

UPTON WARREN PARISH COUNCIL
IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTERSHIRE



Minutes of Ordinary Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2026
at St Michael's Church at 7.30 p.m.

Chair's welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Present	Chair - Lizzy Rogers, Councillor Robert Edgington, Councillor Ivor James, Councillor Elizabeth Shaw, Councillor Tim Dunkley, County Councillor Tony Miller, , Clerk and RFO, Michelle Marriner,
Apologies	District Councillor, Rick Deller - accepted.
Public in attendance	0
Public Forum	No comments
Declarations of Interest	None
Approval of Minutes	Minutes from the meeting held on 13 January 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair.
Reports	Report from Cllr Deller - Cllr Deller kindly provided a report in his absence confirming: • There has been progress on fly tipping. Cllr Miller added that they have worked together on this and asked that offenders caught fly tipping receive points on their driving license and asked that vehicles be seized sold or crushed. The latter will be done if police catch offenders in the act of fly tipping. • Consultation for unitary council has now ended. • The SWDPR should be adopted on Thursday. This is expected to tighten regulations around live work unit applications. • Cllr Deller still needs to arrange a meeting with the enforcement team. Report from Cllr Miller • Still taking steps to seek to reduce speed limit on A38 and there is a new cabinet member of highways he is liaising with. • Bus passes gone up 40%. • Council tax has gone up by 9% but services are being cut. A credible budget was put forward for 3 years which included holding council tax at a sensible level using reserves. That went to government for a holding loan in case the Council ran into difficulties. It has been treated as though they have taken the money which isn't the case. SEND provision has gone up - 74% of council tax is spent on that. • There are lots of personnel changes at the Council. • Meeting in Wychavon tonight about the new town in Wychavon. Unclear if that is going ahead. • New fire chief being appointed. Bring closer bond between police and fire. • Young boy was unfortunately hit by a car when getting off the school bus. Alterations to where the bus picks up and drops off now made but not all residents pleased with the changes. • VAS now installed. Councillors thanked Cllr Miller for his kind contribution of £2000 towards the costs of this and for the SLOW sign which has been installed to help the issues of speeding in the village which was concerning parishioners. Data can be downloaded and Clerk will deal with this. If the data shows many going over the speed limit the data will be passed to Cllr

	Miller and also to police, who will allocate a motorbike cop to do periodic checks. • Droitwich transmitters – no progress with local listing. Cllr Miller feels these are an important communication link for the country should there ever be a digital blackout from EMF pulse you could still use the old short wave and analogue so would have a network of communication. Security reasons to retain. Report from Police - 16.2.25 dog reported in a garden. 2.3.25 Trailer stolen in Mill Lane. Cllr Dunkley also confirmed that there had been a break in at container on his property and tools stolen.
Planning	W/26/00298/GPZA Newhouse Lane Developments – The parish council lodged objections to this application between meetings. W/26/00616/FUL – Rectory Farm, Rectory Lane - Battery Farm application – reducing the number of the battery holders from 14 to 12 but bigger containers. Same volume but slightly different layout. Agreed the parish council did not wish to make any comment. Cllr Edgington raised earlier discussions they had with the owners about s106 payment for community benefit. Agreement was made to make a s106 payment to the community but ownership of the property has changed since and it's not clear if the offer stands with the new owners. Agreed the parish council will make contact with the current owner and make the request. Chair to action.
Road Closures	None since last meeting
Finance	Budget expenditure considered and approved. Bank reconciliation considered and approved and signed by Chair. Cllrs have offered increase in clerk salary to be backdated to January rather than April. Invoices approved for payment: Payment of £190 to PJ Bourne, Lengthsman for March 2026 invoice Payment of £25 for church hire on 25.3.26 Payment of £XX to clerk for March salary and expenses Payments approved between meetings: Payment to P J Bourne, Lengthsman for February - £190.00 Payment to Clerk for salary and expenses for February £XXX. Payment to Worcestershire County Council for contribution to VAS - £900.00 Direct Debit payments between meetings: HRMC for Clerk PAYE - £XXX HMRC – Clerk to check if the issues with former clerk's PAYE have been resolved and correct sums paid to HMRC. Precept submitted and clerk provided additional information to request for reasons for increase. Precept appears to have been accepted because the parish council has heard from a parishioner about the substantial increase. Agreed that the reasons for this will be communicated to the entire parish within a newsletter to be hand delivered to each address in the parish. Other issues to be covered in the newsletter include the forthcoming AGM, charity funds available to support young people living in the village with either educational equipment or music equipment, activities which take place at the church for the benefit of the community. The parish council will also promote Facebook page and new contact email and seek email addresses from those who wish to remain updated. Agreed new website will be arranged in April which will also make information to the parish more accessible.

	Cllrs to provide information to Clerk who will collate into a newsletter.
UWPC Business	Bank – Progress in moving bank account ongoing. Chair and Clerk have completed all steps. Cllr Dunkley still to take steps to be authorized on the account. Cllr Dunkley to complete approval process. Once open, charity money to savings. Lengthsman – Increase in hourly rate discussed and approved. Proposed by Cllr Edgington and seconded by Cllr James. Clerk to update Lengthsman. VAS – As detailed above. Clerk to send copy booklet for new VAS to Cllr Edgington. One key to be retained by Cllr Edgington and the other will be retained by Lengthsman. Speeding- no complaints raised. Will consider position when data downloaded from VAS. Code of Conduct – Clerk will send link as reminder to Councillors of Code of Conduct. Risk Assessment – Discussion about preparing risk assessment for the parish council. CALC have kindly provided advice on this. Clerk to provide first draft for consideration for discussion at next meeting. Bywater Farm – Chair and Cllr Edgington to draft communication for Clerk to send to enforcement team. Defibrillator – Cllr Edgington has provided quotes for consideration. Agreed that Councillors will consider this and update Clerk within 7 days on which option they choose. Agreed to proceed with purchase of the defibrillator and Clerk to enquire whether there would be any discount for purchasing two as the one at the Church has batteries expiring in June and replacements are not available. Cllr Miller will be able to consider contribution in new financial year but no budget available currently. Clerk will revisit this with him after April. Cllr Edgington has also discussed contribution through charity event at The Swan pub. Cost of two defibrillators is likely to be in the region of £2500. Door on the defibrillator box at Swan Lane needs replacing. Replacement already purchased. Need to make arrangements with Severn Trent Water to get them to turn off the electricity so that new door can be installed. Cllr Edgington to make enquiries as to whereabouts of new door and Clerk will then make enquiries with Severn Trent. CALC Survey for Councillors and Clerk – Clerk has submitted survey responses. Encouraged Councillors to spare a few minutes to complete the survey as it will inform the support we receive from Worcs CALC. Commitment to complete the survey given. Worcestershire Waste Local Plan – Cllrs have considered this and do not wish to make comment. Unclear what is expected – information provided appears high level and not aimed at parish council input.
AOB	None
Future meetings	12.5.26 – 7.15 pm 14.7.26 – 7.30 pm 8.9.26 – 7.30 pm 10.11.26 – 7.30 pm Meeting concluded 21.23

MINUTE REFERENCE 462

Signed

Chair to Upton Warren Parish Council