

Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 14th February 2013 in the Village Hall

Present:

Mr Crane
Mrs Whelpton

Mr Armes
Mrs Durrant

Mr Brown

Apologies:

Mr Leonard-Morgan
James Carswell (District and County Councillor)

Mrs Pitchers

Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda and Requests for Dispensations:

The meeting was reminded that a dispensation has been given to Anne Whelpton so that she may discuss any issues at the boat dyke despite the proximity to her business.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th January 2013 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Nicholas Crane, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Matters Arising:

1. The Parochial Church Council is to discuss the proposals to add names to roll of honour. Dina Smith has offered to do a thorough check on the names as it was noticed that some are on the written roll on honour but not on the engraved list.
2. Subsequent to the last meeting, Broadland District Council voted to give the subsidy for the change in the number of households paying council tax, whether or not a parish council decided on a 0% increase in precept. The clerk circulated the information to the councillors but it was decided to leave the precept as set at the January meeting.
3. Letters of thanks were received from Age UK, Norfolk Accident Rescue Service, the NSPCC and MAGPAS for the recent donations.

Correspondence:

1. PCSO Paul McAllister sent a report of two recorded crimes since the last meeting.
2. Councillors are invited to attend a seminar on Climate Change on Thursday, 7th March.
3. Norfolk Pension Fund has asked employers to pay their contribution by online direct payment. Nationally, there are proposals to do away with the requirement for two signatures on council payments. The clerk will find out whether the legislation has been passed yet.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance b/f at 10th January 2013

£
457.51

Receipts:

Mooring fees

175.20

Allotment fees	900.00
Share of training grant	20.00
VAT refund	5,425.11
Cheques for payment:	
Transfer to savings account	5,500.00
Norfolk Pension	94.61
HMRC – PAYE	69.40
P James – clerk’s fee and exps	331.39
Beighton PC – share of training	42.00
J Barber – cleaning bus shelter	25.00
Acle PC – share of exps	34.05
Justin Nudd – work at cemetery	310.00
Ian Nicholls – work at cemetery	<u>310.00</u>
Balance c/f at 14th February 2013	261.37
Savings account	4,931.18
Reserve account	11,741.00
Repairs and Renewals Accounts	<u>35,188.00</u>
Total monies	<u>£52,121.55</u>

It was agreed to invest £35,000 in a Barclays Bond, for nine months, with no withdrawals permitted, at 1.2% interest, and to open an Active Savings Account, at 0.38%, compared with the 0.05% currently being earned.

Planning Matters:

1. Between meetings there was an application from the **Environment Agency** at Upton Marshes, non-material amendment to PP BA/2006/3695/HISTAP to install platforms at 20m instead of 16m intervals. The councillors had no objections to the plans.

Village Hall and Playing Field:

Nothing to report.

Grasscutting Contract:

Garden Guardian; £4,151.00 to cut the grass 22 times between mid March and the end of October, for the churchyard, cemetery, playing field, play area, verge at old school playing field in Church Road. £1,273 to cut the grass at the moorings, 15 times from April to October, and to strim between mooring posts. £293 to cut the grass triangle outside Broadlands and the verge at Southend 16 times. This is a 2.8% increase on last year’s costs and was accepted.

Boat Dyke and Staithe:

The clerk sent out the mooring invoices. There have been two complaints about the 5.5% increase in the mooring fee. The councillors confirmed that the rate was decided on by comparing it with other local mooring costs. The increase in fees compared with previous years was agreed to be appropriate, given that the grass is now cut regularly and that a great deal of work had been done on improving the whaling boards etc. The solicitor, Nick Hancox, has confirmed that he has heard nothing more from the Environment Agency about the lease.

Churchyard:

The councillors met at the churchyard and cemetery to consider works needed on the trees, hedges and memorials. Justin Nudd and Ian Nicholls have spent three days cutting back the hedges and tidying around the memorials. Apex Treecare quoted £525 to do the work on the boundary trees – raising all crowns to 7’, cutting the ivy, and removing the smaller lime tree. The clerk will contact the neighbours to ensure that they are happy with the proposed work. The Parochial Church Council will assist in obtaining a faculty to enable the work to be done. There was also a quote of £1,050 for three days’ work in churchyard. As some of the work has been done, it was agreed to authorise two days work for £700, including the removal of two self-sown sycamores that are damaging graves. The arising wood will be available for parishioners to take for their own use.

The councillors were invited to meet with the PCC on 26th February to consider works needed in the churchyard.

Any Other Business:

1. Debbie Durrant reported that little land in the village is considered to be at risk of flooding now that the flood alleviation works have been done.
2. It was reported that the culvert in Prince of Wales Road that receives the highways water from the middle of the village, is full and needs clearing out. The clerk will contact NCC Highways to ask them to clear it out.
3. It was reported that the river bank has settled east of the boat dyke and is low. This has been reported to BESL.
4. Debbie reported that The White Horse group is investigating the purchase of a defibrillator.
5. The Broads Authority confirmed that works at Fishley Hall fall within the description of permitted development and do not need planning permission.
6. There was a discussion about the possibility of a bus shelter at the village hall. It was explained that local residents had resisted the idea of a shelter in the past, but this could be considered again. The clerk was asked to contact NCC to ask that the bus drivers do not pull up outside people’s drives as the road is being eroded. At Southend the bus no longer stops at the bus shelter, but stops outside the houses.
7. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 14th March 2013.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 14th March 2013.