

Ufton Parish Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2020

Meeting commenced 20:03 hrs via Zoom

1. **Record of Members Present**
Cllrs Baldwin, Crowther, Tayler, Leeman, District Councillor Adam and Mrs J Chapman (Clerk)
2. **Apologies for Absence**
None
3. **Acceptance of Apologies**
None
4. **Declaration of Interest**
Councillors are reminded that they **MUST** act solely in the public interests and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person to act or gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate.
5. **Dispensations - None declared**
6. **Open Forum – (15minutes)**
There were no public present.

CC / SDC Representatives Reports

County Cllr Stevens

7. **Resignation – Cllr Mrs Kemp**
Clerk to send a letter to Mrs Kemp, thanking her for her service on the Parish Council.
8. **Open Forum – (15minutes)**
No public attended the meeting.

20:05 hrs County Cllr Crump joined the meeting.

WCC / SDC Representatives Reports

District Councillor Adam – The recent news regarding the closure of the A425 from Southam to the Bascote crossroads for 9 months to enable HS2 to carry out works is not good. The Public Right of Way SM24 will also be closed for some of the period. HS2 has submitted a planning application, Cllr Adam has submitted an objection. Cllr Adam advised he is still waiting for information from HS2 regarding the felling of trees on and around the Fosse Way. Unitary Authority – Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council – there is nothing to report.

County Cllr Crump – Closure of A425. Emergency Blue Light vehicles will be allowed through the road closure. Schools have been made aware of the closure. The County Council is working on the implications for the Bus routes as a priority. WCC employs all the local bus companies, so this has to be resolved. WCC were advised about the road closure, two days before the Local Council HS2 forum were advised. Very difficult to challenge HS2 as Royal Assent “top trumps” all other parties. There is no guarantee the work will take 9 months, it could be more, it could be less. HS2 stated the nine month road closure is far more cost effective than the road being diverted, which was the original plan. HS2 have advised they will put road closure information further afield than they originally planned. HS2 will not give an undertaking that Welsh Road West will remain open for the duration of the closure.

23.11.2020 – 08.12.2020 there will be a rolling programme of road closures along Bascote Road, Bascote Crossroads to Harbury, Harbury to Deppers Bridge and Deppers Bridge through to Bishop Itchington, to allow HS2 to make good the carriageway where they dug the holes for the electricity supply.

02.11.2020 – 09.11.2020 Welsh Road West will be closed to allow HS2 to carry out some remedial work to the carriageway and verges.

9. Minutes of Last Parish Council

9.1 No amendments were put forward by Cllrs. Prior to the minutes being agreed the Clerk advised the minutes include items which were not on the Agenda, therefore they ought not to be included in the minutes. These included:-

- seeking the views of Councillors as to whether any of them wished to stand as Chair or Vice Chair. This is an item which is dealt with at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, or if either of the posts become vacant; this was not the case in this instance.
- discussion regarding the Zoom and what would happen if the connection was lost.
- the payment for strimming of grass within the village cannot be agreed, as it was not on the Agenda, it has been placed on the Agenda for the meeting on 6th October 2020.

Ufton Cllrs indicated they were not prepared to amend the minutes.

The Clerk advised Councillors her role is to ensure the Council does not operate beyond it's powers and to maintain the integrity of the Parish Council. If the Parish Council chooses not to follow the Clerks advice they open themselves up to legal challenge and scrutiny.

These minutes having been previously circulated, it was proposed by Cllr.Tayler, seconded by Cllr.Crowther that they be accepted as a true record.

This motion was unanimously agreed.

Matters arising - there was no matters arising on the Agenda. The Clerk has established this whilst undertaking CiLCA studies and the advice comes from Local Councils Explained (A NALC publication), the publication states the heading Matters Arising is not recommended because it is ambiguous in meaning.

It was proposed by Cllr Baldwin, seconded by Cllr Tayler that matters arising remain on the Agenda despite the advice given by the Clerk.

This motion was unanimously agreed.

10. Planning

10.1 No planning applications have been received during the period 15th September 2020 to 1st October 2020.

10.2 The following planning decision shows as being determined, but there is no visible notification on SDC's e planning portal.

Planning Application	Address	Decision
20/02284/ELEC	In The Parish Of Southam Road Ufton	Decision made but outcome not known

10.3 Other planning information - None

11. Finance

11.1 Monthly Budget report

To note the budget report for the period 01.04.2020 – 30.09.2020 – defer to next meeting. Cllr Crowther asked why the cheques from the last meeting had not been processed. The Clerk advised it was because two signatories were not available at times during the last month.

11.2 To authorise the following payments:

Name	£
Clerks Salary – September 2020	
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement for Ufton News Printing for October 20200	16.80
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement of Zoom costs £14.39 per month split between 3 Parish Councils (Sept)	4.79
Business Services at CAS Ltd Insurance renewal 2020 – 2021	234.08
HMRC (July, Aug, Sept)	130.60
Mr M Langstone petrol re-imburement for strimming village verges	15.00

It was proposed by Cllr Crowther, seconded by Cllr Baldwin the payments as listed on the Agenda be paid.

This motion was unanimously agreed.

12. Ufton Village Hall

Cllr Crowther advised the Village Hall Constitution allows for representatives from other appropriate bodies to sit on the Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr Crowther, seconded by Cllr Tayler that Cllr Baldwin be the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee.

This motion was unanimously agreed

Cllr Crowther advised he and Cllr Baldwin will write a letter to all Ufton residents regarding the future of the Village Hall. The letter will ask for additional volunteers to sit on the Committee.

13. HS2

It was agreed HS2 was discussed earlier in the meeting. Cllr Crowther advised he is still waiting to receive a copy of the Church Report (stability) undertaken by HS2.

14. Parish Boundary

Cllr Crowther advised he has been directed back to the De Vere Group.

15. Ufton Newsletter

This item was carried forward from the meeting which took place on 15th September 2020. Cllr Crowther had sent an email regarding the Ufton Newsletter to all Cllrs 1 hour, 45 mins before this meeting. No Cllrs had read this email. Cllr Crowther asked for this item be deferred to the next meeting. The Clerk advised it is inappropriate to allude to concerns over the newsletter and then not be prepared to discuss it and defer the matter again.

16. Dog Fouling

The Clerk reminded Cllrs, they requested this item be on the Agenda, nothing was raised. The Clerk advised as an aside she has received an email from a resident asking for "dog fouling" to be included in the next Ufton News, as the grass outside their property is being fouled and they had witnessed a person allowing their dog to run over a neighbours garden and foul it.

17. Fly Tipping

The Clerk advised the Police have found the people responsible for the fly-tipping which occurred around the second bend out of the village, when travelling to Harbury. The offenders were making a donation of £1000 to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, they in turn are going to use it "employ" divers to clear rubbish from a pond/lake in the new Bishops Itchington Nature Reserve. The Cllrs expressed their disappointment about the donation not being used to improve the reserve in Ufton, where the fly-tipping took place. The Clerk will write to the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust with a copy circulated to Cllrs.

18. Items for next Agenda – re-instate Matters Arising, HS2, The Cartpond, Village Hall, Anything within the Village which requires a grant, Dog Fouling.

19. Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 3rd November 2020

Meeting closed 21:12 hrs

Signed

Date