

The **Minutes** of the **Meeting of the General Purposes Committee** of
Upchurch Parish Council held in the Committee Room at Upchurch
Village Hall on **Wednesday 19th June 2019**

Present: Cllr John Arnold, Cllr Gerry Lewin, Cllr Janet Marshall, Cllr Peter Masson and
Cllr Gary Rosewell;
and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk)

23. Apologies for absence

In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Arnold took the Chair.
Apologies had been received from Cllr Tyrone Ripley (recuperating) and Cllr Pam Denny
(holiday); apologies accepted.

24. Declarations of Interests

None were declared.

Public Time

No members of the public were present

25. Paddock and Recreation Ground

i. To receive an update

Councillors considered a request from Upchurch Colts Football Club to use the Recreation
Ground for training this week as their current venues are unable. Councillors **AGREED
UNANIMOUSLY** to permit the football club to use the Recreation Ground as a one-off event
and that the car park would be unavailable to use.

Cllr Arnold said the play equipment check list has been sent to the Village caretaker although
needs a slight modification.

ii. To consider quotations for fencing

Councillors considered the applications received for the renewal of the fencing at the
Recreation Ground.

ACTION: Clerk to chase up other contractors for a third quote.

Item deferred to the next agenda.

Cllr Rosewell said it might be better to have upright fencing as people will climb on railings
and possibly damage the fence.

26. Allotments

Cllr Masson said a question has been raised regarding the Council's policy on the waiting list
for the allotments and whether residents come first or whether the one at the top of the list is
given preference.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that when a plot becomes available it will be offered
to the next resident on the waiting list first.

Cllr Masson informed Members that he has numbered every plot. There has been no response
from the resident who has not paid for his plot. Cllr Masson said that he would put a notice on
the plot to ask the plot holder to contact the Clerk.

27. Burial Ground and Churchyard

Cllr Arnold said the edge of the steps to the Burial Ground have been painted and thanked Cllr Denny for her sterling work.

Cllr Marshall said her husband has offered to repair the gate to the Burial Ground and that she has weeded the rosebed, two of the rose bushes have died and will need to be replaced.

The Clerk reported the contractor has said he will reseed the other beds if necessary and that the area will be cut which will allow the grass will grow.

Cllr Marshall said the rosebed needs to be grassed to prevent the weeds from growing. There is an excessive amount of plastic containers between the compost bins which makes the area untidy. The surplus containers will be removed. A letter has been drafted to owners of the Exclusive Right of Burial where there is non-compliance of the regulations.

ACTION: Cllr Marshall to circulate the letter to the Committee.

28. Highways and Street lighting

Cllr Arnold informed Members that interviews are being arranged with two contractors to ensure compliance with the LED upgrade specification.

Cllr Arnold said that he has reported pot holes in the village.

Cllr Lewin said the roundels have been installed. The white lines have been repainted where the patching work has been carried out and this has been helpful to drivers. The white lines need to be included in the Parish Highway Improvement Plan as it will help change driving habits particularly on rural roads and it will make the village look cared for.

29. Footpaths

Cllr Marshall reported the bridge on the Saxon Shore Way has been repaired.

Cllr Lewin said the Council has been informed of the temporary closure of footpath ZR33.

Cllr Masson said many of the footpaths are becoming overgrown and some are impassable.

30. Environment

i. To receive an update

Cllr Arnold reported to Councillors that the planter has been delivered. The company says it should be watered twice a week at £17.50 per visit, £35 per week and £560 for the season. A neighbor could be asked to water the planter but there could be an issue if the plants died, if the contractor waters them they might replace plants.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain if there is a guarantee on the plants and if the reservoirs are connected between the tiers and whether it would affect the guarantee if a third party watered the plants

ii. To consider quotations for new notice board

Councillors considered the quotations for the notice board and agreed there was no need for an additional notice board in the Parish as the website contains full details of the Parish Council and its meetings.

Cllr Lewin said a welcome leaflet needs to be designed for the residents of Four Gun Field and the website could be promoted in it.

Cllr Rosewell said he will deliver the leaflets and ask to have extra copies of The Gabriel to distribute as well.

Cllr Lewin said that as it has been agreed not to proceed with another notice board, the notice board by the Co-op could be replaced and possibly re-positioned.

Cllr Rosewell said he will check the notice board in Littlefields Road to ascertain the make to ensure there is a standard Parish Council notice board.

31. Church Clock

Cllr Masson said the clock is currently one minute slow but it will correct itself overnight.

Cllr Arnold said full details of the new plaque must be sent to the Registry Clerk, who will seek the initial advice of the Commissary General and give the Parish Council details of procedure to obtain a faculty.

32. Any other matter arising

Cllr Arnold said the church notice board was put where the Parish Council one was by the Coop by mistake, this has been rectified. The contractor has said it is only the back which has paint rubbed off and he will paint this in a few days but the notice board is crooked.

33. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 17th July 2019 at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Dated this 4th day of July 2019