

Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 12th September 2013 in the Village Hall

Present:

Mr Crane	Mr Armes	Mrs Whelpton	Mr Leonard-Morgan
Mrs Pitchers	Mrs Durrant	Mr Brown	

There was one member of the public present; matters raised included parish noticeboards. Tom Garrod, Norfolk County Councillor, gave a report on the need to make savings of £189m at the County Council.

Apologies:

District Councillor Sue Lawn.

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

Anne Whelpton reminded councillors of her interest in the boat dyke.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 11th July and 20th August 2013 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Nicholas Crane, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Matters Arising:

1. Councillors from Acle, Upton and Beighton met with MP Keith Simpson. Topics discussed included the White House junction on the A47 and the need for a pedestrian crossing at the Hermitage in Acle.
2. The Annual Return has been completed by Mazars, the external auditors, without comment.
3. The village sign in the pond will be cleaned shortly. The councillors discussed methods to improve the appearance of the faded fibreglass.
4. Nicholas Crane reported that the water level in the pond was raised successfully using the pump. He will drain down the pump ready for the winter. Nicholas was thanked for this.
5. There has been further correspondence about a third children's football team using the pitch. After some discussion it was agreed to allow the third team to play on the field, so long as it was understood that the bookings at the village hall must always have priority. It was agreed to trial letting the field to the third team and to charge £20 for the three teams, per week. Ginny Pitchers offered to discuss this with the village hall committee.

Correspondence:

1. Residents were invited to sign the petition for the Rural Fair Share campaign; over 100 cross-party MPs are campaigning to ensure public services in rural areas receive a fair share of Government Funding. All the councillors signed the petition.

2. NCC sent notice of the forthcoming public consultation on the 2014/15 budget, starting on 19th September.
3. The clerk was contacted under the Freedom of Information Act to ascertain the rates for charging for the moorings, per metre. The current charges are set out per foot. The clerk has since put a page on the Council's website to say that the moorings are charged at £62.34 per metre or £19 per foot length of boat. This has closed the correspondence.
4. The AGM of the Norfolk Association of Local Councils will take place on Saturday, 5th October at 10.30. This was noted.
5. The Norfolk Rural Community Council is holding a public meeting about setting up a Good Neighbours Scheme in Acle, on 17th September at 7.30. This has been advertised on the Parish Council's website.
6. Upton has been included in the area to have access to high-speed fibre broadband by the end of the year, but the new cabinets only serve a limited area. Residents will be able to check if they can receive the new service via the website www.betterbroadbandnorfolk.co.uk.
7. There will be a Safer Neighbourhood Team meeting at Acle Police Station on Wednesday, 18th September at 7 pm. Time is allocated at the beginning of the meeting for the public to raise issues or concerns.
8. The Greater Norwich Development Partnership has sent details of the publication of Suggested Main Modifications, Additional (minor) modifications, Addendum to the Sustainability Appraisal and Addendum to the Habitats Regulations Assessment.
9. Councillors are invited to attend a Recycling Morning at Postwick village hall on 17th September.
10. Acle is holding its second public consultation event for its Neighbourhood Plan, setting out the draft policies. The Bure Room, Acle on Saturday, 12th October from 10.00 – 2.00. This has been advertised locally.
11. NCC is holding a Hazardous Waste Amnesty Day at Caister on 19th and 20th October.
12. BDC invited councillors to attend a Housing and Growth Forum on 24th September.

Treasurer's Report:

	£
Balance b/f at 20th August 2013	435.10

Receipts:

Mooring fees	629.40
Grazing fee 2 months	176.68
War graves Commission	20.00
Donation for memorial repairs	100.00

Transfer from savings account	3,000.00
Cheques for payment:	
Pauline James – clerk’s fee and exps	324.55
HMRC – PAYE	75.40
Norfolk Pension	104.90
Garden Guardian – grasscutting	857.56
Nicholas Hancox – solicitors fees	655.20
Mazars – audit fee	360.00
Stewart Technical Services – litter picking	37.47
Justin Nudd – work on playing field	106.00
Acle PC – share of exps	36.74
Express Pest Control – two wasps nests	<u>50.00</u>
Balance c/f at 12th September 2013	1,753.36
Savings Account (int rec’d £0.93)	6,437.69
Savings Account	0.29
Active Saver	21,340.00
Repairs and Renewals Accounts £35,000 + 7,383.82	<u>42,383.82</u>
Total monies	<u>£71,915.16</u>

The above cheques were agreed for payment.

It was noted that the clerk’s salary has increased by 15 pence per hour, backdated to 1st April, in accordance with the recommendations of the National Association of Local Councils.

Planning Results from Broadland District Council:

1. Cranleigh House, (former Amber Lodge) – change of use from hotel to residential – full approval.
2. 6 Riverview Drive – single storey front extension – full approval.
3. The Gables, 6 Church Road – refused consent to thin the crown of the horse chestnut and reduce the canopy by 2.5m. The crown may be lifted to give 3m ground clearance. Refused consent to reduce the canopy of the ash tree by 3m.

Village Hall and Playing Field:

Two wasp nests were treated on the field, near to Westfield. Justin Nudd has cut the grass around the small trees and this area is now looking very good.

There was a report that young people had been messing about on the car park late at night. This has been reported to the Police.

There was a complaint about a large amount of dog poo on the playing field. This is unacceptable as the field is used by young children to play football. It was agreed to consider CCTV to find out who is allowing their dog to foul on the field.

Boat Dyke and Staithe:

The Health & Safety inspection of the boat dyke, and pond, was carried out in July. No issues were raised.

Nicholas Crane, Anne Whelpton, Ginny Pitchers and the clerk met with the Council's solicitor, Nick Hancox. A copy of his subsequent letter to the Environment Agency summarising the Council's comments on the draft lease has been received.

Churchyard:

Several memorials were laid down during the inspection, because they were unsafe. Some stones were under guarantee and were repaired free of charge. The repairs were carried out shortly afterwards and the families, where known, will be invited to make a donation towards the cost of the maintenance. The cost is £2,500 + VAT, before any donations.

It has been confirmed that the brass WW1 memorial in the church has a complete list of names. The clerk will obtain quotes for a new wooden plaque for the WW2 names.

More quotes will also be obtained for the repairs to the table tombs.

Work to investigate the foundations for the front wall to the churchyard will be done shortly.

Noticeboards:

Mike Brown gave his recommendations for the repair and renovation of the three parish noticeboards. It was agreed to proceed with the repairs. It was agreed to add the name of the Parish Council in lettering on the top of the boards. Residents will be advised that a board might be removed for a short time during repair.

Malcolm Stewart was thanked for his work in making and repairing the boards in the past.

Anne Whelpton kindly agreed to supply some materials for the work.

Any Other Business:

1. The clerk wrote to the manager of The Broadlands to ask that the staff drive more slowly through the village.
2. There was some discussion about clearing out the drain in Prince of Wales Road. The residents were advised to contact NCC Highways to ask for the ditch to be cleared out.
3. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 10th October 2013.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated: 10th October 2013.