**Upton with Fishley Parish Council – Annual Report**

As seven people stood to be parish councillors for Upton with Fishley Parish Council, and there are seven spaces, all seven people are automatically elected as councillors. The old council stands down on 9th May and the new council begins on the same day. The parish councillors will be: Philip Armes, Nigel Brennan, Ian Cook, Laura Davey, Debbie Durrant, William Leonard-Morgan and Lee Smith. We thank Ginny Pitchers who decided not to re-stand, for her many years as clerk and then as parish councillor.

The cemetery extension is coming along nicely. The land has been fenced and new hedge plants put in, with a grant from Broadland District Council. Council chairman Philip Armes has cut various footpaths around the village, with our new mower, to supplement the infrequent cutting by Norfolk County Council. Parish councillor Nigel Brennan moves our vehicle-activated sign to various locations around the village. We would like to set up a Community Speedwatch scheme for the village, whereby three volunteers stand by the road to monitor speeds. If you have a little free time and would like to help out, please get in touch with the parish clerk.

Keith’s Meadow on Church Road is being planted with up with wildflowers and new trees, to be an open space for the village. Pedestrian gates will be put in so that people can walk from Church Road, through the meadow, to the play area and village hall. Thanks to Simon Taylor who has sorted out a grant for the hedge planting and formed a group of volunteers to do the planting.

The No Cold Calling Zone has been in place for a few years now around the village and is aimed at preventing salespeople calling at your door uninvited. If someone does knock on your door, trying to sell you something, remind them that it is a No Cold Calling Zone, take their name, and the registration of their vehicle, and ring Citizens Advice on 08454 04 05 06. Please point out to them that there are signs at all entrances to the village and ask them to leave the village.

The Parish Council pays for the grass cutting around the village and looks after the churchyard, cemetery, play area, playing field, boat dyke, staithe and pond. We give our comments on local planning applications and are consulted on many local and national issues. Residents are welcome to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting, and any issues for the agenda should be sent to the clerk about a week before the date of the meeting. The agenda for each meeting is posted on the three village noticeboards and on the website.

The meetings are usually held on the 1st Thursday of each month, (no meeting is planned for August), at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

We have a Parish Council website for Council matters and local events, and useful information. Take a look at: www.uptonwithfishleypc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk. There is also a Parish Council Facebook page.

The **Annual Meeting of the Parish of Upton with Fishley** is on **Thursday, 11th May at 7.30pm, in the village hall, with refreshments from 7.00pm.** This is **your** meeting and not the Council’s. This is a great opportunity for you to raise issues or concerns about village matters, although you can of course contact the parish clerk all year round.

This meeting is followed by the next meeting of the Parish Council. Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 will be available at the meeting and on the website after the meeting.
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