

UFTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 5th July 2011
in the Village Hall

1 Present: Parish Cllrs J Tayler (Chairman), C Baldwin, I Crowther, D Egging L Van Kesteren and J Wilkinson. J Cove (Clerk). 22 members of the public

2 Apologies for absence: CCllr Stevens, DCllr Spencer and PCllr Burrows

3 Declaration of interest in any agenda item: None

4 Open session

4.1 Public participation: Cllr Tayler welcomed Graham Long, Chair Ladbroke HS2 Committee, to the meeting together with a number of residents who were also in attendance. Cllr Tayler then explained that before the Parish Council responds to the HS2 consultation, it would like to hear the views of residents:

- i) Devaluing property and devastation to local area – nature reserve, woods and livestock (environmental blight) . Concern about the noise and repercussions.
- ii) Businesses around Ufton will not drive to Birmingham to get a train to London.
- iii) Often trains from Birmingham to London are only 20% full – more statistics are required about HS2. Graham Long said that 14 trains north and 14 trains southbound will operate giving a capacity of 1100 per hour.
- iv) Concern about adverse affect on existing train line. GL advised that there are indications that local train services will be reduced.
- v) It will not be creating jobs in our locality. With advanced technology, travel is not needed so much. GL advised that 70% of new jobs will be in London and the South East – 9,000 of those will be only temporary during the building stage.
- vi) There is only a remote chance of the trains being built in UK – they will probably be manufactured abroad and shipped in.
- vii) Negative impact on tourism in the area, especially Stratford and Warwick. There will be more coach and other traffic on the roads.
- viii) Concerns about funding – GL believes it will be funded from the public purse or from the issuance of bonds. Franchising and advertising costs will also contribute. Phillip Hammond was evidently asked if China will be helping to fund the project and he has been quoted as saying ‘no such discussion has taken place – it is all speculation.
- ix) Concern was expressed about the accessibility to HS2 stations. Warwickshire suffers detrimental effect by dissecting the County but has no benefits.
- x) Road traffic blight during the construction. Enormous disruption with many lorries. It will take 3.5 years to build the tunnel near Ufton.
- xi) It will cost a lot more than anticipated – too much for our children and grandchildren to cope with.
- xii) Property blight – GL explained there are currently 3 options for those with property blight. Most compensation claims will be paid only one year after the 1st train has run.

- xiii) 51M is a synergy of 14 different local councils. It has been employing transport economists to put forward an alternative proposal. Optimized Alternative RP2 has been proposed by this group - to spend money on what we already have. It appears we could get all the capacity we need for little more than £4 billion – compared to the estimated £33 billion for HS2.
- xiv) Part of the purpose is to make Birmingham airport another ‘London’ airport? Undoubtedly, yes after canning the 3rd runway at Heathrow, capacity is needed elsewhere. Further disruption with aircraft stacking over Ufton.

Cllr Tayler thanks Graham Long for attending the meeting and for his input in helping the Parish Council make its response. Further information will be sent by Graham and this will be placed on the website. Anyone, wishing to have paper copy should contact the Clerk. Cllr Tayler suggested that those present ask everyone to complete the consultation questionnaire.

5. Minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2011 – the Minutes of the meeting were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Van Kesteren and seconded Cllr Egging.

6. Matters arising:

6.1 Speeding: This item was deferred until the next meeting.

6.2 Risk Assessment: Clerk will contact Cllr Burrows for distribution of this document.

6.3 HS2 Response to Consultation: This item was discussed and it was agreed that local issues should be included in the Parish Council’s response. Apart from Cllr Baldwin, all Councillors agreed to answer one question on behalf of the village via the Parish Council’s response. (Cllr Egging – question 2; Cllr Crowther question 4; Cllr Van Kesteren – question 7; Cllr Wilkinson – question 3 and Cllr Tayler questions 1 & 5. Cllr Burrows will be asked to answer question 6) It was agreed that the responses be sent to the Clerk to collate.

6.4 Nomenclature of Ufton Parish Council: Discussion took place regarding the renaming of the Parish Council. Several residents had expressed dismay at this initiative. Cllr Tayler suggested withdrawing the idea due to lack of support from the village. Cllr Crowther felt that there is some confusion between the PC and PCC. Cllr Egging proposed the name stays as Parish Council and this was seconded by Cllr Van Kesteren – all agreed with one abstention.

6.5 Stratford District Council Land: This issue was discussed again and it was agreed that it would be too costly to upkeep this piece of land. It was suggested that Stratford District Council approach the residents of Broad Close to see if they would like to purchase the land. Clerk to contact Stratford District Council.

6.6 Gamages – History of Ufton: Cllr Tayler distributed the presentation packs to the Councillors and these will be delivered to each household in the village.

7 Planning:

7.1 New Planning Applications: none

7.2 Planning Decisions:

7.2.1 10/02407/FUL Dallas Burston Polo Grounds, Stoneythorpe CV47 2DL. The erection of a marquee style events building and the retention of three existing marquees approved under ref -2/01272/FUL - **Granted**

8 Training Feedback – Cllr Egging mentioned several issues which had been learned on the Induction Training Course to include: appraisal of Clerk; a suggestion box on the website; Parish Councillors take a leadership role in the village; strict rules should be adhered to in meetings and Any Other Business may be added to the Agenda but no decision may be taken on these issues. Cllr Tayler gave feedback on his recent training on Planning. He had found this to be disappointing, as no tangible examples were given.

9 Position of Vice Chairman - Cllr Tayler explained that after contacting all members of the Council, no-one wanted to take the role of Vice Chairman with a view to becoming Chairman, as had been recently suggested by one member. Cllr Wilkinson confirmed he was still willing to accept the position of Vice Chairman but made it clear that he would not put himself forward as Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Baldwin and seconded by Cllr Crowther – all agreed.

10 Correspondence

10.1 for discussion

10.2 for information

10.1.1 – LCR Magazine

10.1.2 – Clerk & Councils Direct

11 Finance –

11.1 the following accounts were approved for payment. Proposed Cllr Crowther and seconded Cllr Egging:

11.1.1	G Ingham – Ufton News July	£33.34
11.1.2	Jane Cove – June Salary/Office Allowance	£130.30
11.1.3	Jane Cove – Expenses – stamps £5.52; tel/internet 1 st Qtr £22.52	£152.82
11.1.3	HMRC 1 st Qtr	£89.20
11.1.4	EON – faulty street light	£14.40

12 OAB/Items for next meeting:

12.1 Church clock repair/replacement

12.2 The Arch Deacon will visit on 20th July when a meeting will be held.

12.3 Mr Dave Shepherd offered his apologies for non-attendance at the meeting.

12.4 An acknowledgement to Rod Pickering, John Disney and Mr Peaty for grass cutting.

12 Meet & Greet: Cllr Egging had made contact with the new residents in Stone Cottages and also delivered a welcome pack to Ridge Barn.

13 Date of next meeting: 6th September at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: 6th September 2011