

Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 8th December 2011 in the Village Hall

Present:

Mr Crane Mr Eaves Mrs Stocker Mr Armes
Mr Boyle Mr Leonard-Morgan
James Carswell (District and County Councillor)

PC Paul Fox gave a report on one recorded crime since the last meeting. He informed the meeting that it was his last meeting as beat officer for Upton. The councillors thanked him for his work for the village and for keeping the Council informed about local crimes.

There were four members of the public present; matters raised included dog fouling around the village, the need to leave pedestrian access at the Westfield end of the field and further comments on the proposed wind turbine at the poultry farm.

James Carswell reported on the review of the incinerator planned for Kings Lynn, the recruitment of a team to investigate better broadband in the county, funding for concessionary fares and the re-opening of the Postwick park and ride service on Saturdays.

Apologies:

Mrs Whelpton

Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda:

None.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 3rd and 23rd November 2011 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Nicholas Crane, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Matters Arising:

1. Letters of thanks have been received from Vitalise, the Norfolk Accident Rescue Service and the Ranworth Sewing Group for the recent donations.
2. A letter of objection was received concerning the proposal for a wind turbine on The Windle. It is understood that the consultation period has been extended until 14th December.

Correspondence:

1. There was a request from the Acle Parochial Church Council for a donation towards the grasscutting at Fishley Church, St Mary's. The costs for 2011 were £225. It was agreed to give a donation of £150.
2. It was agreed to give a donation of £30 to the Lowland Search and Rescue. (LGA 10972 s. 137 donation.)
3. The Broads Authority has sent a copy of its Broads Plan.

4. The Police have sent notice that they are no longer responsible for parking enforcement and will no longer be able to issue parking tickets. Traffic wardens have ceased to exist within the constabulary. The responsibility has passed to the Norfolk Parking Partnership at the County Council.

Treasurer's Report:

	£
Balance b/f at 3 rd November 2011	1,928.81
Receipts:	
Refund for fencing posts	179.80
Upton Village Hall – ground rent	1.00
BDC – delegated functions 2nd payment	232.20
BDC – glass recycling credit	293.98
Transfer	12,000.00
Cheques for payment:	
W Stocker – cheque not cashed	(100.35)
W Stocker – replacement cheque	100.35
P James – clerk's fee and exps	355.79
HMRC – PAYE	81.40
Norfolk Pension	80.62
D Starkings – hedge cutting	201.60
Information Commissioner – Data protection	35.00
Norfolk ALC – website training	25.00
George Taylor – maintenance	652.50
Garden Guardian – grasscutting	766.66
Norse – fencing	11,700.00
Acle PC – share of exps	67.76
Acle PCC – grasscutting at Fishley Church	150.00
Norfolk Lowland Search & Rescue (s.137)	30.00
Stewart Technical Services – litter picking	41.98
Balance c/f at 8th December 2011	447.48
BSA	864.48
BSA	4,658.61
Repairs and Renewals Accounts	34,700.77
Total monies	<u>£40,671.34</u>

The above cheques were authorised for payment.

VAT Online

The Council is required to sign up for online services for VAT returns. A direct debit in favour of HM Revenue & Customs was signed.

Planning Matters:

None.

Village Hall and Playing Field:

1. Philip Armes gave a report on village hall activities. The committee is searching for grants for the solar panels.
2. The cheque for the new fencing at the play area will be retained until the remedial work is complete.

Annual Inspection:

1. **Mooring posts at dyke:** it was apparent that each boatowner used a different sort of mooring post; some wooden, some metal, and of different heights. Some posts were loose in the ground and some were so low that they were a trip hazard and at risk of causing damage to mowing equipment. The councillors therefore agreed that it would be better to install a regularised post, three per boat.
It was agreed to accept a quote from Amis Piling for £4 per post and £10 to install each one, with an estimated total of £2,520 + VAT. This is for 100mm round, pressure treated posts 1m long, mechanically driven to 450mm above the ground, directly behind the quay heading. The work will be done from 1st April 2012 so that the cost can be offset against the mooring income for the 12-13 year.
2. **Pond:** the pump was shut down for winter. The councillors thanked the Stewarts for managing the pump over the summer to keep the water level at the required height. 172 units of electricity were used. George Taylor will be asked to weed the path and to remove some of the reeds etc. The wall adjacent to The Haven was felt to be unsafe and Nicholas Crane will meet with the owners to discuss options.
A request to bury some ashes was considered. It was agreed that ashes may be sprinkled around the pond but may not be buried there as it was not felt appropriate to have any sort of memorial. A request to plant a silver birch was refused as it was considered that there is not enough space for an additional tree.
3. **Play area and field:** Philip Armes agreed to repair the support for the slide. The metal play equipment will be repainted. The clerk will find out prices for a replacement play house. It was agreed to accept the sloping metal fence panels for the play area, rather than having them stepped to accommodate the gradient of the land, so long as the contractor adds some earth banks underneath the fencing to prevent access by dogs. The mechanism of the gates needs adjusting. It was agreed to investigate small goal posts, to be located between the football field and the village hall. Nicholas Crane will add an earth bund to the Westfield end of the field and will check to see if another one is needed mid-way along Cargate Lane. The clerk was asked to buy a replacement plastic bench and to investigate a smaller one for children. The new wooden fence adjacent to the old school field was checked and was approved, subject to the posts not becoming loose in the ground. The clerk has reminded the tenant to cut the grass in the old school playing field. It was agreed that the Brownies could plant some trees at the perimeter of the field, over by Westfield, next to the allotments.
4. **Grass triangles at The Green and Horses Head:** the triangle by Broadlands looks very good following the raising of the levels and being reseeded. The clerk will request a new

nameplate for The Green from Broadland District Council. The clerk will arrange for the ditch at Horses Head to be cleaned out and cut back.

5. **Hedges:** Some hedges around the village will be reported to Highways for cutting back from the road.

Waste Collection:

Following the cessation of the parish skip scheme by Broadland District Council, there was some discussion about providing a skip service for residents. Although it was agreed to be a good idea, there were concerns about the responsibilities and legal requirements of collecting public waste so it was agreed not to proceed at present.

Boat Dyke and Staithe:

No new correspondence has been received from the Environment Agency.

Parish Council Website:

Wendy Stocker raised the idea of having a Parish Council website. The clerk is attending a course in January on the Wordpress websites that have been set up for each parish council by the Norfolk Association of Local Councils, for free. It was agreed to start with this website and to link this to village organisations.

Any Other Business:

1. The clerk reported on an oil syndicate run by the Norfolk Rural Community Council, using Anglian Farmers. The clerk will discuss this with the existing syndicates in the village.
2. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 12th January 2012.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Dated: 12th January 2012.