

Minutes of a Meeting of Unstone Parish Council  
Held at Moorland View Elderly People's Club, Apperknowle  
On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

- Present:** Cllrs S. Hopkinson (Chair); A. Dale; K. Fisher; J. Hill (also DCC); M. Lilleyman; K. Perkins; T. Rogers; R. Smith and V. Tebbs.
- In attendance:** A P Jones (Clerk); E Smith (RFO); M. Brown (Caretaker) and 6 members of the public.
- 038/16 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J. Elliott; and District Cllr V. R. Smith (NEDDC) and PC Sally Horner.
- 039/16 There was no variation in order of business.
- 040/16 Cllr Alex Dale declared an interest in Planning Application 16/00699 (family member) and will not take part in this item.
- 041/16 Cllrs Dale and Hill handed their completed DPIs to the Clerk.
- 042/16 a) There was no police report.
- 042/16 b) District Councillor Rosie Smith had sent a brief report which was read out by County Cllr J. Hill.
- 043/16 c) County Councillor Janet Hill reported that Unstone Schools will become federated from 1<sup>st</sup> September. This is seen as a positive move for the schools. There is a Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> September regarding the proposal that Chesterfield and N. E. Derbyshire will become part of Sheffield City Region. There is an on-line survey for individuals and Parish Councils to have their say about the best way forward for the new SCR. Individual councillors expressed a range of views about the issue but UPC did not reach a consensus view. It was therefore not appropriate for the Clerk to complete the survey on behalf of UPC. County Councillor Hill will follow up with Chris Rogers of DCC regarding flood prevention measures at the Community Hall. Cllr Hill will also follow up with DCC that signage at Sylvia Road and Hardhurst Road requires attention.
- 044/16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 had been circulated. They were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 045/16 There were no confidential items.
- 046/16 There were no Chair's announcements.
- 047/16 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.
- 047/16 a) The Clerk had written letters to the residents of Robert Close regarding the anonymous complaint about anti-social playing of too rough football in the Close, as instructed at the June meeting. The letter had been circulated to Councillors who considered the letter to be an inoffensive simple statement of the details of the anonymous complaint, and giving advice that anyone concerned about anti-social behaviour should call 101. Subsequently the Clerk had received a number of aggressive and abusive telephone calls and emails from residents of Robert Close who had apparently assumed the letter had been aimed at them individually by way of a complaint, rather than for their information. It was considered by Council that the response of residents was regrettable but that no further action could really be taken so the matter was considered closed.
- 048/16 Items Raised by Councillors.
- a) Cllr Richard Smith had attended the 'exhibition' at Chesterfield Market Hall about the devolution and creation of the Sheffield City Region. Cllr Smith reported that the exhibition consisted of 2 people handing out leaflets and giving advice that 'all the information is on the website.' As minuted at 043/16 c) Councillors had a range of varying views about the pros and cons of the SCR and overall felt it was a 'wait and see' situation.
- 048/16 b) Peak Resort Update. There had been a public meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> June for Unstone residents about the Peak Resort Planning Application, with the Planning Officer in attendance. Some residents had expressed concern about the risk of an increase in on-street parking as a consequence of the proposed reduced capacity for car parking in the facility. There had also been concerns about the higher buildings overlooking some Unstone properties. The Planning Officer had given assurances that wooded landscaping would mitigate impact and provide screening. The overall view of UPC was broadly in favour of the Peak Resort development because of the job opportunities and the number of visitors being brought to the area. It was noted that the application is going through consultation and that residents are entitled to make their own comments. UPC would not be making any further submission at this time.

- 049/16 It was noted that DALC circulars up to # 13 and other relevant correspondence had been circulated. Copies are available from the Clerk.
- 050/16 a) Parish Facilities - Caretaker's report of work done is given at Appendix 1. This had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting and was noted. The quote for removal of the tree at Whittington Park was £245 + VAT. This had been obtained to give Councillors a rough idea what costs might be to remove the tree which children have been climbing giving rise to residents reporting risk of falling and serious injury. It was decided to improve signage with warnings about the risk of climbing rather than cut down the tree. Caretaker to obtain quotes from our approved signage supplier. The Clerk will also put an item in the Parish Newsletter about the dangers of climbing trees and other tall structures.
- b) The Caretaker reported that the playground seat swings are gradually perishing and it was approved that he replace them all over time.
- 051/16 Parish Facilities – RFO's report.
- 051/16 a) The RFO's report had been circulated and was approved.
- 051/16 b) The ALTO card service will cease on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016. This facility enabled the RFO to pay for items and withdraw cash when needed. The RFO will ask Unity Trust bank what alternative facility will be in place.
- 051/16 b) Cheque/BACs request for July a total of £4,535.64 including VAT of £116.07 was unanimously approved along with current income sheet and bank reconciliation.
- 052/16 .1 To Consider Planning Applications/ Appeals.
- a) 16/00699/FL Proposal: Application for alterations to existing barn to form 1 bedroom dwelling with associated change of use ( Conservation Area); Summerley Hall, Summerley Lower Road, Apperknowle. Councillors had no comments. (Cllr Alex Dale did not take part in this item.)
- b) 16/00626/FL Application for a change of use from agricultural to equestrian with construction of two stables and a tack/feed room and storage space. Pond House Lightwood Lane Middle Handley Sheffield. Councillors had no comments.
- 052/16 .2 To note Planning Decisions:
- NED16/00606/DISCON Application to discharge Condition 3 (replacement tree details) attached to planning approval 15/01309/FL for a garden room at Summerley Farm Summerley Lower Road Apperknowle Dronfield for Mr G Harrison. APPROVED. This was noted.
- 053/16 Public Participation
- 053/16 .1 A member of the public asked for an update of the bus service review. County Councillor Janet Hill to check when it will be available and look particularly into route 44.
- 053/16 .2 A member of the public complained that it seemed to be taking a very long time to obtain a cultivation license for the borders which have therefore not been planted with summer bedding this year. The Clerk had queried this with NEDDC by emails on 16<sup>th</sup> March and again on 23<sup>rd</sup> June with a number of telephone calls in between and since. The latest information was that the officer at NEDDC responsible was currently on holiday. The Clerk will raise the issue with District Councillor Rosie Smith in the hope of a swift resolution.

053/16

.3 A member of the public complained that the Parish Council did not seem to be looking after St. John's Road. It appeared that the grass was no longer being cut, the fence was falling down, and that trees needed cutting back on the Play Area near the dog bin. Also, the Play equipment needed regular inspection and maintenance and really needed upgrading like the Brierley Road Play Area. The Clerk advised that the grass cutting was the responsibility of NEDDC; the fence was the responsibility of the owner of the adjoining property (but the Clerk will write to the owner asking for the fence to be maintained); the trees had recently been cut back by the Caretaker (item 7 of the Caretaker's report). All Play Areas are given a weekly visual inspection as part of UPC's insurance cover terms and conditions and maintenance is carried out as required. Sometimes spare parts are not available and in those cases the equipment is taken out of action. Cllr Hill explained that the new Brierley Park equipment had been purchased from funds raised by residents in the Brierley Area.

The member of the public insisted that the trees had not been cut back enough, and that he was the only person carrying out any maintenance of the Play Area. The member of the public became agitated and addressed the Clerk inappropriately. It was felt unhelpful to continue this item, as answers had been given to the questions asked.

054/16

The next meeting was confirmed as 7.30 p.m. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (no meeting in August).

055/16

No further items were noted for the September 2016 agenda.  
The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

## Appendix 1. Community Hall

1. Ongoing roof repairs
2. Paul had to change a light fitting in the gents toilets due to water leaking from roof and tripping switch board.
3. Storage garages rearranged and tidied etc
4. Purchased two strip light fittings for the storage garages after several comments from users the existing lighting is inadequate - Paul will fit these when he comes to replace windows at hall.
5. Citation H&S annual inspection held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, went ok. No issues other than a couple of recommendations which should be on report if you have received it yet?
6. Dangerous branch from trees in hall car park removed by NEDCC

## Grounds/Parish warden

1. Routine park inspections/litter picks etc.
2. Routine checks of bus stops bins, dog bins etc.
3. Routine grass cutting/stripping and weed control of all parish grounds
4. Ongoing bench refurb
5. Movement of swinging beam on multi-unit at Brierley park, restricted, as per annual park inspection recommendation (I have done all I can to this equipment so we'll have to see what this year's report says. Hopefully it will pass or it may mean removal entirely)
6. Replacement of two vandalised dog fouling signs in Whittington park
7. Removal of overhanging branches around St John's dog bin and also at cutting between New Road and Barrack Road.
8. Strimmed weeds etc. on stepped path between Sharman and Barrack Road.
9. Clear flower bed at top of New road Apperknowle
10. Contact Dronfield Tree Services re quote for removal of tree at Whittington Park.
11. Hedge cutting at Whittington Park planned for tomorrow (Thursday)