**UPTON PYNE AND COWLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY THE 8th JANUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL. Website address:** [**www.uptonpyne-pc.org.uk**](http://www.uptonpyne-pc.org.uk)

**Present In attendance**

Cllr B Short Mrs Ward Clerk

Cllr S Ward

Cllr M Hewlett

Cllr A Drake

Cllr M Cormack

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| **Open Forum.**   * **Speke-Up notes:** Cllr Drake to write up. * **Quarterly Accounts:** the Clerk said these had been omitted from the Agenda, however, she forwarded to all today to be checked and approved. * **Congratulations:** to Cllr Amanda Drake on her recent marriage. Cllr Drake will forward details of her new surname to the Clerk.   **Agenda.**  **1/24 To receive apologies for absence:**  Cllr J Dalton and DCC Cllr Randall-Johnson.  **2/24 Minutes:**  to approve or amend the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th November 2023. Proposed and seconded to approve and signed by the Chair.  **3/24 Declarations of interests:** To be taken as identified.  **4/24 Police Report:** no crimes reported for October and November 2023.    **5/24 Report by East Devon District Councillor** **J Kemp:**  The Chair to contact the Leader of EDDC.  **6/24 Devon County Councillor S Randall-Johnson:** The Clerk has circulated Cllr Randall-Johnson’s report to all Councillors for January. The Chair pointed out that there was nothing of relevance to the Parish Council.  **7/24 Updates on Councillors’ Responsibilities.**   * **Footpath:** no report.   **8/24** **Finance: To sanction payment of accounts:**  **a. Clerk’s wages: for December 2023 and January 2024:** **£385.92 plus Home Allowance of £40=£425.92** x 2 = £851.84. Extra Hours: UPPC meeting: 2.5 hours and 1 hour for travel to notice boards = 3.5 hours = £42.21. Total = £894.05. Proposed and seconded to approve.  **b. Training Courses:** for councillors and Clerk.  **c. Clerk’s Travel expenses:** 2 x trips, @ 45p per mile (8 mile round trip) = £7.20. Proposed and seconded to approve.  **d. Precept:** the Clerk has advised EDDC of the amount required for 2023/24: £10,539.97.  **e. Village Hall fees for 2023:** £187 Invoice supplied. Proposed and seconded to approve.  **f. Quarterly Accounts:**  Proposed and seconded to approve.  **g. Community Grants**: it was suggested that an amount be set aside to allow grants for projects which will benefit the whole community. To discuss at the meeting in February.  **9/24 Planning:**  None received.   * **Any other planning issues:** received after Agenda posted.None received.   **10/24 Cowley Place:** update from the Clerk. DCC Cllr Gent stated this was a ‘safety issue’.  The Chair said that Highways to take action.  **11/24 Upton Pyne Parish Plan:** Cllr Drake had put together a draft regarding the past achievements of the Parish Council and the present objectives and plans for the future in response to the questionnaire sent to parishioners last year, which she read out and all agreed this was satisfactory. Cllr Drake will continue to work on this and forward drafts for further comment.  It was proposed to put the Drop Kerb at Cowley on the Agenda once more as the contractor appointed by the Parish Council to carry out the work has not done so. Cllr Hewlett to get an updated quote from the contractor he had contacted last year and advise the Clerk in due course. The maintenance of the churchyard to also go back onto the Agenda for the same reasons.  **12/24** **Cowley Church:** update from the Clerk who has not yet heard back from EDDC Estates Department. Cllr Cormack to contact the Revd. Tim Collins.  **13/24 Warm Space:** it was agreed to keep this Item on the Agenda for further clarification.  **14/24 20’s plenty:**  update from the Chair who will organise the signs for this purpose.    **15/24 Communications/e: mails received for possible action:**  The Clerk made available all communications received.  **16/24 Feedback on last month’s circulations and items for future agendas**.  **Please submit any items for the next Agenda to the Clerk within the next 7 days.**  **Dates of the next meetings:** **12th February 2024**  **11th March 2024**  The meeting was closed at 8pm. |