

Upper Saxondale Parish Council

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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting (Inaugural) 18th May 2023

Upper Saxondale Village Hall, 7pm

Present:

Cllr Ian Storey (Chair)

Cllr Georgia Moore (Vice Chair)

Cllr Iris Morgan

Cllr Kim Kupfer

Cllr Cathy Ridge

Also Present:

Jacki Grice (Acting Clerk)

Kath Marriott (Rushcliffe Borough Council - CEO)

Cllr Debbie Soloman (Rushcliffe Borough Council)

Cllr Neil Clarke (Nottinghamshire County Council)

6 Members of the Public

Kath Marriott, RBC CEO, opened the meeting, congratulated members and referred to the brilliant response of the consultation during the Parish Council creation process she then presided over the election of Chair.

1. Election of Chair and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Moore proposed Cllr Storey, seconded by Cllr Kupfer, there were no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: That Cllr Storey be duly elected as Chair and he signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and proceeded to Chair the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

None received.

3. Election of Vice Chair and Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Morgan proposed Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Ridge, there were no other nominations, it was:

Resolved: That Cllr Moore be duly elected as Vice Chair and she signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Completion of Register of Interests – All Council

All Declarations of Acceptance of Office of Councillor were completed, it was noted that the Register of Interests form needs to be completed within 28 days and sent to the Acting Clerk who will collate and forward to the RBC Monitoring Officer.

5. Declarations of Interests for Meeting

None received.

6. To Adopt the Members Code of Conduct

Resolved: To Adopt the Local Government Association Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020.

7. To Consider Frequency of Parish Council Meetings

Agreed to defer item after checking Village Hall availability and consider a schedule at the next meeting – 12th June.

8. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (Working Groups to Review and Make Recommendations)

The following Working Groups would meet to review and bring recommendations back to the next meeting.

Standing Orders – Cllrs Storey, Moore and Ridge

Financial Regulations – Cllrs Morgan and Kupfer

9. To Consider Parish Clerk Vacancy and to Note Current Arrangements

It was noted that Jacki Grice is Acting Clerk until the vacancy is filled.

Resolved: The Clerk job advert and job description was agreed, the vacancy would be advertised via the noticeboard, US website and Facebook, deadline 9th June and applications to be submitted to the Chairman by CV and covering letter. Members would consider applications prior to the next Council meeting on 12th June.

10. Parishioners Question time (Limited to 15 minutes)

- *N.C.C Cllr Neil Clarke congratulated members on the new Parish Council and advised that due to boundary divisions Upper Saxondale is represented by himself and Cllr Roger Upton, they would attend meetings on an alternating basis.*
- *RBC Cllr Debbie Soloman is delighted to represent Newton and Upper Saxondale and it is wonderful to see the fruition of USRA's hard work in forming the new Parish Council. Is currently receiving training at RBC as a new Borough Cllr and hopes to attend many USPC meetings, advised that she holds a Community Fund of £1k per annum.*
- *Members of the public asked how the PC intends to communicate with residents including a potential Facebook page. The Chair advised that initially the US website would publish minutes and as this was the first meeting, communication would be an item for further consideration.*

11. Finance

a) Transition Agreement with Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council to Note and Approve

USRA and Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council had reached an agreement that a proportion of ROTPC financial reserves is allocated to the new USPC of £18k net. Noted that the agreement of £20k is reduced by £2k due to ROTPC still undertaking responsibility from 1st April to 4th May. Noting that £8k would be received this year and £10k next year. It was **Resolved** To Approve the Transition Agreement and the Chair signed the document on behalf of USPC.

b) To Note Precept and Approve and Adopt 2023/24 Budget

Resolved: The 2023/24 Precept and Budget at £31,100 was adopted and approved.

c) Parish Council Bank Account Update

Members considered the Co-op bank and signatories, it was

Resolved: To complete the application to the Co-op and submit the following signatories: Cllrs Storey, Moore and Morgan and Jacki Grice (Acting Clerk).

12. USRACIC Report

The Chair advised that USRACIC was formed to take ownership and maintain part of what was the David Wilson Homes land, the rationale for the creation of a P.C would provide a greater level of financial stability and DWH are now keen to dispose of the rest of land in the Parish which was subject to s106 via RBC. Proposals are that the P.C take ownership rather than RBC and are responsible for future upkeep. The transfer of land assets would include a sum of money to cover future maintenance.

Currently USRACIC still owns assets, proposals to also be transferred to the P.C which will then own and maintain all but private land in the Parish and aspire to get the areas up to a better standard. All Cllrs are invited to attend future USRACIC meetings for continuity and full proposals will be considered at the next P.C meeting for formal approval.

13. Planning Applications

None received.

14. Amenity Update

Fay, Kirsty and Craig 'Planter Pixies' have been looking after the Planter under the notice board with new planting and will rota watering. The P.C expressed their gratitude.

Cllr Moore asked that the USRA Conservation Area Volunteers is considered on the next agenda with a view to this becoming a P.C Working Group.

Cllrs Storey and Morgan advised that the new P.C does not negate the need for and the very welcome and valuable contribution of volunteers, USRA may even continue as an organisation but the view is that USRACIC will be wound up.

The Acting Clerk advised that the Play Area Inspection report highlighted an issue with the Multi Play Unit, Streetwise will be asked to quote and it will be considered by USRACIC who the Play Area is currently insured under.

15. Other Appointments and Representatives on Outside Bodies and Organisations

Deferred whilst still in the transition stage of responsibilities between USRACIC and the P.C.

16. Councillor Reports

- Cllr Kupfer advised of the Open Gardens event on 4th June, 12noon-5pm, there are 12 gardens involved together with demonstrations, honey sale, teas and Orchard walk and talks. Local sponsors have been very helpful.
- Cllr Storey reiterated thanks to the various volunteer groups in the Parish and suggested a joint event with USRACIC and USPC to formally thank everyone and express the wish and need for continued volunteering. Cllr Morgan would canvas opinion for a July date in the first instance.

17. Membership of NALC and SLCC to Consider

Resolved: To become a member of NALC (National Association of Local Councils) at the earliest opportunity. (Membership of the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) will be considered further when the Clerk vacancy is filled).

18. Defibrillator Monitor to Consider

Cllr Kupfer would make enquiries with the Gardening Committee to ascertain any interest in undertaking the weekly checks of the Defibrillator.

19. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 12th June 2023 – 7pm, Village Hall.

Chair's Signature.....Date.....