
Upwell Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Upwell Parish Council, Monday 20th October 2025, 7pm

Committee Members: Cllr Aston, Cllr Gooch, Cllr A Harrison, Cllr Shorting, Cllr Pope, Cllr K Harrison, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Carr, Cllr Judd, Cllr Singh, Cllr Spikings, Cllr Fairbrother.

Those Present: Cllr Aston, Cllr A Harrison, Cllr Shorting, Cllr K Harrison, Cllr Judd, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Pope, Cllr Carr, Cllr Spikings, M Hilton Clerk.

Public: none

Apologies: Cllr Fairbrother

MINUTES

1. **Welcome and opening remarks:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **To consider and approve apologies for absence:** these were approved.
3. **To declare any conflicts and pecuniary interests on any items on this month's agenda:** None declared
4. **To discuss the budget for 2026-2027:** the draft budget started off in a deficit of £19K. Each line of the budget was discussed in detail.
 - Cllr Judd was asked to leave the meeting room whilst pay rises were discussed for the Groundsman and the Cemetery Gardener. It was agreed to put both up to £17.50 per hour.
 - It was agreed due to the lack of budget the war memorial fencing will not be renewed in this year's budget.
 - It was agreed the toppling test on the headstones at the cemetery needed doing.
 - It was agreed for a pay increase to £15 per hour for the Cleaner and Hall Administrator.
 - It was agreed to still have four editions of the Upwell Magazine per annum.
 - It was noted to NOT have any more dog waste bins as Upwell has sixteen already.
 - It was agreed not to give a grant to Three Holes village hall a £5K.
 - Due to the tightness of the budget Groundsman, Cemetery Gardener, Cleaner, and Village Administrator pay increases will start 1st April 2026.
 - It was agreed the PRoW's will be cut as and when necessary, currently this has been cut on a rolling basis by the contractor.
 - It was noted there is no monies in the budget for the riverbanks to be cut in this year's budget.
5. **To agree the precept:** it was noted the precept had not been increased since 2022-23. It was agreed to increase the precept to £51K for 2026-27.
6. **Close:** the meeting closed at 20.48pm

Signed by the Chair Date