not yet been received – Defer to next meeting.

24.05.09.03 To approve 2023-2024 Annual Accounts

Document reviewed and approved – all in agreement.

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Monday 13th May 2024 at Magelake

24.05.09.04 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Clerk requested re-appointing of existing Internal Auditor, Paul Russel of Microshade VSM for the coming year. All in agreement.

24.05.10 Business Arising

24.05.10.01 Hillhead/Broadpath

Councillor Edwards advised that the suggestion of willow planting was still in discussions with Anthony Allday. Meeting took place recently – minutes to be circulated once available.

24.05.10.02 Mole Valley Feed Mill

Clerk advised that a noise nuisance had been raised by a member of the public via Councillor Pointing and that Mole Valley had actioned the complaint in a timely manner. Councillor Edwards to liaise with Councillor Pointing directly for further details.

24.05.10.03 Uffculme Men's Club

No updates were provided.

24.05.10.04 Uffculme Bowling Club

Minutes of the last meeting received (appended). Councillor Keeling advised that during the last meeting (which took place on 09/04 at 2pm) there were constitutional changes, floor issues needed to be discussed further and that they need a safeguarding officer, in order to be able to play in 2025.

24.05.10.05 Green Team

Councillor Kingdom advised that the Green Day had taken place on 11/05, with lots of activity in the village. Overall a great success. £354 raised as part of the event.

Request was raised from the Village Volunteers to be able to install wires to the wall below the bowling club, in order to keep the path tidy. Request to include the use of screws and plugs, installed by a suitably competent person. Proposed by Councillor Lane, Seconded by Councillor Cornish, all in agreement.

24.05.10.06 Allotments

No updates were provided.

24.05.10.07 Parish Maintenance Update

Length restriction to Chapel Hill raised. Councillor Hallchurch and Clerk to raise again with NHO to ascertain what the delay in this is.

Request had been received to add a bin to outside of the NISA as parishioner bin is currently being incorrectly used and causing a nuisance. Councillor Keeling to liaise with the shop to see whether they can install their own again.

Question raised regarding burials and where payment is made. All bookings through Clerk only and payment directly to Uffculme Parish Council, as per terms.

Additional flags needed for the village – Devon and St George Cross. Councillor Hallchurch to gain quotation for both to be considered at the next meeting. Flag pole also requires a clean and repairs to the lock – Clerk to investigate.

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Monday 13th May 2024 at Magelake

24.05.10.08 Traffic and Speeding Issues/Community Speed Watch

Minutes from the last meeting received (appended). Reports of the Police being present on Commercial Road throughout the month, positively received. Traffic Enforcement Officer to be requested to attend at the school due to issues with parking and unsafe travel behaviours.

24.05.10.09 Schools Update

Primary school is currently carrying out a consultation of their merge with the pre-school – this is due to there being a change in ages provided for. Consultation to be completed at a Councillor level, as opposed to a Council. Councillors encouraged to participate.

No update from the Secondary school.

24.05.10.10 Uffculme Village Hall

Councillor Cornish advised of a Treasurer Report being had. Year-end showed £16k in the bank with £12,200 running costs annually. They need to review fees to help address the issue, along with making plans for further funding.

24.05.10.11 Magelake Committee / Repairs

No updates were provided. Meeting to be arranged with Martin to discuss Magelake with the Working Group. Question raised as to why the bar doesn't seem to be open during larger fundraising events. Clerk to raise as necessary.

24.05.10.12 Youth Working Group

Councillor Logue provided a report (appended). Online presence also discussed, Clerk happy to arrange for this when appropriate. Clerk to forward contacts for Space Youth for Councillor Logue to assist with project.

24.05.10.13 Community Crisis (previously Ukrainian Crisis)

No updates were provided.

24.05.10.14 Play Areas

Clerk advised benches now installed at Highland Terrace Playpark. Ashill Village Hall to gain quotations for tennis court updates. Grant request to be presented to the Council for assistance of funding once received.

24.05.10.15 Craddock Phone Box

Councillor Kingdom advised that the parishioners would like to do something with the phone box in Craddock Clerk confirmed that Council owned asset. Maintenance plan needs to be put in place – quotation from a local handyman to assist with this is needed. Clerk to add maintenance preparation task to the list of volunteers for Councillor Connor (24.05.06). Uses of phone box discussed, suggestion to use for Defibrillator and books. All in agreement. Clerk to investigate possibility and grant possibilities.

24.05.11 Police Report

Report provided (appended). Clerk to look into adding this to the website going forward (now that regular reports are being received again).

24.05.12 Clerk's Report

24.05.12.01 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.

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24.05.12.02 Cemetery

Clerk advised that Burial Board met at the cemetery in order to highlight plots with issues, now that the shelves are installed. A number of plots were identified (c.52) where attention was needed. Clerk to write to the plot holders to start the process of clearing up the cemetery. Noticeboard will be updated with plans as appropriate.

24.05.12.03 Parish Annual Meeting

Clerk advised of confirmed attendees and to encourage all to attend. Councillor Edwards unable to attend.

Meeting Close: 20:57

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 1st July 2024, subject to confirmation by the Clerk.

FW: May Report

1 message

Councillor Ray Radford [REDACTED]

Mon, May 13, 2024 at 10:04 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: May Report

Dear Gemma & Members.

Please except my apologies, it is Sampford Peverell meeting and they have asked me to attend.

There will be big changes within the Leadership of Devon County. John Hart is retiring from being Leader for 15 years from the next annual meeting, this will then let him be able to be the Chairman of the Council, in his last year as a member. The current deputy leader, James McInnes, will then become the new Leader, his deputy will be Andrea Davies.

My report will primary be about road maintenance and finance, as it is the most topical discussion within Parishes.

The proposal to inject an extra £10 million into repairing Devon's roads is due to go before the County Council's Cabinet on Wednesday 8 May – in response to recent budget discussions for additional investment in highways, including drainage.

The council received a better-than-expected settlement from the Government last month to help tackle its overspend on education for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

The council is now in a position to make extra money available for road repairs and drainage and will be looking to invest another £10 million into the highway maintenance budget.

The proposed additional £10 million funding will be spent across the county with £7.25 million on extensive patching repairs targeting issues identified by highways officers, County Councillors, town and parish councils and communities. It will also pay for £2 million of drainage improvements and £750,000 will be added to the ongoing road marking replacement programme.

Throughout the budget setting process it was recognised we needed to invest more in roads and we're now in a position to potentially invest an extra £10 million in our highway network. The extremely wet weather over the past year has inflicted a huge amount of damage on our roads so this proposed funding is very much needed and will help prevent further decline in its condition.

The additional County Council funding is on top of the £59.486 million of funding Devon's receiving from the Department for Transport (DfT) for its highway maintenance programme this year, which includes £23.4 million from the Government's Pothole Fund and £6.663 million from the Government's Network North funding.

The budget for this financial year will stand at over £72 million. As well as road maintenance this also covers bridge repairs, streetlight replacement and upgrading, road safety improvements, and maintenance of public rights of way and multi-use trails.

This year has seen dire warnings about local authorities "going bankrupt", slashing services and imposing double digit council tax increases.

But a new report by our Director of Finance, Angie Sinclair, predicts that our revenue budget of just under £700 million will effectively break even in April with a small overspend of £291,000 currently being forecast.

Her report covers the current financial year to the end of January with two more months to go.

She says; "Financial risks within adult social care and children and young people are still being experienced but the work underway across the authority to support these pressures continues to ensure the whole organisation is focused on achieving a break-even position for the end of the year".

The position has improved significantly since Month 8, with the forecast overspend reducing from £4.5 million to nearly breakeven, and demonstrates strong financial management.

The forecast break-even position is a huge achievement and the result of a continued focus on financial control and would not have been possible without the authority pulling together as One Devon and our work with our partners.

This is mitigating and responding to in-year pressures, delivering planned savings and providing services within the budgets agreed.

Regards,

Ray

Ray Radford


Devon County Councillor

Willand & Uffculme Division

Email: 

Re: Good evening

1 message

Susanne Horne
To: Gemma Cole 

Wed, Apr 24, 2024 at 6:26 PM

Hi I am still interested. I live in Uffculme and I feel there is a need for a good youth provision within the community. This is something I am passionate about and would be interested in getting involved. Kind regards Susanne xx

On Wed, 21 Jun 2023 at 22:08, Gemma Cole  wrote:
Hi Susanne,

We still have positions available so if you were interested in becoming a Councillor for Uffculme PC, we would welcome you to apply.

As you may be aware, we hold meetings twice a month, on the first and second Mondays of each month (except where there is a Bank Holiday) - you can find a copy of the current schedule of meetings here. These tend to last around 2 hours for the main and 1.5 hours for the Planning Meeting. All Councillors are called to the main Council Meeting and those on the Planning Committee to the Planning Meeting. If attending one of these meetings (most suitably the Full Council Meeting) you will be able to get a feel for the Councillor role and have the opportunity to ask any questions.

Aside from the time that these meetings take, additional time needed really does depend on what groups you join as a Councilor/where your interests lie. We have working groups for all areas of the village and some groups take more of an active nature than others, however, I would say around 1-2 hours per week would be the average needed.

If you would like to apply, please send across a short precis about yourself to be circulated to the current Councillors - you will require two Councillors to support your co-option/application. You would, of course, be welcome to attend the meetings as a member of the public, if you would like to get a feel for the Council beforehand.

Kind regards,

Gemma

Gemma Cole

Uffculme Parish Council Clerk



On Wed, Jun 21, 2023 at 9:30 PM Susanne Horne  wrote:

I have seen on Facebook, there are some spaces within the council and I would like to enquire and find out a bit more information please. Regards Susanne

UFFCULME PARISH COUNCIL - Committees and Working Groups

<u>Planning Committee</u>			
Simon Lane			
Phil Cornish	Polly Hallchurch	Pat Blackman	Ruth Kingdom
Terry Edwards	Tim Pointing		
<u>Broadpath/Hillhead Liaison</u>		<u>Mole Valley – Uffculme Feed Mill Liaison</u>	
Terry Edwards		Terry Edwards	
Simon Lane		Tim Pointing	
<u>Open Spaces & Footpaths</u>		<u>Parish Emergency Planning</u>	
Ruth Kingdom		Malcolm Bodger	
Phil Cornish	Andrew Logue	Tim Pointing	Pat Blackman
<u>Village Hall</u>		<u>Road Warden Scheme</u>	
Phil Cornish		Terry Edwards	
Malcolm Bodger		Simon Lane	
<u>Uffculme Bowling Club</u>		<u>Ashill Village Hall</u>	
Roy Keeling		Pat Blackman	
		Terry Edwards	
<u>Men's Club</u>		<u>Allotment Association</u>	
Terry Edwards		Malcolm Bodger	
Ruth Kingdom			
<u>Magelake</u>		<u>Green Team</u>	
Phil Cornish		Polly Hallchurch	
Tim Pointing	Ruth Kingdom	Tim Pointing	
Malcolm Bodger	Andrew Logue		
<u>United Charities</u>		<u>Maintenance</u>	
Ruth Kingdom		Roy Keeling	
Roy Keeling	Phil Cornish	Polly Hallchurch	Tim Pointing
<u>Traffic</u>		<u>Schools</u>	
Polly Hallchurch		Polly Hallchurch	
Andrew Logue	Phil Cornish	Andrew Logue	
	Tim Pointing		
<u>Uffculme and Ayshford Trusts</u>		<u>Burial</u>	
Malcolm Bodger		Pat Blackman	
		Tim Pointing	
<u>Police Liaison</u>		<u>Youth</u>	
Andrew Logue		Andrew Logue	
Malcolm Bodger		Tim Pointing	Malcolm Bodger
Tim Pointing		Phil Cornish	

UFFCULME BOWING CLUB
MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 14.00

1	<p>PRESENT: Geoff Jenkins (GJ), Jenny Dyson (JD), Steve Wildey (SW), Roy Keeling (RK-UPC), Graham Dyson (GD), Sue Risdon (SR), Joan Greet (JG), Ian Thomson, Linda Maguire (LM), Paul Maguire (PM), John Shere(JS), Iris Varetto (IV),</p>	Action by
2	<p>APOLOGIES Alan George (AG), Chris Fuller (CF), Ken King (KK), John McNally (JM), Christina George (CG)</p>	
3	<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: were read and agreed a true record of the meeting. GD & SW signed and dated the minutes. There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>	
4	<p>3. Minutes of last meeting & matters arising: were read and agreed a true record of the meeting. & signed and dated the minutes. There were no matters arising.</p>	
5	<p>4. Hon. Secretary: Correspondence/Membership:</p> <p>Invoices for sponsors sent out, Invoice for Wake and use of hall for use it or lose it sent out. Fixture list sent to all members and submitted for Web update. Competition Honors boards updated. Thanks to John for putting in new drain pipe for Glass washer in Bar. I've organised someone to come and present Cheque for Ken's Charity. Spotlight article submitted for opening day and FB posts published. I have requested Trade waste to start in April until September. Unfortunately the article for Spotlight was not published, I'm awaiting to find out why it didn't happen. I have posted 5 tournaments on board, Happy if Club captain removes any that clash with fixtures. I have asked Web resource (Matt) to remove the contact sheet of website as we are getting multiple scams via it.</p> <p>Steve Wildey</p>	
6	<p><u>Hon Treasurer</u> 9th April 2024</p> <p>Bank balance end of March 2024 £28,866.32</p> <p>We are running at a £2,000 loss at present.</p> <p>John McNally (bar manager) now has a debit card. Slight problem in that his contact number is incorrect on banking system so not able to purchase online – being sorted.</p> <p>I am now confident that I can account for every penny entered in the UBC accounts since 1st January 2024. I have done my best to collate all the information I received for the months of October, November and December 2023. All the cash I have received in</p>	

UFFCULME BOWING CLUB
MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 14.00

	<p>March has been correct. Alan George has provided info re short mat league games which has helped and the slips have been filled out nicely.</p> <p>2023 club winners have not yet been given their prize money. I will sort this asap.</p> <p>I now have access to our gas account – Pozitive energy. Water and electric are still to be sorted.</p> <p>Please have a look at the information I have provided – constructive advice only please.</p> <p>Sue Risdon Treasurer UBC</p>	
<p>7.2</p>	<p>6. Other written reports received:</p> <p>Short mat (CG)</p> <p>.</p> <p>Our league season has now been completed although there are a few fixtures for other clubs to be finished.</p> <p>We are in third place this year, the winners of Division 1 being Colyton with Sidbury in second place. It has been a hard season with some very close matches so we look forward to a rest before the autumn when we start again.</p> <p>Short mat sessions will only be held on Tuesday mornings and one mat will be rolled out and replaced on the day from next week (16th April).</p> <p>Tom Dodge, our junior did well in his first visit to the Nationals in Melton Mowbray and got through to the last 16. He is now included in the U21s squad and will have training opportunities during the summer. He will be presented with a trophy for winning the Devon U18s at the Devon AGM on April 18th at Christow. AG and CG will represent Uffculme Short Mat bowls at the meeting.</p> <p>We have a team in the Broadclyst Summer triples league starting in May.</p> <p>Recently there have been friendly matches at home against Withleigh and Hemyock. These were enjoyed by the participants and I will hope to get matches again when we resume our winter season. It is imperative that we attempt to recruit some more members to enable us to run a second session during the week. Sunday afternoons will be used for league team and junior training/coaching. Thanks to Jenny and Alan for their support as committee members and a special thanks to Rosemary and David Ellis for running Tuesday sessions. Rosemary has done a really good job being in charge of friendly matches and has agreed to continue in the roll.</p>	<p>RK(PC)</p>

UFFCULME BOWING CLUB
MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 14.00

	<p>Christina George SMBS Chairperson</p> <p>Over 60s Minutes from League meeting has been posted on the Board</p> <p>Alan Uffculme BC Over 60s rep.</p> <p><u>Ladies Captains Report</u></p> <p>Our Ladies pre- season meeting was held on Friday 5th April, with an excellent attendance. All Ladies Triples League matches are now organised and confirmed. The up to date list is on the notice board. The first match being AWAY to Ottery Gold on Wednesday 29th May. An early start 10.30 am. Our thanks to Joan Greet who has worked really hard on producing a Ladies Competition Booklet for this season. This was invaluable to us all but unfortunately County withdrew the Section 2 Booklet before last season. Everyone is so grateful Joan was happy to continue to produce our own Uffculme Ladies Competition booklet. We will be paying £1.00 to Joan towards her costs. Jenny Dyson (Ladies Captain)</p> <p>Ladies Secretary:</p> <p>Club Captain</p> <p>Green/Grounds</p> <p>Fixtures Secretary</p> <p>2024 Fixture list now completed.</p> <p>Bar Committee See Agenda 7.111</p>	
<p>8.1</p>	<p>7.1: <u>Agenda items:</u> <u>Items for discussion and agreement at this meeting:</u></p> <p>i) Club Floor (Completed Confirmation that PC are aware).</p>	

UFFCULME BOWING CLUB
MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
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	<p>PC has confirmed that they are aware and ask if we had any Photos of the under floor when it was being repaired. JS has supplied Photo and SW has forwarded that to RK (PC).</p> <p><u>ii)</u> Access ramp. Work is now complete but we need to address the soil. GJ is arranging a Plaque in memory of Mary Jenkins.</p> <p><u>iii)</u> Update from Bar Committee . SW reported on behalf of JM that investigations where ongoing in regards the network connectivity. Hi level of confidence that this would be resolved. Update we now have a Network router working with a multi Sim. Early view is that Vodafone will be the best network. For the time being we will continue using the original Card machine until things settle down.</p> <p><u>iv)</u> Catering Coordinator (Resignation of TS)GD to mention on opening day.</p> <p><u>v)</u> Easyfundraising (Fund raising via shopping) No decision made , probably minimal value.</p> <p><u>vi)</u> Fire Alarm and PAT testing review. Agreed SW would get alternative quote for work.</p> <p><u>vii)</u> Rob Norrish Sponsorship payment. Committee agreed we would waive sponsorship cost for Rob Norrish as he did not invoice us for any labour while the work was being repaired. Proposed SW seconded PM. SW to write to Rob.</p> <p><u>viii)</u> Planter re H Aldridge. Planter is now in place Total cost around £200 (Planter, soil and plants) Donation of £100 received by H Aldridge’s Family. Plaque to be arranged.</p> <p><u>ix)</u> Key List. Ongoing.</p> <p><u>x)</u> Bowls Stickers. Agreed That each member would receive 4 Stickers free of Charge. Stickers will be available from Bar at 50p for 4.</p> <p><u>xi)</u> Opening Day(10 ends, Raffle , Charity Money). Agreed to do a Bring and Share. SW to email members.</p>	<p>GD/SW// RK</p> <p>GJ</p> <p>SW/JM</p> <p>GD</p> <p>SW</p> <p>SW</p> <p>SW</p> <p>JD/LM</p> <p>SR SR</p> <p>All/SW</p>
9	FORTHCOMING MATTERS:	
10	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</p> <p>Request received from VIBE (Visually Impaired Bowls England) to organise a Spider to raise money for them. Agreed we would arrange one at one of our games..</p> <p>Request that in Future we use Women and not Ladies by Bowls England. The Club agrees . This will require minor Change to Constitution at next AGM/EGM.</p>	<p>SW</p> <p>SR/SW</p>

UFFCULME BOWLING CLUB
MINUTES FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 Tuesday 9th April 2024 at 14.00

	Requirement to refer to Regulation 9 under Bowls England in relation to Grievance Procedure which is a appendix in our Constitution for require the change at a AGM/EGM. The club will adhere to Regulation 9 if any Grievance issues arrive until Constitution is updated.	SW/SR
	Club insurance is due in early June.	SW
	Reminder that Juniors pay ½ Price Rink fees..	LM/PM
	The Wellington game has been swapped from Home to away this month. Fixture list is being updated along with a few other changes.	GJ
11	ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING.	
12	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Friday 10th May at 15.30	

Signed:

Chairman

Signed:

Hon. Secretary

Date:

HALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Traffic Meeting representing the Parish Councils
of Halberton, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand
Thursday, 21 March 2024 at Willand Village Hall

Present: Councillor Ian Batchelor – Chair, Halberton Parish Council
Councillor Tim Burt – Chair, Sampford Peverell Parish Council
Councillor Phil Cornish – Vice-Chair, Uffculme Parish Council

Susan McGeever, Clerk for Halberton Parish Council, was present to take the minutes.

Councillor Ian Batchelor, Chair, Halberton Parish Council, opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed those present.

All four Parish Councils had confirmed that they would be represented at the Joint Traffic Working Group and support a petition to reduce the speed limit along the Uffculme Straight as the first objective of the group.

It was felt a joint approach to Devon County Council on traffic issues would hold more weight and that the sharing of knowledge would be beneficial.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from:

Councillor Patricia Blackman – Chair, Uffculme Parish Council
Councillor Rob Furmedge – Vice-Chair, Halberton Parish Council
Councillor Keith Grantham – Willand Parish Council
Councillor Sue Leach – Willand Parish Council
Councillor Jason Scott – Willand Parish Council

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Matters arising from the notes of the meeting on 15 February 2024

There were no matters arising that would not be discussed under an agenda item.

4. Terms of Reference for the Working Group

The Clerk presented the proposed Terms of Reference for the Working Group.

Those present RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference should be adopted and they are shown in the attachment to these minutes.

5. Wider participation to include members of the public, other town and parish councils and MDDC/DCC

It was felt that for the first objective, the Working Group should not look to increase its membership.

There would be initiatives where a larger membership would be beneficial and the Parish Councils of Cullompton, Tiverton and Uplowman could be invited to join.

Inviting external independent groups could bring additional expertise to the Working Group as and when required. For example, the Willand Community Speedwatch worked separately to the Parish Council.

Likewise representation from Devon County Council and Mid Devon District Council would be decided at each meeting.

6. Joint petition for reduction in the speed limit on the Uffculme Straight

It was felt that the objective needed to be achievable and, as discussed at the previous meeting, moving from 60mph to 50mph would be a more realistic goal than asking for a reduction to 40mph.

The Clerk would contact Councillors Radford and Slade (DCC) to understand the information that would need to be provided to achieve the reduction in the speed limit.

A petition would be organised and each Parish Council would promote the petition through their individual websites and social media outlets.

The proposed petition wording was:

Reduction in the speed limit on the Uffculme Straight

The Parishes of Halberton, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand are asking residents of all parishes to support a reduction in the speed limit on the Uffculme Straight from 60mph to 50mph.

The respective Parish Councils believe that a reduction in the speed limit will make the road safer for all road users.

Besides the petition, the Working Group would need to provide a report and supporting evidence.

Councillors Slade and Radford would be asked which date in April would be more suitable 18 or 25 April 2024. If a DCC officer from HATOC or SCARF could attend, it would be beneficial.

7. Exchange of information between parishes to achieve consistency in speed limits and assist each other in achieving successful 20mph bids and other speed reduction and traffic safety measures

The exchange of information and the desire for consistency in speed limits through the parishes was welcomed.

8. Press/Publicity to raise awareness

Contacting the local MP and the candidates in the Police Commissioner's election could be beneficial.

The local press could also be contacted.

9. Any other business

Councillor Burt advised that 38 residents from Sampford Peverell had attended a meeting on the proposed landfill site at Greenway and a march was being organised. A joint march from Braid Park, Halberton and Sampford Peverell would highlight the need for DCC to consider the number of HGVs being routed down rural roads.

10. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting would be confirmed as 18 or 25 April 2024.

Councillor Ian Batchelor closed the meeting at 8pm.

JOINT TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP

Terms of Reference

Halberton, Sampford Peverell, Uffculme and Willand Parish Council have formed the Joint Traffic Working Group to assess the speed limits, traffic problems and highways issues in the parishes and to formulate proposals as to how improve safety for pedestrians and other road users.

Membership of the Working Group

Councillor Ian Batchelor – Chair, Halberton Parish Council
Councillor Patricia Blackman – Chair, Uffculme Parish Council
Councillor Tim Burt – Chair, Sampford Peverell Parish Council
Councillor Rob Furmedge – Vice-Chair, Halberton Parish Council
Councillor Keith Grantham – Willand Parish Council
Councillor Sue Leach – Willand Parish Council
Councillor Phil Cornish – Vice-Chair, Uffculme Parish Council
Councillor Jason Scott – Willand Parish Council

Susan McGeever – Clerk for Halberton Parish Council

Objective of the Working Group

To improve speed limits, traffic conditions and road safety for all users.

Note:

The Traffic Working Group cannot make non-delegated decisions or spend any money on behalf of the Parish Councils involved. Any recommendations put forward will be subject to approval by Full Councils.

Reporting to Council

Representatives will formally report to their Full Councils at the regular monthly meetings. The aim being to inform of progress and raise points that need Full Council approval. Informal updates by any members of the Working Group to Councillors can take place at any time.

Delegated Decision making

The Full Councils have delegated the administration of the Working Group to its members together with the power to carry out surveys, organise petitions and gather information that will assist in meeting the objectives of the Working Group.

Youth Working Group Update

After approval from fellow councillors on an action plan submitted in February 2024, I have started preparing a database of existing youth activities/facilities within the Uffculme area and those easily accessible by public transport in adjacent urban centres like Tiverton and Cullompton. This could form both the basis of a community resource, and guide the design of a new survey to assess awareness of existing activities/facilities/support groups.

I contacted SPACE using their details provided for general enquiries, introducing myself, outlining the intent of the working group, and requested a contact for the Tiverton Youth Centre – though I've yet to receive any feedback two weeks on. I will follow up on this again, but highlighting their services to local youth would be of value even if they don't directly engage with us.

Given the reduced number of youth using Facebook, I'd like to look at other platforms/social media that could post information related to any future Youth Working Group resources or initiatives. This could include contacting the web developer that maintains and updates the UPC website to potentially add a database of names, contact details, and maps/guides to the "blog" section (or ideally create a new subsection for "Youth" updates and resources). As for where to post alerts, a new survey could also be useful in determining which SM platforms are most popular presently.

As we have a new potential councillor interested in the Youth Working Group, I will ask Clerk Gemma Cole to forward on my action plan to them for feedback and discussion.

Police Liaison Working Group

Councillor Tim Ponting has kindly updated his spreadsheet with the latest reported crime figures before handing it over to me, and he produced a report on those figures and general trends (see Uffculme PC Police Report May 2024.pdf).

As the police appear to be updating crime data consistently again, I will lightly modify and continue updating his spreadsheet for monthly reporting and assessing trends. I will also be getting back in contact with Police Constable Adrian Legg once I'm comfortable with my chosen reporting methods, so we can discuss any parishoner questions and so he can keep us informed of any local policing activities/issues/successes that might be worth adding to the report.

Talking of reporting, as with Youth Group updates, I would like to discuss using the UPC website as a platform for hosting Police Liaison reports – maybe under "blog", "resources", or again, a dedicated subheading. This could include both the monthly reports but also links/guides on how the data are reported by the police and potential limitations.

In addition to the reported crimes and outcomes, there is spatial data assigned to some crimes. By design and often for privacy reasons, this is usually just given as the nearest main road or intersection, but I would be happy to create a simple map for Uffculme and surrounding smaller parishes – using Councillor Ponting's major road divisions – for a visual representation of the data. I would also be happy to incorporate traffic incidents (collisions/speeding complaints) if the data are available.

Uffculme Parish Crime Statistics - As at October 2022

Crime Type	ASB	Burglary	Violence and Sexual Offences	Vehicle Crime	Criminal Damage and Arson	Public Order	Drugs	Other	Possession of Weapons	Total	Village Totals		
											Culmstock	Hemyock	Other
January		1	4		1	1			1	8	3	5	
February	2		8					2	1	13	3	4	3
March			2		1			1		4	3	7	1
M5 J27										0			
Willand										0			
Halberton										0			
Location											February	January	
Appletree Close											1		
Ashley Close											2	2	
Ashley Road													
Bramley Way													
Bridge Street													
Bradfield													
Bramley Way													
Brooks Hill													
Chapel Hill													
Clay Lane													
College Green													
Coronation Cres													
Culm Haven												1	
Culm Valley Way													
Denners Way													
East Street													
Fore St													
High' Park								1				1	

Crime Type	ASB	Burglary	Violence and Sexual Offences	Vehicle Crime	Criminal Damage and Arson	Public Order	Drugs	Other	Possession of Weapons	Total	Village Totals		
High Street													
High' Terr'											3	3	
Kitwell St													
Magelake													
Markers					1						2		
Mill St													
Pathfields			1									1	
Sanders Way											1		
The Square			1								3		
Station Road											2		
nr St Stephens Ashill													
Total	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0		13	8	0
Outcomes	Other	Unable to Prosecute	No Suspect	Awaiting Court Outcome	Offender Given Caution	No Status	Local Resolution	Court Result Unavailable	Formal Action is not in Public Interest	Under Investigation	Action by Another Organisation	% Total	
March 2024		10%	20%						10%	60%		100%	
Year to Date	8.8%	31.9%	18.8%	0.6%	1.3%	11.9%	0.6%		5.4%	18.8%	1.9%	100%	
3 Years To Date	15.4%	24.9%	16.8%	0.4%	2.7%	27.2%	1%	0.8%	3.6%	6.2%	1%	100%	
Source	https://www.police.uk/your-area/devon-and-cornwall-police/lower-culm-and-upper-culm/?tab=CrimeMap												

