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

The current parish councillors are: Philip Armes, Nigel Brennan, Ian Cook, Laura Davey, Debbie Durrant, William Leonard-Morgan and Lee Smith.

The Parish Council pays for the grass cutting around the village and looks after the churchyard, cemetery, play area, playing field, boat dyke, staithe, pond and Keith’s Meadow in Church Road. The Council comments on local planning applications and is 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. May’s meeting is pushed back a week because of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 2nd May.

Simon Taylor and other volunteers are working very hard to create Keith’s Meadow on Church Road, using grants, and a small amount of money from the Council. It is also being planted with up with flowers, trees and new hedging, to be an open space for the village. The daffodils were fantastic this year! A new pedestrian gate will be put in soon so that people can walk easily from Church Road, through the meadow, to the play area and village hall. It is also planned to provide three allotments for local residents.

The grass is growing well in the cemetery extension, and most of the new hedge plants have survived the year. Council Chairman Philip Armes cuts various footpaths around the village, with the Council’s mower, to supplement the infrequent cutting by Norfolk County Council. Parish councillor Nigel Brennan moves the 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.

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 0808 223 1133. Please point out to them that there are signs at all entrances to the village and ask them to leave the village.

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, 9th 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 2024 will be available at the meeting and on the website after the meeting.

Parish Clerk: Pauline James, Beech Farm, Marsh Road, Upton NR13 6BP. Tel: 01493 751070 http://uptonwithfishleypc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/Email: UptonPCclerk@gmail.com