

**Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 in the Village Hall**

**Present:**

Philip Armes (Chairman)	Debbie Durrant (Vice-chairman)
Anne Whelpton	Mike Brown
William Leonard-Morgan	Nigel Brennan
Pauline James (Parish Clerk)	

There were three members of the public present. Matters raised included the application to remove the piling on the right hand side of the dyke.

**Apologies:**

Ginny Pitchers

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

Anne Whelpton reminded councillors of her interest in the boat dyke and Debbie Durant reported that she keeps her boat in the dyke.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd December 2015 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Philip Armes, as Chairman of the Parish Council.

**Matters Arising:**

1. Norfolk County Council has refused to reinstate the reflector posts at the junction with Church Road, saying that they are trying to reduce street furniture. NCC Highways Rangers carried out various repairs to the highways in Upton recently.
2. NCC does not think that the pond in Boat Dyke Road is under their ownership but supports some maintenance of the area.
3. The East Anglian Air Ambulance sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation of £100.

**Correspondence:**

1. PCSO Paul McAllister sent a report of one recorded crime in December.
2. The Audit Commission ceased to exist on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. A new company, Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd, has been created to take over the appointment of external auditors and the setting of audit fees from 2017. Parish councils will be automatically absorbed into this regime unless they opt out. The councillors agreed to join the new company.
3. Details of Broadland District Council's Handyperson+ service have been publicised on the website and Facebook pages.

4. The BDC Top Dog scheme was launched in the village with residents being encouraged to sign up to being responsible dog owners and being rewarded with a Top Dog ribbon available from the Community Shop. The clerk was sent a copy of a complaint to BDC about dog fouling on Upton marshes. Norfolk Wildlife Trust have been asked to consider additional signage to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs.
5. Acle Academy sent notice that it is hoping to join the Wensum Trust, a new multi-academy trust.
6. Highways England said that they are considering re-laying the junction at the White House on A47 so as to prevent the right turn manoeuvre from the eastbound A47. In the longer term it is hoped that the improvements to the Burlingham stretch of road will incorporate improvements to the junction.

<b><u>Treasurer's Report:</u></b>	£
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Mooring fees	402.00
Grazing rent	91.66
Football club rent - November	30.00
Village Hall – ground rent	1.00
Bank interest	265.06
<b>Cheques:</b>	
D Starkings Ltd – hedge cutting	210.00
<b>Direct Debits:</b>	
Information Commissioner – Data Protection	35.00
<b>Online payments:</b>	
Norfolk Pension Fund	105.08
P James – clerk's fee and expenses SO	300.00
- balance	19.81
Acle PC – share of exps	42.00
HMRC- clerk's PAYE	76.40
Balance c/f at 6th January 2016	103,144.90

The balance includes a reserve of £40,382 payable to the Environment Agency.

The above payments were agreed.

The bank reconciliation as at 24<sup>th</sup> December 2015 was checked by Debbie Durrant.

The annual list of standing orders and direct debits was reviewed and approved.

### **Planning:**

It was noted that a barn at Windle Farm received prior approval for the change of use to a dwelling.

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

Nothing to report.

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

1. No correspondence had been received from the Environment Agency.
2. The BESL planning application for the removal of the piling on the right hand side of the dyke will be considered at the Broads Authority planning committee meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January, but the members will be asked to recommend a site visit on 29<sup>th</sup> January and then to consider the application again on 5<sup>th</sup> February. The Broads Authority has written to people who objected to the removal of the piling on the right hand side of the dyke to ask if they would be interested in taking on the maintenance of Piling. The councillors asked that they be invited to attend the site meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council could not take on the responsibility for the piling. Councillors believe that the Broads Authority has responsibility for keeping the dyke navigable, and that all parties have a duty to keep the parish staithe open and available to residents. Anne Whelpton offered to attend the BA planning meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Budget and Precept for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017:**

The clerk presented actual versus budget figures for the 9 months to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, with explanations for variances. This was noted.

The budget for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 was considered, together with the schedule of reserves for repairs and renewals.

The precept was set at £7,000 and moorings were set at £20 per foot, both as last year. The clerk's fee was set at £16.552 per hour for 6.635 hours. Cemetery fees were increased slightly.

It was agreed that any surplus for 15/16 would be transferred to the reserve for piling.

### **Any Other Business:**

1. It was reported that there is a tree leaning over the footpath by the picnic area at the staithe. The clerk will check if it is on Environment Agency land.
2. The clerk was asked to contact the neighbours at the vicarage to find out their decision on the maintenance of the trees along the boundary.
3. The clerk was asked to report a ridge of mud along Hanging Hill and Prince of Wales Road. It was noted that the street cleaner is due in the village shortly so the situation will be reviewed after the cleaning. The sweeper has also been asked to target the gravel on Cargate Lane at the entrance to Westfield.

4. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed.....  
Chairman

Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016.