UPTON & NORTH ELMSALL PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF UPTON & NORTH ELMSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 10th November 2026 at 6:30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Councillor P Atherton
Councillor I Bell
Councillor S Birtles
Councillor E Farmer
Councillor E MacGregor
Councillor L Mears
Councillor C Merrington
Councillor A Miles
Councillor H Owen
Councillor S Pallett
Councillor S Spencer

Helen Senior – Clerk & RFO

Two Members of the Public

Absent: Councillor M Hanson

133. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

133.1. To receive apologies.
No apologies were received.

133.2. To consider approval of the reasons for absence.
No reasons for absence had been received.

134. Declarations of Interest

134.1. To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or Members' Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
RESOLVED: that the following declarations of interest be received.

Councillor A Miles
Other Registerable Interest
Director of UNEF

Signed: _____

Councillor S Pallett
Other Registerable Interest
Director of UNEF

134.2. To consider separate written applications for dispensation received from Cllrs S Pallett and A Miles in relation to Item 136, seeking permission to remain in the meeting and participate in the discussion and vote, and to determine each application in accordance with Standing Order 13.

The two applications were considered separately. In each case, Members agreed to amend the application to permit participation in discussions only, without permission to vote.

In relation to Councillor Pallett's application, Members also agreed to reduce the requested duration from two years to one year, bringing it in line with the duration requested by Councillor Miles.

RESOLVED: that Councillor S Pallett be granted an amended dispensation for a period of one year, permitting the Councillor to remain in the meeting and participate in discussions relating to UNEF's library funding proposals, but not to vote on those matters.

RESOLVED: that Councillor A Miles be granted an amended dispensation for a period of one year, permitting the Councillor to remain in the meeting and participate in discussions relating to UNEF's library funding proposals, but not to vote on those matters.

135. Public Participation

To receive representations, questions or evidence from members of the public in respect of business included on the agenda, in accordance with Standing Order 3.

No members of the public in attendance wished to speak.

136. Upton and North Elmsall Community Forum (UNEF) – Three-Year Funding Application

To consider UNEF's application for three-year funding towards the core staffing costs of Upton Community Library and Community Hub, having regard to the recommendation of the Finance Committee, UNEF's supporting documentation, the Council's current financial position, General and Earmarked Reserves, the draft 2027/28 budget and indicative precept requirement, existing and anticipated Council expenditure commitments, and all other relevant information contained within the agenda pack; and to determine whether the funding application should be approved or declined and, if approved, the amount, duration, payment arrangements, budget provision and any conditions applicable to the award, including arrangements for a written funding agreement.

Signed: _____

Members considered UNEF's three-year funding application, the supporting documentation and the Finance Committee's recommendation, together with the Council's financial position and anticipated commitments.
Following discussion, Councillors S Pallett and A Miles withdrew from the meeting before the vote on item 136, in accordance with the terms of their amended dispensations.

RESOLVED: that the recommendation of the Finance Committee be approved, namely:

1. To decline UNEF's current three-year funding proposal;
2. To engage informally with UNEF over the following twelve months to explore the future needs of the Community Library and any financial or non-financial support which the Parish Council may be able to provide; and
3. To consider any future formal request for support only if and when a new proposal is developed following those discussions.

Councillors S Pallett and A Miles were invited to rejoin the meeting and were informed of the decision.

In the absence of any further business, the Chair thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting.

Signed: _____