

Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 14th June 2012 in the Village Hall

Present:

Mr Crane	Mrs Stocker	Mr Armes
Mr Boyle	Mrs Whelpton	Mr Leonard-Morgan

Before the meeting started, there was a short presentation from members of the White Horse Development Trust, which aims to buy the White Horse Pub in the village with funding from local residents and grants. It was reported that 90 homes have pledged financial support and enough money has been secured to pay for the first tranche of the purchase. It was suggested that the Parish Council might like to appoint a representative onto the committee in the future. The councillors were glad to learn of the Trust's success and requested regular updates on the project.

There were two members of the public present. Matters raised included grasscutting and a broken finger post. The Council was thanked for moving the village hall noticeboard from the top of the verge in Cargate Lane.

James Carswell, (District and County Councillor), joined the meeting at this point. He explained that he will not be standing at the County Council elections in 2013 on behalf of the Conservative Party. He will be continuing as district councillor. He talked about proposals for RAF Coltishall and the draft site allocations at BDC.

Apologies:

Mr Eaves

Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda:

Anne Whelpton declared a personal interest in the boat dyke.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th May 2012 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Nicholas Crane, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Matters Arising:

1. Children from the Norwich Under 11s will be playing football over the summer on the pitch, but not organised games or training sessions at present. It was agreed that the club would not be charged for these informal events.
2. The Citizens Advice Bureau has sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation of £200.
3. Anne Whelpton reported that BESL has agreed to inspect the track adjacent to the staithe to see if repairs are needed.

Correspondence:

1. Acle PCC has requested additional financial assistance with the cost of the grasscutting at Fishley Church, which is within the civil parish of Upton. It was agreed to increase the donation to £175.
2. It was agreed to send a donation of £150 towards the fundraising appeal for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. (LGA 1972 s.137)
3. A request had been received to cover over the signage at the dyke that directs visitors to the White Horse Pub. After some discussion it was agreed that the Council could not take the decision to change the signage as it could affect the income of the pub, both at present and in the future. Wendy Stocker offered to raise this with the Development Trust.
4. Confirmation has been received that Anglian Water has lifted the hosepipe ban.
5. PCSO Paul McAllister sent a report that there have been no recorded crimes in the village since the last meeting.
6. The Audit Commission is proposing to re-appoint Mazars as external auditors. This was noted.
7. Steve Burt sent notice that he will be removing the bench at Horses Head for maintenance shortly. Steve paid for the bench in memory of his father and has offered to maintain the bench at his own cost.
8. The Diocese of Norwich has suggested an increase in rent on the allotment land at Hanging Hill, from £900 to £1,401 (£120 per acre). After some discussion it was agreed that it was not financially worthwhile to dispute this increase. The tenant will be informed.
9. The Broads Authority is consulting on its updates to the Broads Landscape Character Assessment. There were no comments on the draft document.
10. The Council's insurance for the year to 31st May 2012 has been paid. A 5% saving has been made by signing up for three years. A review of the insurance will be done at the next meeting.
11. £700 will be paid to the Council by Broadland DC as part of Government funding for communities with new housing.

Treasurer's Report:

	£
Balance b/f at 10th May 2012	2,122.31

Receipts:

Mooring fees	877.60
Ranworth Trust – donation	3,426.00

Big Lottery Fund	6,200.00
Norfolk Community Fund	5,000.00
Cheques for payment:	
Cancelled cheque	(100.35)
Environment Agency – drainage rates dd	22.34
P James – clerk’s fee and exps, incl insurance	574.75
HMRC – PAYE & NIC	69.40
Norfolk Pension Fund	94.61
Acle PC – share of exps	31.55
Suffolk CC – new benches	756.00
Garden Guardian – grasscutting	840.45
Justin Nudd – work on allotments	<u>25.00</u>
Balance c/f at 14th June 2012	15,312.16
Savings Account	15,864.70
Savings Account	4,661.36
Repairs and Renewals Accounts	<u>43,116.00</u>
Total monies	<u>£78,954.22</u>

(£19,526 is reserved for the new play area equipment)

Planning Matters:

None.

Village Hall and Playing Field:

1. MP Keith Simpson sent his congratulations on the Council being awarded a grant from the Big Lottery Fund.
2. One grant decision is still outstanding. The equipment will be ordered when this is received. The Council was not successful in its application for outdoor ping pong tables, as the scheme was many times oversubscribed.
3. A letter of thanks has been received from Mrs Horsley for moving the play equipment away from her property.
4. There was a complaint about overhanging vegetation at the verge of the allotment land adjacent to Westfield. Justin Nudd was asked to cut this back.
5. Correspondence was received from local young people requesting a quarter pipe for skateboarding and BMX. The clerk will write to thank them for the correspondence and will inform them of the new equipment planned for the playing field and the new skatepark planned by Acle Parish Council.
6. The balance bridge has broken at the play area. This will be mended as soon as possible.
7. The village hall committee reported on a good day for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, despite the rainy weather.

Boat Dyke and Staithe:

1. There has been no further correspondence from the Environment Agency.
2. The ownership of the car park is unclear. This will be considered at the next meeting.

General Power of Competence:

The General Power of Competence was brought in by the Localism Act 2011 ss1 – 8. The Power gives a local authority the power to do anything which individuals generally may do.

The eligibility requirements are that at least 2/3rds of the councillors must have been elected or stood for election and the clerk must be qualified. It was agreed that the Council met these requirements and it was proposed by Anne Whelpton, seconded by Philip Armes and agreed unanimously that the Council should adopt the General Power of Competence.

Upton Village Hall Committee:

Philip Armes and Wendy Stocker were re-appointed as representatives of the Council on the Village Hall Committee.

Community Resilience Plan:

The clerk reported on training at BDC on producing an Emergency Plan for the village. It was agreed to consider this at the next meeting.

Model Code of Conduct:

The Localism Act requires parish councils to adopt a Code dealing with the conduct that is expected of councillors when they act in their official capacity. This Code has to be adopted by 1st July. BDC has produced a proforma that suits parish councils. It was agreed to adopt this BDC Code and the councillors each signed the Code.

Details on declaring interests will be circulated as soon as possible.

Any Other Business:

1. North Norfolk District Council and Broadland District Council are running gym and exercise sessions at the Recreation Centre on Fridays, for the next six months.
2. The Olympic Torch relay will be visiting Acle on Thursday, 5th July at 8.06 a.m.
3. The tenant of the Old School Playing field has been asked to cut the field as soon as possible.
4. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 12th July 2012.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 12th July 2012.

