

UPPER THAMES PROTECTION SOCIETY (UTPS)

Minutes of the Meeting Held at Aethelmar House, Cricklade on 14th January 2020

1. Present:

Chris Graham (chairman)
Margaret Hunt (secretary)
Carol Rouse (treasurer)

Richard Rimming
Ben West

2. An Apology for Absence was given for Helen Goody. In addition, it was agreed that Gerry Tamplin, at his request, should continue to receive copies of Meeting Minutes.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the UTPS Meeting of 3rd September 2019:

These were confirmed - and signed by Chris Graham as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising from the 3rd September Meeting:

There were none.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2019 UTPS AGM:

These were confirmed - and signed by Chris Graham as a correct record.

6. Matters Arising from the 2019 UTPS AGM:

Upper Thames Partnership Meeting The next of these would be held on 16.1.2020. Agenda and Minutes had been sent out. All are invited.

Water Blitz This should be further evaluated to ensure, in particular, that results were circulated. Chris Graham would follow up.

Clearance Work on the Thames Tree work is planned for the Lechlade end of the Thames, when vegetation will be removed / trimmed in February 2020 and the debris taken away during March. Further work will not begin until the autumn, when the bird-nesting season is over.

Thames Water Business Plan 2020 - 2025 There were current sewage problems in the Fairford area, and a meeting about the quality of the River Coln had taken place. The TWA Business Plan for the above period was now awaited, which would identify money available for remedial works, if any. It is felt that this is one of the causes of poor water quality.

Thames Path Inspections There is only a limited amount of help that can be given at present. Moving this forward would be something that could be added to the Website entry.

7. Website Update: Following Mark Strange's inability to host the Website, Domain quotes provided were discussed in detail. Chris Graham and Carol Rouse had provided these, as it was the strong opinion that at least a basic Website must be retained; among other advantages, it would help to increase UTPS membership. Reasonable costs for this would have to be accepted, albeit that this would impact upon reserves, so a balance needs to be found. Economy hosting could be signed up to for a couple of years, then further content be considered, possibly with the assistance of Mark Strange - he should also be invited to regularly attend UTPS meetings. Carol Rouse would liaise. Hopefully, draft Website pages could be circulated prior to the next meeting.

8. Steven Tabbitt's Offer of UTPS Membership: There appeared to be uncertainty about Steven Tabbitt's message following the AGM, as he had not yet responded to Margaret Hunt's e-mail that included copies

of AGM Minutes and Meeting Agenda *[see note at end of the Minutes].

9. Treasurer's Financial and Membership Report: (copy attached to signed Minutes)

Carol Rouse's Report as at 14.1.2020 gives the information that total funds stand at £2,713.91. Income is £115.00 and Expenses £93.49, giving a Net Income of £21.51. Membership is currently 50. The Annual Charity Commission Return has been dealt with by Carol.

Helen Goody joined the meeting at 8.40 pm.

10. Any Other Business:

North Meadow A Partnership Meeting would be useful, plus the North Meadow being the subject of the talk following the 2020 UTPS AGM.

Seb Cooke (EA Waterways Technical Officer), who had been unable to attend the 2019 AGM, might be invited to give the presentation.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm, thanks for hospitality having been expressed.

* [POST-MEETING NOTE: Margaret Hunt received an e-mail from Steven Tabbitt on 27.1.2020, saying that the latter wished to become a UTPS Committee Member. Margaret responded to him on 8.2, after having contacted Chris Graham, to say that Steven would be invited to the next meeting, when he would be co-opted onto the Committee, this being ratified at the 2020 AGM. Meanwhile, Carol Rouse had sent him membership payment information.]