

## **UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL**

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16 March 2025

All Parish Councillors

Dear Councillors,

### **UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL - NOTICE OF MEETING THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025, at 7.30pm IN UPLOWMAN VILLAGE HALL**

The next meeting of this Council will be on **THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, UPLOWMAN**, starting at 7.30pm.

I attach a list of updates and proposals for decision, which I hope will be useful. The draft receipts and payments summary is for your information and any questions you may have. It will be finalised after the year end for approval in May.

The hall is booked for the following meeting dates in 2025 (all Thursdays): 15 May, 17 July, 18 Sept and 20 Nov.

Yours sincerely,

Robert

Robert Hodgson (Clerk to Uplowman Parish Council)

**UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**AGENDA FOR MEETING on THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
**To be held in Uplowman Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm**

*The meeting will start with an open session, when parishioners may raise matters of concern.*

1. Attendance & Apologies for absence.
2. Reports from DCC and MDDC.
3. Minutes of last meeting (16 January 2025).  
3.1 Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting not covered elsewhere.

4. Finance and procedures

4.1 Current position :

Bank balance at last meeting :	<b>£4060.73</b>
Income since last meeting -Donation for Trimtrail	£20.00
Expenditure authorised on 16 Jan	£45.55
<b>Current balance :</b>	<b>£4,035.18</b>

4.2 Payments for approval:

A P Hayman, grass cutting (£30.00)  
R Hodgson, Clerk's Salary + expenses (£804.50)  
UHRA, Hire of hall for meetings May 24-March 25 (£96.00)  
Safe Play, Annual inspection of Trim Trail, (£96.00, expected)

- 4.3 Summary draft accounts for 2024-5 for review
- 4.4 Internal Audit
- 4.5 Implications for UPC of proposed Devolution arrangements
- 4.6 UPC Chair for 2025-6

5. Planning

- 5.1 23/019165/FULL, Redwoods, convert to dwellings. Appeal rejected
- 5.2 24/01033/MFUL: Hill Farm, erect dairy cattle shed. UPC raised no objection. Decision awaited
- 5.3 25/00229/FULL: Lands Mill lane, erect holiday unit. UPC no objection
- 5.4 25/00348/HOUSE : Tiggs Oak, ancillary accommodation To Be Discussed
- 5.5 24/01741/FULL: Sweetings, New Barn, revised plan, To Be Discussed

6. Community Projects and matters.

- 6.1 Supporting the Redwoods Inn development.
- 6.2 Parish Website.
- 6.3 Registration of gov.uk domain and emails – Cllr McCombe
- 6.4 Repeat of part-funded first aid training for parishioners - arrangements

7. Environment & Healthy living

- 7.1 Taking a lead on reducing Uplowman's carbon footprint

8. Correspondence (See attached list plus any correspondence received after this notice)

- 8.1 Environment, SWW, etc:
- 8.2 Local Plans and Surveys.
- 8.3 General Correspondence
- 8.4 Village projects

9. Hall & Recreation Association Report

- 9.1 Dog waste bin

10. Emergency Planning & Neighbourhood Watch

11. Parish Roads/Paths.

- 11.1 Signage to reduce use of Whitnage Lane by large vehicles.
- 11.2 Flooding at stream – communications with DCC, decide way forward.
- 11.3 Thank you to DCC for replacing rails by leat.

12. Date of next meeting (Annual Meeting, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025).

## CORRESPONDENCE SINCE LAST MEETING (16 Jan 2025)

### 5. Finances

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
941	10/03/25	MDDC	Precept request submitted	19/01/25
942		NatWest	Statement, bal=£4035.18	

### 6. PLANNING & LICENSING

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
1037	19/02/25	MDDC	25/00229/FULL: Lands Mill In holiday unit. UPC no objection	10/03/25
1038	07/03/25	Planning Inspector	23/01916/FULL: Redwoods change of use Appeal dismissed.	
<b>1039</b>	<b>11/03/25</b>	<b>MDDC</b>	<b>25/00348/HOUSE : Tiggs Oak, ancillary accommodation TBD</b>	
<b>1040</b>	<b>12/03/25</b>	<b>MDDC</b>	<b>24/01741/FULL: Sweetings, New Barn, To Be Discussed</b>	

### 7.1 ENVIRONMENT, including Sewerage, Recycling, Roads & rivers, Healthy living

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
431	23/01/25	Cllr Westerman	Notes on clearing the leat	
<b>432</b>	30/01/25	DCC	Highways responsible for bridge, landowners for stream	

### 7.2 LOCAL PLANS & SURVEYS, including HRA

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
346	<b>05/0/25</b>	MDDC	To add flooding to the district risk register	27/01/25
<b>347</b>		<b>UHRA</b>	<b>Asking UPC to request a dog waste bin</b>	07/03/25

### 7.3 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
1775	29/01/25	Taunton MC	Rally postponed. Info circulated to parish	
1776	06/03/25	Glasdon	Street furniture catalogues	
1777	07/03/25	C&CD	Clerks & Councils Direct Newsletter	
<b>1778</b>	<b>14/03/25</b>	<b>Openreach</b>	<b>Current plan for broadband is 2028</b>	

### 7.5 Village projects.

Ser No	Date received	From/to	Subject	Date replied/sent
382	04/02/25	S Rashbrooke	Offering to take over the book swap	

## **UPDATES AND DECISIONS NEEDED**

### **Item 4.2**

The Trimtrail will get its annual inspection this month. Please authorise payment on receipt of an invoice, expected to be £96.

### **Item 4.3 Summary Accounts**

Summary accounts for the current year. These are presented for information and for any questions that you may have. Details could change at the year end but probably not by very much. Accounts must be signed off in May.

### **Item 4.4 Internal Audit**

Mr Richard Clark has indicated willingness to conduct the internal audit.

### **Item 4.5: Devolution**

The government has decided that all higher tier councils (County and Districts) will be amalgamated into 'Unitary' authorities. No decision is yet made as to what the arrangements will be for us in Mid Devon – one possibility will be 5 local Districts combining with Exeter City into one Unitary. Councillors need to be aware that this is happening and that a consequence is likely to be more powers and duties devolving to Parish level. Councillors should consider what additional duties (footpaths, highway repairs, winter snow wardens, for example) UPC might take on.

### **Item 4.6: UPC Chair 2025-6**

Cllr Moore has confirmed that she will not be standing as Chair in May. This item allows a discussion of plans for electing a Chair for the coming year. Note that Cllr Moore's replacement must be a councillor at the time of the election (May 15<sup>th</sup>).

### **Item 6.1: Redwoods Inn**

The Appeal against refusal of permission for change of use has been rejected. UPC may wish to consider ways of supporting Paul and Juliet in some way that retains the Redwoods and enables them to move on.

### **Item 6.2: Parish Website**

Tristan has been working on it. Link was sent out in January.

### **Item 6.3: gov.uk domain**

Cllr McCombe was to follow up and report. Any cost to be added to precept. The recommended form of a domain address would be uplowman-pc.gov.uk.

### **Item 6.4 First Aid Training**

In 2022 UPC provided 50% funding for individuals in the parish wishing to take training for 'Emergency First Aid at Work'. The costs at that time were £40 per participant, of which UPC paid half, and 18 participants were trained. UPC decided last meeting to fund 20% of participant costs. Uplowman Hall is booked at weekends until June 7<sup>th</sup> but Sampford Peverell Hall has capacity (at a cost of about £70 for a day). Councillors to consider suitable dates and venues.

### **Item 9.1: Dog waste bin at hall**

There is a reported issue with dog mess being left on the recreation ground. UHRA wishes to install a dog waste bin. The request needs to come from UPC. A request has been sent. Would councillors wish to support this proposal financially?

### **11.1 Whitnage Lane signage**

no further news

### **11.2 Flooding at stream**

This has been added to MDDC's risk register. Response from DCC was that maintenance of the stream would be the riparian owner's responsibility and they would contact said owners. In the meantime, Andy Bolt has offered to dig out channels to help drain the road towards the church. Jimmer Blake is happy to have his hedge built up. Let's do it!

**Summary Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2025 DRAFT**

<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
476.21	General Administration	691.18
1500.00	Staff costs	1600.00
100.00	S137 Payments to charities	100.00
75.00	Membermojo contact system	95.00
	Loan repayments	
	Specific costs :	
	Village Halls -Map	738.00
127.35	Elections	
350.00	Burial grounds	350.00
	Parish Meeting	200.00
	Emergency plans	116.00
23235.60	Trimtrail + tabletennis	96.00
548.69	Other payments: Grass cutting	762.00
950.00	Repairs TO rails by leat	412.80
1930.60	VAT to be reclaimed	281.48
<b>27362.85</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>5160.98</b>

THESE ACCOUNTS ARE DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO AUDIT