##  MINUTES

##  OF THE FOULNESS ISLAND PARISH COUNCIL (FIPC)

##  HELD AT THE LODGE FARM STAFF PREMISES, FOULNESS ISLAND

##  ON WEDNESDAY 12th JULY 2023.

##

**28 23-24** **To Record the Members and Public Present**: 7.oo pm

 Councillor (Chairman) Mrs E Pitts.

 Parish Councillors: Mr G Bickford, Mrs F Giles and Mr A Holyland.

 Essex & Ward Councillors: None.

 QinetiQ representative: None.

 Members of the Public: None.

 The Parish Clerk: Mr B Summerfield.

**29 23-24** **Chairman’s Comments:**

 The Chairman welcomed all Councillors and the public to the meeting.

**30 23-24** **Apologies and reasons for absence:**

i To be received by the Clerk only in person via: email, letter and telephone.

ii Acceptance of the reasons for FI councillors absence: None as all present.

iii Essex Councillor Mr Mike Steptoe and Ward Councillors: Mrs Jo Macpherson, Mr G Myers.

iv Members of the Public: Mr and Mrs P Carr.

**31 23-24** **Declarations of Interests:**

i To receive all declarations of interests: None.

ii The Chairman reminds Councillors to declare any further interests as they became evident to them,

 during the progress of the meeting.

**32 23-24** **The Elected Councillor:**

i Mr G Bickford duly elected unopposed as Parish Councillor for Foulness Island signed:

 i the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

 ii the Declaration of Interests Forms (28 days).

**33 23-24** **Dispensations** **(relevant provision is s.33 of the Localism Act 2011)**

 The Clerk received from Councillor Mr G Bickford, his request for dispensations re: Financial matters as a local

 Council tax payers inc: all financial matters and the Precept.

**34 23-24** **Public Forum:** (5 Minutes per person with a Maximum of 15 minutes).

 Councillors, representatives of QQ, Guests, visiting Ward/Essex County Councillors and questions from

 members of the public. None.

**35 23-24** **To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the 17th May 2023:**

 The Minutes were read and were Resolved to be agreed.

 Proposed by Councillors: Mr A Holyland, seconded by Mrs F Giles and agreed by all.

 The Chairman duly signed the Minutes as a correct record.

**36 23-24** **Matters Arising from the Minutes: (Not on the Agenda)**

i (Minute 9 23-24/iii) The proposed City Fibre work on New Road, Wakering.

 The Clerk reported Essex Councillor Mr M Steptoe’s reply in that the road will remain open to emergency

 vehicles including all local and FI residents.

ii (Minute 17 23-24/i/ii) The Churchyards’ green overgrowth of graves:

 The Clerk read to the Council his email to the Church Commissioners re: the overgrowth of the old graveyard

 at the FI Church of St Mary’s asking for the Commissioners influence on the owners of the Church, to maintain

 the Churchyard that would enable the parishioners to pay their respects at their relatives graves.

37 23-24 Insurance:

 Resolved: Proposed by Councillors: Mrs E Pitts seconded by Mr G Bickford and agreed by all.

**38 23-24** **Standing Orders:**

 Resolved: Proposed by Councillors: Mrs F Giles seconded by Mr A Holyland and agreed by all.

**39 23-24** **Financial Regulations:**

 Resolved: Proposed by Councillors: Mrs E Pitts seconded by Mr G Bickford and agreed by all.

**40 23-24** **Assets List:**

 Resolved: Proposed by Councillors: Mrs F Giles seconded by Mr A Holyland and agreed by all.

**41 23-24** **The Council Risk Assessment:**

 Resolved: Proposed by Councillors: Mrs E Pitts seconded by Mr G Bickford and agreed by all.

**42 23-24** **Finance:**

i The FIPC Financial Statements (circulated on 12th JULY 2023) were recorded.

ii The Co-op Bank Financial Statements (circulated on 12th JULY 2023) were recorded.

iii The FIPC balances were checked as correct against Bank Statements by Cllrs: Mrs E Pitts. and Mr G Bickford.

iv The Clerk’s concluding actions report re: Internal Audit Report /AGAR Form 2 - 2022-2023 was recorded:

v Councillors Ratified all of the Clerk’s transfers of Credits and Payments:

 1) CREDITS:

 14/06/23 HMRC VAT126 £ 217-25.

30/06/23 RDC 2nd Part PRECEPT £1,600-00.

08/07/23 BTMK solicitors ltd Ashes internment fee £ 180-00.

 2) DEBITS:

23/05/23 J.P. Watson Co (Annual Audit) £ 220.00.

 24/05/23 Gallagher Brokers Ins (Annual Insurance) £ 498-99.

 01/06/23 B Summerfield (Salary June) £ 168-77.

 15/06/23 EALC (Annual Subs) £ 70-86.

15/06/23 ROSPA (Annual Inspection) £ 90-00.

01/07/23 HMRS: (1st quarter PAYE-RTI) £ 126-40.

01/07/23 B Summerfield (Salary July) £ 168-77.

 3) The above receipts of income, payments and transfers, as received and agreed, were co-signed

 by councillors and were recorded.

vi Resolved all ratified Credits and Payments, auditing/financial statements, donations, receipts and Bank

 transfers.

 Proposed by Councillors: Mrs F Giles, seconded by Mrs E Pitts and agreed by all.

**43 23-24** **The Parish Council Burial Ground:**

 i The current FI PC burial fees were discussed:

 Resolved the current fees will be raised by 10% +/- to a near full number.

 Proposed by Councillors: Mrs F Giles,. seconded by Mrs E Pitts and agreed by all.

 ii The Clerk reported on the current position of the Ashes internment in plot C5.

**44 23-24** **Planning:**  Application no 22/00………………./FUL None.

**45 23-24** **Correspondence:**

i The Clerk’s letter to QQ re: The Parish Council and Residents road verges maintenance concerns, were recorded.

ii The e/letter of June 2023 from Mr Gary Hale, QinetiQ by way of reply re: the above was recorded.

iii The QQ ‘Foulness Residents’ Updates: May/June 2023 were recorded.

iv The Foulness Island newsletters of May/June 2023 were recorded.

v Printed Publications and General Information received by the Clerk are available on demand.

**46 23-24** **Streetlights:**

 Councillors reports: None.

**47 23-24** **Highways:**

i Councillors discussed the present unsatisfactory condition of the vegetation overgrowth on the Foulness Island’s

 road systems and the perceived questionable handling of its control, by QinetiQ.

 i Agreed the Clerk to forward to Mr John Cooper of QinetiQ the correspondence sent and received to date.

 ii to include the present deteriorating road surfaces and growing potholes.

ii Councillor Mr A Holyland’s defibrillator report: all OK!

**48 23-24** **Play space reports:**

iCouncillor Mr G Bickford’s Play space inspection reports 22-23 and current 23-24 reports were recorded.

ii The ROSPA Play space report was circulated.

**49 23-24** **Website:**

 The website is now up to date and will be further updated with the inclusion of this meetings’ information.

**50 23-24** **Next Agenda Items from Councillors:** *for the next Agenda and exchange of information only.*

 Items: Complaints received from residents re: the speeding of vehicles through the Island’s Villages and requests

 for proper policing of the speed limits during the daytime and rush hours. –

 the High Sheriff of Essex visit to Foulness Island on the 22nd September 2023.

51 23-24 The next Foulness Island Parish Council Meeting:

 **Agreed:** **WEDNESDAY 27th** **September 2023.**

 **There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.02 pm.**

**22nd September 2023. B. Summerfield, (Foulness Island Parish Council Clerk/RFO)**