# Minutes of the Online Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 3rd December 2020 at 7.30pm

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 came into effect on 4th April and permit online meetings and suspend the requirements of certain meetings to be held at certain times of the year.

The meeting was therefore held online via Zoom.

## Present:

Philip Armes (Chairman), Debbie Durrant (Vice-Chairman)

Ginny Pitchers, William Leonard-Morgan, Anne Whelpton and Laura Davey

Nigel Brennan (also District Councillor)

Also present: Pauline James (Parish Clerk)

County councillor Fran Whymark gave a report: Norfolk County Council is considering its budget and looks likely to increase its share of the council tax by 1.99% for general costs and 3% to for adult social services. Broadland District Council is launching a lottery to fund local good causes. BDC has also been considering a revised Housing Allocation Policy.

Apologies:   
None.

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

None.

## Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th November 2020 were agreed to be correct, and will be signed by Philip Armes as Chairman of the Parish Council, and returned to the clerk.

## Matters Arising: None.

**Correspondence:**

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| 1. | Acle & District Men’s Shed has asked for a donation. It was agreed to leave this until some Upton residents had joined the group. |
| 2. | Sue Kent asked if the Parish Council would like to pay £48 towards the cost of them returning all their papers to their clients. The councillors decided not to pay this fee. |

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**Treasurer’s Report:**

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| **Receipts:** | £ |
| Mr & Mrs Lubbock – monthly grazing fee | 99.17 |
| Mooring fees | 198.71 |
| **Payments between meetings:** |  |
| Julie Boram – cleaning bus shelter | 26.00 |
| **Payments:** |  |
| Pauline James – clerk’s fee and exps, including foodbank | 251.85 |
| * Standing order | 300.00 |
| Norfolk Pension Fund E’ers and E’ees | 161.62 |
| HMRC – PAYE | 107.00 |
| URM – collecting glass | 7.20 |
| Acle PC – share of expenses | 146.69 |
| Garden Guardian – grasscutting | 1,000.95 |
| Balance c/f at 3rd December 2020 | 201,281.25 |

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| The total amount includes a reserve of £86,565 for rent payable to the Environment Agency under the terms of the draft lease and earmarked reserves for repairs and replacement of assets of £91,428.  The General Fund balance is £23,288.25.  Ginny Pitchers had checked the November online payments to the relevant bank statement and the clerk’s recent bank reconciliation.  The payments were authorised. |

## Planning:

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| None. |

## Cemetery and Churchyard:

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| 1. | The wet weather recently means that it has been too wet to sow the grass seed in the extension. |

## Boat Dyke:

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| 1. | Andy Hamilton has filled in some of the potholes at the car park. |
| 2. | A boat at the staithe appears to have been abandoned. The clerk will send details to Fran Whymark, who is also on the Broads Authority. |

## Budget and Precept:

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| 1. | The clerk went through the draft budget. The clerk’s fee remains at Scale Point 37, £18.05, for 7.25 hours. The pension cost increases by 0.5%. The grasscutting cost increases by 2%. The budget shows an expected surplus of £10,264 for 2020-21, after transfers to and from earmarked reserves, and £4,792 for 2021-22. |
| 2. | It was therefore agreed to keep the precept at £9,130, which works out at an average of £34.06pa for a Band D home. It was also agreed to leave the mooring fee at £21.50 per foot, + VAT (£70.54/m + VAT), and to leave the cemetery fees at the existing prices. |

## Any Other Business and Items for the Next Agenda:

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| 1. | Ginny Pitchers reported that many verges in the village have been churned up by farm vehicles and large lorries. |
| 2. | It has been confirmed that the two defibrillators in the village are checked monthly by Mr Wallis-Gare. |
| 3. | The village hall will remain closed until the New Year. |
| 4. | There has been a lot of mud on the road on Hanging Hill and flytipping on the back road to South Walsham. |
| 5. | Nigel Brennan reported that the trees at the village hall car park cause issues with television reception for nearby properties. It was agreed to ask George Taylor to reduce the height of the trees. |
| 6. | The next meeting will be on Thursday, 7th January at 7.30pm by Zoom. |

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35pm

Signed:………………………………………. Dated:………………………………..

Chairman