# Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 1st June 2023 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

## Present:

Philip Armes (Chairman)

Nigel Brennan, Laura Davey, William Leonard-Morgan and Lee Smith

Also present: Pauline James (Parish Clerk)

There were six members of the public present; matters raised included the presence of rats around the village pond and neighbouring properties. The clerk will approach BDC for assistance.

County Councillor Fran Whymark gave a report on changes to the booking system for GP surgeries, pharmacists to be able to prescribe certain items and a prescription kiosk in Stalham.

District Councillor Nigel Brennan reminded the meeting that South Norfolk Council and Broadland District Council have moved to their new premises at the Horizon Centre at the Broadland Business Park.

**Apologies:**

Debbie Durrant (Vice-Chairman) and Ian Cook

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

Nigel Brennan told the meeting that he is on the Broadland Planning Committee so he will not be commenting on any planning applications at Parish Council meetings.  
  
**Minutes:**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th May 2023 were agreed to be correct, and were signed by Philip Armes as Chairman of the Parish Council.

**Matters Arising:**

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| 1. | Philip Armes and the clerk reported on their visit to a neighbouring property adjacent to the old playing field. |
| 2. | The clerk sent the Parish Council’s objections to the Planning Inspector for the appeal re Land adj.39 Church Road. Notice of the appeal had been advertised on the Parish Council’s website. |

**Correspondence:**

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| 1. | The clerk reported on a local campaign to ask NCC to re-open the Park & Ride at Postwick. NCC has reported that they will not re-open the Postwick site until usage has increased at other sites. |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

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| **Receipts:** | £ |
| Mooring fees | 624.79 |
| **May Payments:** |  |
| HMRC – VAT | 4,160.00 |
| **June Payments:** |  |
| Pauline James – clerk’s fee and expenses | 273.80 |
| Standing order | 300.00 |
| Norfolk Pension Fund – E’ers and E’ees | 191.98 |
| HMRC – PAYE | 125.20 |
| Acle PC – share of expenses | 42.76 |
| Gallagher – insurance | 1,195.95 |
| Broadland Tree Warden Network – donation | 50.00 |
| Simon Taylor – hose and reel | 116.62 |
| Garden Guardian – grasscutting for May | 1,201.50 |
| Balance c/f as at 1st June 2023 | 234,569.12 |

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| The reserve for the boat dyke is £117,114 and earmarked reserves are £106,097. General, unallocated reserves are therefore £11,358. Lee Smith had checked the May online payments to the relevant bank statement. The clerk shared an Actual v Budget report to date. The payments were approved. |

## Planning:

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| 1. | **The Pump House, The Windle** - Installation of 270 kWp ground mounted solar photovoltaic array for renewable energy generation - 2023/1237.  There were no objections to the plans. |
| 2. | **Upton Grange, Acle** **Road** - Demolish existing dwelling and replace with energy efficient dwelling and garage - 2023/1378.  There were no objections to the plans. |

## Cemetery and Churchyard:

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| 1. | The grass appears not to have been cut on the right-hand side. The clerk will contact Garden Guardian. |
| 2. | Philip Armes will speak to Nicholas Crane about access to the cemetery from the farmyard. |
| 3. | The clerk will order a 1.2m bench for the area near the ashes. A resident is to give a donation towards the cost. |

## Boat Dyke and car park:

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| 1. | It was note that the defibrillator from the boatyard was used recently. Ken Wallis-Gare has confirmed that there are replacement pads in the box, and he will obtain another set shortly. |

**Village hall, car park, play area and playing field:**

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| 1 | There had been no more information about the cost of a defibrillator but it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay one half of the cost. |

**Keith’s Meadow (Old School Playing Field):**

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| 1. | Simon Taylor sent a report: *- A small 1m x 1m 'test' area which I scarified and then seeded with Yellow Rattle last October has germinated very successfully - that's good news as it shows this method should be effective when done on a larger scale later this year (see below)*  *- The brambles which were cleared along the farm boundary earlier this year have now been organized into 2 'habitat piles' (hedgehogs, insects etc) by a small team last week.*  *- Following installation of an outside water tap at the Village Hall, regular watering of new trees, hedging and garden plants has now begun and will be carried out as required from now on by myself or another member of the group using a 200m length of hose.*  *- Now that regular mowing of the site has begun a 'W' shaped area (containing the newly planted trees) and 2 'islands' are being left uncut - Lucy Seely from NWT will be doing a botanical survey on June 29th, after which I can plan the best approach to beginning the process of improving the diversity of locally occurring wildflowers in these areas .... this will no doubt involve a cut during mid-late August, removal of hay, scarification and seeding with a mix containing Yellow Rattle.*  *- Jess Wilson has nearly finished the 2 signs which I assume can be sited at each end of the field by the new gates once they are installed.* |
| 2. | Philip had yet to meet with Ian Cook to agree on the site for the pedestrian gates. It was agreed that the gate in the west boundary could be fitted at any time. Philip will speak to George Taylor about getting that gate installed, as that would help families who live on Church Road. |

**Highways and Pond:**

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| 1. | The clerk will contact BDC about assistance with rats in and around the pond as it is believed that some neighbouring properties have uncut vegetation which is perhaps encouraging the rats. |

**Any Other Business:**

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| 1. | The clerk was asked to get the bottle bank emptied. |

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 6th July at 7.30pm, in the village hall. All residents are very welcome to attend, to raise local issues.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm

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

Chairman