

# UPTON GREY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Upton Grey Parish Council held remotely at 7pm on Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 7.00pm

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**In attendance: - Cllr C Holroyd, Cllr N Ralls, Cllr A Barker, and Cllr P Barnes**

**Also in attendance the Parish Clerk, Beverley Bridgman, the Lengthsman Gordon Hunt and PC Andy Reid**

### Draft minutes subject to confirmation

#### **1. Election of Chairman and declaration of acceptance of office**

Cllr Holroyd put his name forward; this was unanimously supported. The declaration of acceptance of office will be physically signed at the next available opportunity

#### **2. Election of Vice Chairman and declaration of acceptance of office**

Cllr Ralls put his name forward; this was unanimously supported. The declaration of acceptance of office will be physically signed at the next available opportunity

#### **3. Receive and accept apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr Harman

#### **4. Receive and note any declarations of interest relevant to the Agenda**

Cllr Ralls declared an interest in agenda point 8A and did not take part in this discussion.

Cllr Ralls spoke under agenda point 27 in his capacity as Chairman of the Upton Grey Cemetery Lane Committee (UGCLC).

#### **5. The Chairman to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 April 2021**

**Approved-**The minutes will be signed by the Chairman at the next available opportunity

#### **6. Open the meeting to members of the public**

6 members of the public attended the meeting

#### **7. Receive reports**

Reports were received from the Lengthsman and PC Andy Reid, these reports can be found in Appendix A

#### **8. Consider and discuss the following planning applications:**

**a) Demolition of existing garage, stable block and lean to storage shed. Erection of detached garage and single storey extension to provide enclosed pool house with link to main house and single storey sun room extension, including various internal alterations, replacement heating system, and alterations to fenestration. Improvements to hard landscaping**

**Village Farm House, Bidden Road, Upton Grey, RG25 2RL**

**References 21/01059/LBC & 21/01058/HSE**

Cllr Ralls did not take part in this discussion. The Parish Council discussed the application; it was resolved to submit a comment of **no objection**

**b) Erection of a Solar Photovoltaic Farm with an output capacity not to exceed 49.9 MW of energy, with associated battery storage and supporting infrastructure including inverters and a transformer, fencing, CCTV installation and landscaping works-ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED**

**Chosley Farm, Bidden Road, North Warnborough, RG29 1BW**

**Reference 20/03185/FUL (Hart District Council)**

The Parish Council discussed the application; it was resolved to submit a comment reinforcing the Parish Councils **objection** to this application.

**c) G1-Group of 10 previously pollarded Lime trees. Reduce in height by up to 8 m from 10 m down to approx 2-3m), to leave as manageable hedge**

**Old Manor Lodge, Basingstoke Road, Upton Grey, RG25 2RD**

**Reference T/00222/21/TCA**

The Parish Council discussed the application; it was resolved to submit a comment of **no objection**

**d) Variation of condition 1 of 17/03209/FUL to amend plan numbers to allow for minor internal amendments and minimising proposed partitions, amendments to fireplace, amendment to external timber door design on extension and metal 'Crittall' door design around swimming pool to match design and profile of existing doors with a thinner frame**  
**Hoddington House, Baymans Lane, Hoddington, RG25 2RU**

**Reference 21/01089/ROC**

The Parish Council discussed the application; it was resolved to submit a comment of **no objection**

**9. Update on previous planning applications**

Since the last Parish Council meeting on 15 April 2021 Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) have granted the following Planning Application:

21/00750/HSE Exbury House (greenhouse)

**10. Approve the Electronic Payment request for May 2021**

**Approved-**The Electronic payment request can be found below This will be signed by the Chairman at the next available opportunity. Payments will be set up by the Clerk and authorised by a Councillor

## Upton Grey Parish Council May 21 Electronic Payment Request

To	Item	Amount	Invoice number	Type
<b>Staff</b>	Salary May 2021	£630.24		
	Home Office Expenses May 2021	£18.00		
	Total	<b>£648.24</b>	5/21	SO
<b>Staff</b>	Expenses	<b>£3.85</b>	5/21	EP
<b>Staff</b>	Salary May 2021	<b>£53.10</b>	May 21	EP
<b>Staff</b>	Expenses May	<b>£2.50</b>	May 21	EP
<b>HMRC</b>	Tax & NI May 2021	<b>£13.40</b>	May 21	EP
<b>Saunders Landscape</b>	Maintenance May 2021	<b>£227.00</b>	tbc	SO
<b>Dick Randall Services Ltd</b>	Repair of playground fire damage	<b>£690.00</b>	10858	EP
<b>Brian Thrussell</b>	Equipment to repair glass in phone box	<b>£10.00</b>	28 Apr 21	EP
<b>Chairmans Signature and date:</b>				

### **11. Note the current financial situation and approve bank statements**

**Noted**-The current financial situation can be found in Appendix B. The bank statements will be signed by the Chairman at the next available opportunity

The current balances as at 28 April 2021 were:

Current Account: £34311.85

Tennis Maintenance Fund: £16792.00

### **12. Note comments from Internal Audit 2020/21 and decide an action plan if appropriate**

**Noted**-The Internal Auditors report can be found in Appendix C

#### **Action Plan:**

- Freedom of information-Members should ensure that they properly segregate council and non council emails, so as to avoid the stress of an ICO ruling

**Agreed** to purchase individual email addresses for each Councillor from website provider at a cost of £21.60 per address per annum

- Website accessibility-The website provider has advised that due to the age of the Parish Council website there are limitations as to the accessibility requirements that can be met. An accessibility statement has been added to the website to cover those requirements not met

**Agreed** to review the website at a future date

### **13. Approve end of year Bank Reconciliation 2020/21**

**Approved**-this will be physically signed at the next available opportunity

### **14. Approve Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2020/21, 'Annual Governance statement'**

**Approved**-this will be physically signed at the next available opportunity

### **15. Approve Section 2 of the AGAR, 'Accounting Statements 2020/21'**

**Approved**-this will be physically signed at the next available opportunity

### **16. Update from the PCC regarding the Parish Council grant provided for repair of the church clock**

Update can be found in Appendix D

### **17. Update from Upton Grey Community Fibre Group regarding grant provided in 2020-2021**

Update can be found in Appendix D

### **18. Annual report from the Village Hall Committee**

Update can be found in Appendix D

### **19. Annual report from the Tennis Committee**

Update can be found in Appendix D

### **20. Annual report from the Upton Grey Educational Trust**

Update can be found in Appendix D

### **21. Discuss grant request from St Marys Church for the hire of a marquee for a children's summer holiday club**

The request was discussed. As the application does not fully meet the criteria of the Upton Grey Grant Awarding Policy it was agreed that a grant will not be provided. It was suggested that a grant application to the Educational Trust may be more appropriate, it was also mentioned that Tunworth may have a marquee available for use by St Marys Church

### **22. Discuss renewal of the Parish Council Insurance Policy**

4 quotes had been received for the Insurance Policy which expires on 2 June 2021:

Quote A £744.64

Quote B £1098.61

Quote C £1151.66

Quote D £575.94 or £544.21 on a 3 year Long Term Agreement

These quotes were received on the day of the meeting and were all significantly higher than the previous years insurance, the Parish Clerk has asked the Insurance Broker if any price reductions can be offered and is waiting to hear back. The levels of cover offered from each company also needs to be checked.

**Agreed** to delegate authority to the Parish Clerk to make a decision regarding the insurance renewal in conjunction with the Chairman/Vice Chairman. The decision will be reported at the next Parish Council meeting

**23. Discuss revised quotation received for the multi purpose ball wall**

As agreed at the April meeting Contractor C was informed of the budget available for the multi purpose ball wall and, to make maximum use of the S 106 funds available, asked for a further quote to include additional artificial grass. A layout of the ball wall was also requested.

A revised quotation to the sum of £32,334, including VAT, had been received and circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

**Agreed** to proceed with the quotation of £32,334 from Contractor C, Sawscales. Cllr Barker will inform BDBC of the decision made and request that the S 106 funds are released to the Parish Council

**24. Agree 'disclaimer' wording for adult gym equipment**

The proposed wording of a disclaimer was agreed in principle;

"This is NOT children's play equipment

Users use this equipment at their own risk

Minimum height for this equipment is 1400 mm (4ft 7")

You must be over 14 to use this equipment

Only one person at a time at each user station

Read and follow the instructions on each piece of equipment before use

If you have any doubts about your health or wellbeing contact your Doctor before using this equipment"

Rather than make up a 'DIY' sign Councillors felt that a solid permanent sign should be erected at the playground.

**Agreed** the Parish Clerk will contact playground equipment companies for a quotation

**25. Discuss the possibility of installing a bench at the pond in memory of Trevor Hart**

**Discussed** and agreed to confirm the location of the bench before taking things further

**26. Agree Lengthsman jobs for County Visit on 20 May 2021**

**Agreed:**

Clean the telephone box

Clear the drain outside the Old Vicarage, Church Street

Remove weeds from the lay-by outside Village Farm House, Bidden Road

Cut back a shrub at the playground which is overhanging the fence

Clear weeds from the shop area, playground & tennis court

Clean the Little Hoddington road sign

**27. Update from Upton Grey Cemetery Lane Committee**

Cllr Ralls provided an update from the Upton Grey Cemetery Lane Committee (UGCLC), this can be found in Appendix E.

To ensure the village is kept informed regarding the Cemetery Lane position it was agreed that authority is delegated to the Parish Clerk to continue with 'Zoom' payments as necessary. This will allow remote village meetings to take place until such time as COVID related restrictions are lifted. The Parish Council agreed the payment of overtime to the Parish Clerk for the extra work involved in facilitating any necessary village meetings.

Authority was also delegated to the Parish Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, to make any payments relating to work carried out by either the appointed Solicitors, Clyde & Co (minuted 25, 21 November 2020) or Hampshire Legal Services (minute 20, 18 March 2021)

**28. Discuss and agree delegation/terms of authority for the Parish Clerk to make decisions appertaining to the Parish Councils normal routine business between 5 May 2021 and 21 June 2021 (the planned date for all COVID related restrictions to be lifted)**

In a recent decision in the case of (1) Hertfordshire County Council (2) Lawyers in Local Government (3) Association of Democratic Services Officers & the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government ('the virtual meetings case') it was made clear that, until the existing primary

legislation is changed (ie the Local Government Act 1972, and/or the Coronavirus Act 2020), council meetings from 7 May 2021 onwards can no longer continue to be held remotely. It was agreed that due to the time period between now and 21 June, when all COVID related restrictions should be lifted, authority is delegated to the Parish Clerk to make decisions in line with the Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. It was also agreed the Parish Clerk has authority to make payments relating to salaries and expenses incurred by the Parish Clerk and Lengthsman. Any decisions under these terms will be made in conjunction with the Chairman/Vice Chairman and will be minuted at the next Parish Council meeting

**29. Confirm the date and time of the next meeting**

Due to the uncertainty regarding meetings in person the date and time of the next meeting will be decided at a later date

There being no other business the meeting finished at 8.57pm

## Appendix A

### Lengthsman Report May 2021

- All benches are in good repair
- The reported potholes in Cleves Lane have been marked by Hampshire Highways so hopefully they will be repaired soon
- Potholes along Weston Road have not been marked
- The water meter cover on Weston Road has now been repaired
- The broken glass pane in the phone box has been repaired
- The sign at Meadow Side is still awaiting repair
- I have carried out a litter pick in both Bidden Road in the children's play area
- I have the hasp and staple to fit on the bin at Elder Dell and will fit as soon as I can

### PC Andy Reid Report May 2021

In **2018** 10 crimes were reported in Upton Grey, and in **2019** 23 were crimes reported. These included:

- 2 thefts from motor vehicles
- 5 non-dwelling burglaries
- 5 thefts
- 1 assault with injury
- 9 criminal damages

In **2020** 16 crimes were reported:

- 4 non-dwelling burglaries
- 1 criminal damage
- 1 other crimes
- 4 thefts
- Possession of drugs
- 1 theft from a motor vehicle
- Digger stolen
- Arson, playground furniture set on fire
- 2 criminal damages were reported

So far 2 crimes have been reported in **2021**:

- Criminal damage
- Theft of a watch

## Upton Grey Parish Council Monthly Sheet for May 2021 (Appendix B)

### Lloyds Current Account

Balance as at 9 April 2021

£17880.16 (agrees online statement printed 28 April 2021)

#### Payments

Date	To	Amount
16 April 2021	Staff April Expenses	£85.31

#### Receipts

Date	From	Amount
26 April 2021	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council	£16517.00

**Balance as at 28 April 2021**

**£34311.85** (agrees online statement printed 28 April 2021)

### Lloyds Tennis Maintenance Account

Balance as at 9 April 2021

£16791.86 (agrees online statement printed 28 April 2021)

#### Receipts

Date	From	Amount
9 April 2021	Bank interest	£0.14

**Balance as at 28 April 2021**

**£16792.00** (agrees on line statement printed 28 April 2021)

### **Total Balance as at 28 April 2021**

Lloyds Current Account	£34311.85
Tennis Maintenance Account	£16792.00
Unpresented cheques	Nil
Cancelled cheques	Nil
Net Bank Balance	<b>£51103.85</b>

**Chairmans Signature and date:**

## **Appendix C**

### **Update from the PCC regarding a grant provided in 2020**

The Parish Council kindly made a grant of £1,000 available to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in October 2020 towards the cost of carrying out an overhaul of the Church clock. The clock was manufactured in 1761 by John Davis of Windsor and has not struck the hour since the beginning of 2020. The cost of overhauling the clock will be £5,580 (plus VAT which is recoverable by the PCC).

Hampshire County Council has contributed a grant of £500 to the cost and an application for a further grant has been submitted to a church conservation grants body and is pending. The PCC has passed a resolution that, to the extent that the cost cannot be met out of grant aid, the balance may be paid out of funds held by the PCC on restricted account.

The Diocese of Winchester granted a faculty in March 2021 authorising the carrying out of the above work. The Chancellor of the Diocese commended the PCC for “taking steps to maintain this historic clock”.

An order was placed in March by the PCC with the Cumbria Clock Company, specialists in repairing church clocks. Work is expected to commence in June. Some internal components of the clock will need to be dismantled and removed for workshop attention.

The PCC is grateful to the Parish Council for its financial support and also to the team of Hugh Chevallier, Michael Church and Patrick Symington for driving this project forward.

Geoffrey Yeowart  
Churchwarden  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### **Update from Upton Grey Community Fibre Partnership regarding a grant provided in 2020**

We had excellent support from our village and Weston Patrick etc. and as a result had an excess of free government vouchers pledged for the scheme.

As a consequence all residents of Upton Grey, Weston Patrick, (Mark & Corbett) and part of Tunworth have been authorised for the installation of free superfast fibre broadband by Openreach. The only exception being Little Dean Lane which includes the Wateridge's, the Janaway's farm and associated residences.

Openreach forecast that installation is likely to occur this autumn but there are no guarantees. We have spent £144.24 of our £195 grant and forecast no further expenditure until autumn of next year. All the expenditure has been on flyers and their distribution across the residents to communicate progress and actions required.

I will apply for a further grant of £80 for next year as a contingent figure to cover further community communications when installation occurs.

### **Annual Report from Upton Grey Village Hall Management Committee**

Financial Year October 2019 to September 2020

The years hire income was only slightly affected by the shutdown as most of our casual bookings were paid before then. To compensate for the predicted shortfall in 2020-21 financial year we made a

concerted effort to boost takings from the 100 Club. Income was £4007 attended by an increase of winnings, most of which carry over to the next year. Instead of the normal 120 entries we reached 168.

With donations we purchase a hand wash station for the hall.

Overall we recorded a surplus of £11,701, £10,000 of which was a Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) pandemic grant.

Detailed accounts are available.

Assets at 30th Sept 2020 were Cash £84: Santander £5167 and Barclays £14711.

Unfortunately for this year 2020-21, ending September, the only saving in expenses we can expect is in heating, whilst our hire income will be derisory. A large shortfall is expected.

In March we received two further pandemic grants from BDBC totalling £9907. We will transfer as required from our deposit account to our current account.

Assets at March 31st 2021 were Cash £215: Santander £2981 and Barclays £24,619. Liabilities (100 Club prizes) were £840.

Brian Thrussell/ Hugh Chevallier  
28 April 2021

### **Annual Report from Upton Grey Educational Trust**

The Trust was formed in August 1991 by the Diocesan Council, with half the proceeds from the sale of the Upton Grey Village School. The first grants were made in June 1992 and since then £98K has been distributed by way of grants, benefiting more than 100 different applicants and 25 groups including Long Sutton School.

The income from the Trust can be used twice yearly for "the advancement of education". The Trustees meet twice a year, in June and December, to consider applications for assistance with educational needs from any age group. This is primarily open to residents of UPTON GREY, but consideration may also be given to applicants from other parishes within the Benefice – funds permitting.

During the year ended December 2020 the Trustees received 22 applications for consideration and granted awards to all applicants.

Adverts are placed twice yearly in the Parish Magazine to encourage applications.

Debbie Bridle (debbie@debbie-bridle.com)  
The Secretary to the Trustees  
Upton Grey Educational Trust  
April 2021

### **Annual Report from Upton Grey Tennis Committee**

#### **Introduction**

The tennis court is owned by the Upton Grey Parish Council ("PC"), which in July 2004 appointed the Upton Grey Tennis Court Management Committee ("Tennis Committee") as its agent to manage the court on its behalf.

This report covers the operations of the Upton Grey Village Tennis Court Club for 1st May 2020 to 30th April 2021, the twenty-second year of the court's existence. It reviews playing fees, coaching, the mixer, maintenance, fund raising and finances.

### **Playing Fees**

To promote tennis in the village and to encourage people to use the court, playing fees are kept at very modest levels and commensurate with meeting the financial goal. The playing fee rates were £30 per family, £20 for individuals over 18 and £5 for individuals under 18. These have been unchanged since 2006. Opportunities for occasional use of the court can also be provided although these are small relative to annual subscriptions.

A record 48 membership fees were received in the 2020/21 season, mostly for families, compared with 37 in 2019/20. Playing fee income including some pre-payments received was £1,400 which was up on the prior year's equivalent £1,050.

### **Tennis Coaching**

With the Tennis Court on a firm financial footing through fund-raising activities by the membership and committee over many years, we continue to give emphasis to the use of the Tennis Committee's generated funds to encourage adults' and children's' tennis in Upton Grey.

For the past six years the Tennis Committee has arranged two sets of coaching for village children aged from five to 14 years old, one in the Easter and one in the Summer holidays. The 2020 Summer coaching was conducted over two weeks, the first week run by Andrew Ridgers, and the second for the youngest children by Committee member and coach Jamie Thomson.

The Easter 2021 session, following the lifting of certain lock-down measures, meant that we had a record 74 children, compared to 41 children in Easter 2019 (there was no coaching in Easter 2020 due to Covid). With so many children being involved, a number of our village's teenagers organised themselves into a voluntary support group for the Coach.

The coaching weeks have become hugely popular with parents and children. They engender a strong feeling of local community. They are organised by Susannah Livingston Booth, and run by Andrew Ridgers with an assistant from Odiham Tennis Club. Andrew is a level 4 certified LTA Coach. The Upton Grey Educational Trust generously contributed £200 towards each of the coaching sessions, which allowed the cost per child per week to be kept to an affordable £16.

### **Tennis Mixer**

We normally hold a social tennis mixer one evening in June, arranged by James Acheson-Gray. Alas Covid meant that it could not happen in 2020.

### **Maintenance**

Maintenance of the Court is managed by Rosie Ralls. During the year, the court was treated twice. It remains in good condition for its age. The county lengthsmen were tasked with weed-killing around the court, for which grateful thanks are given to the Parish Council.

There was some wind damage to one end of the court in March 2020. Four of the Committee members helped make a temporary repair. The permanent repair is anticipated for May 2021.

When originally constructed, the builder forecast 16 years before the court would need a complete resurfacing. With careful maintenance it has had 22 years. It now needs to be resurfaced and the work is programmed for October 2021. Annual fees for 2021/22 will be increased so that funds can be built up for future needs.

## **Fund Raising and Finance**

The aim of the Tennis Committee has been to generate a capital reserve by achieving a net cash surplus each year. The Tennis Committee has over several years and through fund-raising activities built up a capital reserve, accumulated within the Parish Council accounts, to pay for the eventual re-surfacing of the tennis court.

Surplus cash is also held as a contingency against unexpected court problems, significant maintenance requirements, and to provide support for the playing of other sports in the village, particularly amongst its younger people.

The Tennis Committee's funds and accounts are managed by the Treasurer, Julia Harker. Cheque payments from the Tennis Committee account require two signatures. Amounts over £100 are paid through the Parish Council.

Revenues in the 2020/21 season were £3,701.00. Expenditure was £2,115.26, giving an increase in the capital reserves of £1,585.74. This compared to an increase of £324.50 in reserves in the prior year.

The closing Balance Sheet at 30th April 2021 showed a positive cash position of £20,906.71.

A copy of the profit and loss statement and balance sheet is attached.

## **LTA - Wimbledon 2020**

The club is a member of the LTA. As such it has benefited from advice, a low insurance premium, and a draw for tickets to Wimbledon. Due to Covid restrictions, sadly there was no Wimbledon in 2020. The LTA generously refunded the Club's £110 subscription for the year.

## **Committee**

The members of the Tennis Committee for 2020/21 were James Acheson-Gray, Julia Harker (Treasurer and Safeguarding), Charles Holroyd (Chairman), Ant Langly-Smith (Marketing), Susannah Livingston Booth (Coaching), Jamie Thomson (Club Secretary), and Rosie Ralls (Maintenance). As Chairman I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for the time they give, and for being such a well organised and enthusiastic team.

We also thank the Parish Council and the Upton Grey Educational Trust for their continuing encouragement and support.

Charles Holroyd  
Chairman, Upton Grey Tennis Court Committee  
May 2021

**Upton Grey Tennis Court**  
**Consolidated PC/TC Funds for Financial Year 1st May 2020 - 30th April 2021**

**PROFIT AND LOSS**

Item	Year 1st May 2020 - 30th April 2021		Year 1st May 2019 - 30th April 2020	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Annual Playing Subs incl. pre-payments	1,400.00		1,045.00	
Donation/one-off playing fees	0.00		15.00	
Bank Interest from PC deposit account	0.00		0.00	
TC Fundraising events	0.00		0.00	
Refund of LTA fees	110.00		0.00	
Junior Coaching - Subs for Summer and Easter	1,791.00		1,057.00	
Donations from UG Educational Trust for Junior Coaching etc	400.00		400.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>3,701.00</b>		<b>2,517.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
3rd Party Liability Insurance Premium (paid by PC)	0.00		0.00	
Purchase of centre band adjuster / measuring stick	92.00		0.00	
Court Maintenance & Repairs (paid by PC excl. VAT)	274.00		607.00	
Court Maintenance & Repairs (paid from TC a/c)	136.00		165.00	
Court wall repair (paid from PC a/c)	0.00		0.00	
AGM and meeting expenses	0.00		0.00	
Junior Coaching - Easter and Summer 2019 (note Easter 2019!)	1,368.75		1,268.50	
Junior coaching equipment	76.51		0.00	
LTA registration	120.00		110.00	
Reimbursement of fees	48.00		0.00	
Information flyers and distribution	0.00		42.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>2,115.26</b>		<b>2,192.50</b>
<b>Net Surplus Tennis Funds</b>		<b>1,585.74</b>		<b>324.50</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

Opening Cash Balances as at 1st May	19,320.97	18,206.47
Represented by:		
PC Tennis Funds brought forward as at 1st May	15,865.32	15,632.32
TC Tennis Funds brought forward as at 1st May	3,455.65	3,364.15
<b>Total Tennis Funds as at 1st May</b>	<b>19,320.97</b>	<b>18,996.47</b>
Add surplus for the year	1,585.74	324.50
<b>Total Funds as at 30th April</b>	<b>20,906.71</b>	<b>19,320.97</b>
Represented by:		
PC Tennis Funds bank account as at 30th April	16,791.32	15,865.32
TC Tennis Funds bank account as at 30th April	4,115.39	3,455.65
<b>Total Funds as at 30th April</b>	<b>20,906.71</b>	<b>19,320.97</b>
<b>Note: Net funds in Parish Council tennis account</b>		
Opening	15,865.32	15,632.32
Payments by PC of court maintenance excl. VAT	-274.00	-607.00
Additions - cheques to PC for subscriptions	1,200.00	840.00
<b>Closing funds</b>	<b>16,791.32</b>	<b>15,865.32</b>

## **Upton Grey Cemetery Lane Committee:**

Update for the Village- UGPC meeting  
May 05<sup>th</sup> 2021

### **Proposed Development of farmyard and land adjacent to Cemetery Lane, Upton Grey:**

Provided as an ongoing update on discussions on the proposal above.

Firstly, many of you will know that sadly, Mem Fitzpatrick passed away early last week. Many in the village have known her well for many years, and she has been an important figure in village life in many ways over the decades. The work she did in the area has been to the benefit of Upton Grey in various ways in the past, and we are sure that many will remember her for that, and as a friend.

The proposals for Cemetery Lane and Church Meadow continue.

### **The Proposed Development and what we have been doing:**

Since our update at the April meeting:

#### **Planning Application has been submitted:**

The Planning Application has been published. We have sent a couple of messages around the village in order to ensure that people were aware that the whole picture was/is not yet clear. The position on this is fluid and we have been very busy over the past week to do what we can to ensure that the proposal is absolutely clear for the village.

**The published proposals do not involve the inclusion of the 'North Field' in the proposed gift to the Village, as previously discussed. There is therefore not currently any provision to guarantee any additional protection of this field.**

The Section 106 Agreement forming part of the proposals had not initially been submitted, but it has now been included, and published. It is the only document that ties the application to the proposed mitigation of a gift of land, so it is of heightened importance to the application.

It **does not yet say** what we hope that it would and does not in its current form reflect the discussions we have held with Cherrington and the Trust's lawyers. **HOWEVER:**

**The Trusts lawyers have now re-engaged** with the Committee and with UGPC's solicitor, and has responded to some of the key points that need to be clarified in order to prevent potential adverse effects of changes in ownership of the proposal site leading to more inappropriate development proposals.

We have reviewed the latest legal drafts and prepared a response dealing with essential amendments required including on the following key topics:

- The definition of the development (so that it cannot simply be overridden by future Planning Applications)
- The trigger point for the transfer of the Church Meadow land to the Village (to make sure it happens if the site is sold following grant of Planning Permission, and the Trust doesn't develop it itself- the 'Holme Hill' scenario)
- To ensure that the land can still be grazed (to avoid the maintenance of it becoming a burden on the village)
- And most importantly, to ensure there are no contractual obligations that would conflict with the Parish Council's future duties to the Village.

**We believe that the majority of these points are accepted** and will be incorporated into the documents, and which will also then need to be reflected in the S106 submitted with the application (it will need to be amended). We will need to focus on making sure this is incorporated in order to be robust enough for people to make an informed choice.

**Timings to obtain/ achieve legal clarity:**

Basingstoke & Deane has confirmed that the consultation dates for responses are extended until the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. They will also accept further comments up to the closing date in June. We are working however, towards getting the legal aspects lined up and reflected in a revised S106 before the 20<sup>th</sup> May date, so that the UGPC has a chance to review it properly, as well as all Villagers.

We (UGCLC) will provide a further, fuller update with analysis for debate, Q&A and full understanding at a public presentation to the Village, in around a week from now (**12<sup>th</sup> May**). We will also be seeking indications of sentiment on the proposal, following that, to be sent to the Parish Council. **A summary of issue will be circulated beforehand.**

**A Village Meeting** (not a full parish council meeting) would be held under the UGPC's planning protocol around 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> May. This would allow villagers to speak and ask questions, and the Parish Councillors to consider the application. It may be useful for villagers to relay current views to UGPC beforehand to assist timekeeping in the meeting itself, as there will be a lot to cover. This will only allow a short time to provide a response to BDBC thereafter by the 20<sup>th</sup> May.

**Legal Professional Matters:**

Costs are still being kept to a minimum with input from within the Village; however some professional legal fees will be incurred in this next brief stage in order that the documents can be handled via current professionals (i.e. an operating law firm). This is important to avoid undue risk of error or liability for UGPC and those who have helped so far.

**Summary of Position:**

Progress is being made with the documentary side of the offer of the gift of land which has improved with the legal and property input of Geoffrey Yeowart, James Raven, and John Griffiths. **We are not there yet, and there are still some perceived risks** but it looks as if the bigger 'risk' items are agreed and things are moving towards a clear choice to be presented to the Village.

Nick Ralls

Upton Grey Cemetery Lane Committee

Nick Ralls, Geoffrey Yeowart, Andrew Dunkley, Julian Livingston-Booth, John Frieda, James Raven