

**Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 10th February 2011 in the Village Hall**

**Present:**

Mr Crane                      Mr Eaves                      Mrs Stocker  
Mrs Walker                  Mr Armes                      Mr Boyle                      Mrs Whelpton  
James Carswell (County Councillor)  
George Debbage (District Councillor)

There was a talk by Dr Dan Hoare from the Broads Authority and Kevin Hart from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust on the project to pump mud from Upton Little Broad, to increase the depth and quality of the water. This will start mid-March and will last about 8 – 10 weeks. Mud will be pumped from the Broad, under Prince of Wales Road, into the adjacent field, from where the water will run back via the existing drains. Dr Hoare and Mr Hart were thanked for attending the meeting.

Matters raised by the public included mooring fees, ducks at the pond, bus timetables, fishing at the pond, the smell from the poultry farm and the suggestion of a second glass recycling facility in the village.

PC Paul Fox gave a report of one crime since the last meeting and then left the meeting.

George Debbage reported on the setting of the budget for Broadland District Council. Elections for the District Council will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

James Carswell talked about the difficult decisions facing the County Council in the forthcoming budget.

**Apologies:** None.

**Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda:**

Anne Whelpton and Lesley Walker declared personal interests in the boat dyke. Nicholas Crane declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for Hugh Crane Cleaning Equipment Ltd.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2011 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Nicholas Crane, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

**Matters Arising:**

1. The new bench and the new picnic table have been delivered to the play area.

(James Carswell left the meeting at this point.)

### **Correspondence:**

1. The packs for nomination for the parish council elections on 5<sup>th</sup> May have been received. Nominations must be submitted to Broadland District Council by noon on 4<sup>th</sup> April. Additional packs and assistance with their completion can be obtained from the clerk or the district council.
2. A resident has asked about the Council's approach to pressing for better Broadband access in the village. It was felt that it was very disappointing that so few people locally have registered for faster Broadband. The Government has stated that faster access for rural communities is a priority.
3. The final report on the proposal to establish controlled airspace in the vicinity of Norwich International Airport has been published.
4. A consultation on the future of the state-owned forests has been received. The councillors objected to the sale of the forests as they feel that they are an important asset for local people and for tourism.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

	£
Balance b/f at 11th December 2011	669.48
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Grazing fee – two months	166.68
VAT refund	291.95
Mooring fees	337.48
<b>Cheques for payment:</b>	
South Walsham PC – share of stationery	14.69
Suffolk County Council – benches	637.20
Norfolk Pension	61.47
Justin Nudd – work at churchyard and cemetery	<u>450.00</u>
Balance c/f at 15th January 2011	302.23
BSA	864.15
BSA	10,079.48
Repairs and Renewals Accounts	<u>30,965.42</u>
Total monies	<b><u>£42,211.28</u></b>

The above cheques were agreed for payment.

### **Village Hall and Playing Field:**

Nothing to report on the village hall. Bill Boyle told the meeting that the hedge at the car park has been repaired.

### **Planning Matters:**

1. **Hugh Crane Cleaning Equipment Ltd, South Walsham Road** – extension to warehouse. (Nicholas Crane declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application and left the meeting during the discussion and the voting.) There were no objections to the plans.

### **Planning results from Broadland District Council:**

i) **Evergreens, The Green**, roof alterations to cottage and conversion and enlargement of outbuilding to annexe accommodation - full approval.

### **Boat Dyke and Staithe:**

The Environment Agency's solicitor has asked the Council to confirm that it agrees with the heads of terms for the lease of the moorings at the boat dyke, and the heads of terms for the management agreement for the parish staithe. The councillors raised the following points:

- i) Item 7 – if there were any rates or similar charges, then these must be included in “allowable expenses”.
- ii) Item 15 – the clerk was asked to repeat to the Environment Agency that the boat dyke is open to the public so the Parish Council can only check that the correct licence is held by boat owners who pay for a mooring on the left hand bank. The Council will request a copy of the Broads Authority Licence at the start of the season as this Licence is only issued by the BA upon sight of the required certificates and insurances.
- iii) Item 10 - The Agency has not yet confirmed that the Parish Council's Health & Safety inspection is adequate for their requirements.
- iv) It was agreed that an arbitration clause is needed.
- v) The councillors confirmed that they would not accept a back-dated lease and would expect the agreement to commence from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.
- vi) The clerk has reminded the Agency that the Council's insurers' wording has not yet been incorporated in the lease.

There were no comments on the management agreement for the staithe.

The clerk presented a draft invoice for the 2011 mooring fees. It was agreed that the clerk should only ask for a Broads Authority licence as this is only issued upon the presentation of the necessary insurance and safety forms. It was accepted that this would not be available until March or April. It was also confirmed that no new gangways would be allowed to be erected on the boat dyke edge.

There were some minor changes to the wording of the Health and Safety Guidelines which are issued with the mooring invoice.

### **Whaling Boards:**

A quote has been received from Amis Piling for £5,068.80 + VAT for 121 metres of whaling board and 48 metres to have the ground level raised. This was agreed as an extension to the previous contract. The company has priced using the same rates as previously. The councillors confirmed that they are pleased with the work done previously.

### **Any Other Business:**

1. Bill Boyle has planted a new rowan tree donated by a resident in Upton churchyard. The councillors thanked Bill for this.

2. Some grass carp have been ordered for the pond, and some perch will be added shortly.
3. The next meeting will be on **Friday, 4th March 2011**. Note the change of date.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Dated: 4th March 2011.