

Minutes of a Meeting of Unstone Parish Council  
Held at Moorland View Elderly People's Club, Apperknowle  
On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

**Present:** Cllrs S. Hopkinson ; K. Fisher; M. Lilleyman; T Rogers; and V. Tebbs:

**In attendance:** A P Jones (Clerk); E Smith (RFO); County Councillor J Hill, Caretaker M. Brown and 9 members of the public;

- 001/16 Cllr S. Hopkinson was elected Chair and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 002/16 Cllr R. Smith had indicated he was prepared to be elected as Vice Chair in his absence and was duly elected as Vice Chair. It was agreed that Cllr Smith can sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.
- 003/16 Cllrs J. Elliott; K. Perkins and R. Smith, and District Cllr. V. R. Smith gave apologies for absence.
- 004/16 There was no variation in order of business.
- 005/16 There were no declarations of interest.
- 006/16 a) There was no Police Liaison Officer Report.
- 006/16 b) District Councillor Rosie Smith had sent a report which was read out by County Cllr J. Smith. Rosie is following up on the Planning Applications causing concern as minuted in the April UPC minutes. She is also monitoring the fly-tipping on Morton Lane and liaising with the Environment Agency and Police. It was noted that there has been a positive outcome with one fly-tipper being identified.
- 006/16 c) County Councillor Janet Hill reported that Derbyshire County Council has received £1.1m government funding to deal with pothole repairs. Four jet patching machines fix 20,000 pot holes every year. She was asked if they were the same 20,000 potholes each year. There is a budget of £23m for surface dressing which will be completed before the end of September. There is a 12 week consultation on the proposed funding cuts to community groups.
- 007/16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016 had been circulated. They were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 008/16 There were no confidential items.
- 009/16 Chair's announcements. The Chair thanked the Clerk, RFO and Caretaker for their work over the year, and all who had contributed to the work of Unstone Parish Council.
- 010/16 Clerk's Report/Correspondence.
- 010/16 .1 County Cllr Janet Hill and Alex Dale had put their names forward to be co-opted as members of Unstone Parish Council. It was agreed that both would be co-opted and that this would be done formally at the start of the June meeting. Declarations of Acceptance of Office and completion of Declarations of Pecuniary Interest will be completed and recorded in the June minutes.
- 010/16 .2 It had been a possibility that a further public meeting would be called to give residents an opportunity to ask questions about the closure of Dronfield Police Station. There has been no further information on this and it now seems unlikely that a further meeting will be called.
- 010/16 .3 Request for financial support of £140 from the Parish Council for 'No Cold Calling' signage. Councillors considered the request and decided not to support the project because it was only to benefit a small proportion of the electorate and the degree of support from the other residents wasn't clear. It would also set a precedent which would create future commitments for similar requests.
- 010/16 .4 The Clerk had been asked to clarify what land Unstone Parish Council owned. Research had established that Unstone Parish Council does not own any land. It rents some land from NEDDC for a peppercorn rent – the playgrounds and the hall for example. It was queried that some land in Apperknowle had been given to the village many years ago. It was clarified that a bequest to the village of Apperknowle was not the same thing as giving ownership to Unstone Parish Council.
- 010/16 .5 There was notice of a temporary road closure at Whittington Lane from 13<sup>th</sup> June to 8<sup>th</sup> July for gas mains works.
- 010/16 .6 The Clerk drew Council's attention to the Safer Dronfield Campaign.

- 011/16 Items raised by Councillors.
- 011/16 .1 Peak Resort – work has been halted because of wildlife (deer) and will restart in September. Cllr Smith will be liaising with Rupert Carr over the footpaths.
- 011/16 .2 Trees cut back by residents. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the occupiers of the relevant addresses to notify them that all tree work is planned to be carried out by the Parish Council during the autumn (the appropriate season). The work recently carried out by residents was unlicensed and proper Health & Safety procedures were not followed. If any injury had been caused the residents would have been personally liable for their own negligence. If any permanent damage has been done to the trees those responsible for cutting them may be liable to cover the cost of planting replacement trees.
- 011/16 .3 Representatives to outside bodies. Cllr Lilleyman’s schedule of proposals had been circulated prior to the meeting and was agreed.
- 012/16 Parish Facilities - Caretaker’s report of work done is given at Appendix 1. The bin at Brierley has been reported to NEDDC for regular emptying. All other matters in hand.
- 013/16 It was noted that DALC circulars and other relevant correspondence had been circulated. Copies are available from the Clerk.
- 014/16 Parish Facilities – RFO’s report.
- 014/16 .1 The RFO’s report had been circulated and was approved.
- 014/16 .2 Cheque/BACs request for May a total of £3,591.50 was unanimously approved along with current income sheet and bank reconciliation.
- 014/16 .3 Nothing had yet been received from Viridor regarding the grant application for the hall roof.
- 014/16 .4 The RFO had submitted the audit to Grant Thornton.
- 014/16 .5 We have had an increase in fixed assets due to the purchase of a new bus shelter and equipment for grounds maintenance. This will save money this year and a better job will be made of it.
- 014/16 .6 The overlap between NEDDC and the Caretaker carrying out grounds maintenance duties has reduced the brought forward balance over the previous year but it is within NALC and DALC recommended limits.
- 014/16 .7 There has been an increase in Hall bookings of £1,500 so far year to date.
- 014/16 .8 It was agreed to pay the DALC subscription at the higher level to take advantage of training.
- 015/16 .1 To Consider Planning Applications/ Appeals. None had been received at the time of preparing the agenda. Subsequently 16/00434/TPO had been received and circulated to Councillors.
- a) 16/00434/TPO Application for reduction of crown of 2no sycamore (T7,T8) covered by TPO number 107 at Summerley Farm. Councillors had no concerns with this. Councillor Fisher will respond as a member of the public in her own right.
- 015/16 .2 To note Planning Decisions: None had been received at the time of preparing the agenda.
- 016/16 Public Participation
- 016/16 .1 A member of the public had made a query which is covered under minute 10/16.4 above.
- 016/16 .2 A member of the public asked if white lines could be reinstated on New Road (and other roads in the parish were also mentioned.) Renewing of white lines will be followed up by County Councillor Janet Hill.
- 017/16 The next meeting was confirmed as 7.30 p.m. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Cllr Hopkinson gave apologies in advance as she will be away for the June meeting.
- 185/15 No further items were noted for the July 2016 agenda.  
The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

## Appendix 1.

### Caretaker's Report

1. Routine park inspections/litter picks etc.
2. Routine check of grit, dog and litter bins, bus stops etc. Litter bin at Brierley is not emptied regularly.
3. Routine grass cutting and strimming of all parish grounds.
4. Weed spraying carried out at Sharman play area and Whittington Park.
5. Temporary repair to damaged fence on boundary between Brierley Park and Horse field some posts leaning dangerously possibly from kids climbing over. Posts removed and temporary ones installed. Fence generally in a poor condition. Whose responsibility?
6. Repairs to vandalised dog fouling signs at Brierley and Whittington parks.
7. Slight repair to cradle swing at Brierley – damaged fixing bolt.
8. Large cracks appearing in some of the wooden support posts on cradle swing. Filled with waterproof sealant to stop rain water ingress.
9. Removal of paint of some description from Notice sign at Brierley Park.
10. Removal of large metal spike half buried in ground at Brierley Park. From an old bin or sign post fixing I think.
11. Several more repairs to community hall roof. One quite serious leak today (Wed) - hopefully cured the problem with felt patches.
12. More painting of play equipment at Whittington Park – ongoing.
13. Bench refurbishes at Whittington Park underway
14. Small repair to one bench at bus stop in Unstone

### Other points:

1. Water run-off from St John's Rd still collecting in community hall grounds – I have reported again to NEDCC and DCC still awaiting response.
2. Reported small amount of fly tipping in River at Whittington Park for the second time.
3. Trailer needs a slight repair. Replacement shock absorber in hitch. Part ordered from Towbars and Trailers, Chesterfield. Also needs a section of plywood replacing which I have ordered, ready to do.