# Minutes of the Online Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 4th March 2021 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 and Nigel Brennan (also District Councillor)

Also present: Pauline James (Parish Clerk) and County councillor Fran Whymark

Apologies:   
Laura Davey, William Leonard-Morgan and Anne Whelpton

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

## None.

## Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th February 2021 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:**

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| 1. | MP Jerome Mayhew replied that he has raised the question of extending the legislation to permit online meetings with the relevant minister. |
| 2. | The Post Office replied that there are no plans to extend the mobile post office service to Upton. |
| 3 | Following a further report about rats at the pond it was agreed to put up some temporary signage asking residents not to leave food near to the pond. |
| 4 | The grit has been spread at the boat dyke car park. |
| 5 | A new officer at Broadland District Council says he has asked NPLaw for an update about the pond. |

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| 6 | A new willow tree has been planted at the pond, kindly provided by Anne Whelpton. |
| 7. | Ginny Pitchers reported on correspondence from the 1970s asking residents near to the pond to keep the ditches clear for drainage. |

**Correspondence:**

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| 1. | The Broadland Benefice is being re-allocated; Upton, South Walsham and Fishley will join the Blofield Benefice, with Blofield, Hemblington and North Burlingham, with their rector, Kevin Billson. The clerk will update the Welcome Pack to include these details. |
| 2. | Kevin Billson is happy to co-ordinate any events in the case of a death of a senior royal. Ginny will be our council representative. |
| 3. | The councillors were pleased to accept a request to site another bench at the boat dyke. |
| 4. | The NHS has sent details of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing at Acle Recreation Centre for one week. It is not yet known when vaccination will begin in Acle. |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

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| **Receipts:** | £ |
| Mr & Mrs Lubbock – monthly grazing fee | 101.35 |
| Mooring fees | 3,035.11 |
| Burial and memorial fees | 250.00 |
| **Payments:** |  |
| Pauline James – clerk’s fee and exps | 186.66 |
| * Standing order | 300.00 |
| Norfolk Pension Fund - E’ers and E’ees | 161.62 |
| HMRC – PAYE | 107.20 |
| D Starkings – hedgecutting | 204.00 |
| Acle PC – share of costs | 50.28 |
| Balance c/f at 4th February 2021 | 202,477.68 |

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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 £24,484.68, before amount payable to the Environment Agency.  Ginny Pitchers had checked the February online payments to the relevant bank statement.  The clerk presented actual v budget figures for the 12 months, before adjustments for the year end debtors and creditors. There were no questions on this.  The payments were authorised. |

## Planning:

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| None. |

## Cemetery and Churchyard:

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| 1. | The clerk will confirm acceptance of the quote for the manufacture and fitting of the replacement gates. |
| 2. | It was noted that the recent burial was the first in the final row at the cemetery. |
| 3. | It was agreed that Norfolk Wildlife Trust be asked to carry out a wildlife survey in the churchyard. |
| 4. | The ground is still too wet for the grass seed to be sown at the cemetery extension. |

## Boat Dyke:

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| 1. | During the recent storms, a large tree fell down across the car park. David Burton and George Taylor cut up the tree. Smaller pieces were burnt on site and residents have removed most of the larger pieces. George will be asked to cut the ivy on the remaining trees to reduce the risk of a tree being blown over. |
| 2. | It was agreed to ask George to check all the mooring posts and re-secure as necessary. |
| 3. | A boat owner has asked for consideration to be given to a charging point for electric boat motors. It was agreed that this would be more appropriate at the boatyard for now. |

## Pond

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| 1. | Nothing to report. |

**Village hall and car park:**

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| 1. | Ginny reported that the committee is reviewing Government guidance and will re-open the hall when it is safe to do so. |

**Allotments:**

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| 1. | There has been a complaint about the condition of the allotment at Westfield. It was agreed that the clerk should write to the tenant to encourage more active management. |

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

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| 1. | Ginny reported that she had advised two boys about fishing at the pond. It weas noted that the sign advising that only children may fish at the pond is submerged under water at present. |
| 2. | Some flytipping will be reported to Broadland District Council. |
| 3. | There has been an increase in people not picking up after their dogs. |
| 4. | The clerk was asked to make a £50 donation to Foxy Lodge out of the remaining Donations budget, as thanks to Janet Southgate who continues to litter pick around the village. |
| 5. | The next meeting will be on Thursday, 1st April at 7.30pm via Zoom. |

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.45 pm

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

Chairman