

UFTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 at the Village Hall

Present: J Tayler (Chairman), C Baldwin, J Burrows, D Egging, J Wilkinson,
Clerk: J Cove. County Cllr R Stevens and District Cllr C Spencer

Cllr Tayler opened the meeting by welcoming Cllr Stevens and Cllr Spencer together with Mrs Ingham.

1 Election of Chairman

Cllr J Tayler was proposed by Cllr J Burrows, seconded by Cllr C Baldwin and all voted for his re-election. Cllr Tayler accepted the position but made it clear to all that he will stand down as Chairman in May 2012.

2 Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Declaration form was duly signed.

3 Apologies for absence

Cllr Ian Crowther, Cllr L Van Kesteren

4 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Baldwin suggested that, in view of the Chairman's statement that he will stand down next year, any Vice Chairman should be trained to take over the role of Chairman. As all members present were unable to fulfill this suggestion, and two members of Council were absent, it was agreed to leave this position vacant until they had been given a chance to consider the role.

5 Chairman's Report

Chairman's report to AGM, May 2011

As a surprising attempt at continuity, I re-read my report from this time last year. I had reflected on two particular concerns: speeding and fly-tipping.

As regards speeding, there have been two useful developments: the formation of our Community Speedwatch scheme, where 6 parishioners are now trained and active in using the speed camera; and 3 calls from the police offering advice to motorists observed by parishioners to be travelling too fast in Ufton (where the parishioners have been able to record the number-plate).

As regards fly-tipping, one year ago I wrote 'I'd love to see a successful prosecution of these morons', and my wish was granted, the owner of COG63R paying a fine, and the affair receiving publicity in the press.

It would be naïve to think these actions will solve the problems, but they will help improve things (I must add though that until a week ago I'd seen no fly-tipped rubbish since last November's prosecution, but it couldn't last: this week has seen two incidents – please stay alert!)

Other matters:

- We won funding to build steps between the Church and White Hart Lane
- We replaced a website which was good, but suffered an unreliable service, with a new one which is colourful and well-used, and receiving many more visits.
- The accounts are ready and will be circulated to councillors shortly, for review at next Parish council meeting.
- Our new Parish Council has quickly formed a good team and is energetic and enterprising.

I thank the Councillors for their involvement, and on your behalf also Councillor Stevens for his unswerving support to us. But I especially thank all those people in Ufton who give their time for our community. Please allow me to repeat just 2 examples from the Parish meeting:

1. a parishioner in White Hart Lane cleaned out the bus shelter, and replaced and repainted the bin
2. a parishioner in Reed's Park moved some flytipped rubbish 3 feet east, in case the Council refused to move it by arguing it wasn't on public property

These are 2 of our many unsung heroes/ines - there are about 60 of them in total, too many to name. They are brilliant in helping make our 'small society' an agreeable place to live. Please accept the Parish Council's thanks – and please continue to give us your comments. We try to learn from constructive criticism, and the occasional praise is always motivating.

6 Statement of Finances 10/11

The end of year accounts had been completed but it was agreed to defer approving them until the next meeting on 7th June 2011.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....