# Minutes of the Meeting of Upton with Fishley Parish Council held on Thursday, 5th October 2023 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

## Present:

Philip Armes (Chairman), William Leonard-Morgan and Lee Smith.

Also present: Pauline James (Parish Clerk)

There were no members of the public present.

County Councillor Fran Whymark sent a report including the need for residents to keep ditches clear on their land, a search for volunteer drivers for the Travel Norfolk Car Scheme and Broadland District Council’s plans to buy seven properties as housing for those in need of temporary accommodation.

**Apologies:**

Debbie Durrant (Vice-Chairman), Laura Davey and Ian Cook.

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

None.  
  
**Minutes:**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th September 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. | The councillors had enjoyed the opening event at Keith’s Meadow. |

**Correspondence:**

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| 1. | BDC has invited councillors to attend a Town and Parish Summit on Thursday, 9th November at 9.30am.  The clerk attended BDC’s Parish and Town Council Forum in September; there was a report on forthcoming advice to parishes re watercourses and flooding. |
| 2. | On 29 August, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, (DLUHC), announced an amendment to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill to facilitate the delivery of new homes, planning to make it clear that new housing could be built in areas currently affected by Nutrient Neutrality.  However, following the defeat of the proposals in the House of Lords, these will no longer form part of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill which, in its amended form, is aiming to achieve Royal Assent before the King’s speech on the 7th November.  The DLUHC has delivered the following guidance:  “In the near term, it is important that planning decision-making continues in the areas affected on the basis of the current legal framework – meaning that where mitigation is available, councils and developers should seek to progress sites.  Natural England will continue to deliver the existing Nutrient Mitigation Scheme in line with the Environment Secretary’s direction of 28 July 2022. Further details about plans for the government’s support for mitigation schemes led by councils and private organisations, including next steps on the DLUHC’s Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund, will be set out shortly.” |
| 3. | It was agreed to give a donation of £250 to the Royal British Legion. |
| 4. | It was agreed to give a donation of £50 to Faith Animal Sanctuary. |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

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| **Receipts:** | £ |
| Mooring fees | 93.40 |
| Grazing rent | 100.83 |
| BDC – second half precept | 4,694.50 |
| **October payments:** |  |
| Pauline James – clerk’s fee and expenses | 224.16 |
| Standing order | 300.00 |
| Norfolk Pension Fund – E’ers and E’ees | 191.98 |
| HMRC – PAYE | 125.20 |
| SJB – H&S inspection | 120.00 |
| Simon Taylor – equipment hire, bulbs and petrol | 271.99 |
| BDC – second half waste collection from cemetery | 103.22 |
| UVHG – hire of room for history group | 24.00 |
| Farmbits – pedestrian gates | 565.88 |
| J Bond – daffodil bulbs | 76.80 |
| Acle PC – share of expenses | 113.64 |
| Fairhaven Pre-School | 100.00 |
| Garden Guardian – grasscutting for August | 1,201.50 |
| Balance c/f as at 5th October 2023 | 230,117.70 |

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| The reserve for the boat dyke is £117,114 and earmarked reserves are £106,097. General, unallocated reserves are therefore £6,907.  The standing order of £1,401.00 for the Glebe allotment rent is due to be paid shortly.  Lee Smith and William Leonard-Morgan had checked the September online payments to the relevant bank statement. and the clerk’s bank reconciliation dated 3rd October 2023. The clerk shared an Actual v Budget report to date. The payments were approved. |

## Planning:

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| 1. | Provisional Tree Preservation Order 2023 No:BD0625 – Land east and west of Marsh Road. The councillors had no objections to the proposal. |

## Planning – Decisions by Broadland District Council:

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| 1. | **Broadlands Farm, Horses Head** - notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use and associated building works of agricultural buildings to two dwelling houses - 2023/2252 – approved. |
| 2. | There were no changes to the confidential list of enforcement cases. |

**Policy for nominating a tree for a Tree Preservation Order:**

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| 1. | There was some discussion about drafting a policy for nominating a tree to BDC for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting. It was noted that any resident could nominate any tree to BDC for consideration. |
| 2. | Lee Smith confirmed that the grass on the top of the table tomb and the edges of the access path could now be cut. |

## Cemetery and Churchyard:

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| 1. | The clerk reported she had heard that the current hedge-cutting contractor would no longer be cutting hedges. Philip Armes offered to speak to another possible contractor. |

## Boat Dyke and car park:

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| 1. | The clerk reported complaints about a mooring post which had come out. George Taylor has been asked to replace it. The clerk had also asked George to look at some trees at the staithe which might need some work over the winter. |
| 2. | It was agreed that a fishing club could have a temporary mooring over the winter. |
| 3. | One boat mooring fee remains unpaid. It was agreed that the clerk should apply to the courts. |
| 4. | The clerk was asked to contact the relevant authority to report that self-sown trees are growing in the soak dyke on the right-hand side of the dyke. |

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

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| 1 | Martin Pitchers will trim the loke at Westfield and put old carpet squares around the tree trunks to reduce weed growth. |
| 2. | Ginny Pitchers sent a report of lots of litter on the playing field. |
| 3. | The Village Hall sent a report which included recent maintenance and bookings. |

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

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| 1. | Simon Taylor sent a report:  He suggested constructing a compost bin in the far corner. This was agreed.  He will apply for further grants where possible. This was agreed.  He will remove the broken chain link fence on south side. This was noted.  It was noted that he has bought yellow rattle seeds and daffodil bulbs.  It was agreed to purchase some general seed, costing about £100.  It was noted that he borrowed a petrol auger, to plant daffodil bulbs round the trees. |
| 2. | There was some discussion about whether to allow for a few allotments. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting. |

**Highways and Pond:**

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| 1. | It was agreed to consult with residents at Southend as to whether to try to remove and sell the bus shelter, as it is believed that no one uses it. |
| 2. | The clerk has contacted NCC to ask why the new village gateways have been delayed. |

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd November 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 8.50pm.

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

Chairman