**FOULNESS ISLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of the Foulness Island Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th September, 2017, at Lodge Farm Staff Premises, Foulness Island, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors F. Giles, E. Pitts (Chair) and A. Porter.

In attendance: District Councillor D. Efde, N. Uden (QinetiQ) and J. Watson (Clerk).

**MINUTES**

1. **The Chair to declare the meeting open.**
2. The Chair declared the meeting open.
3. **To receive apologies for absence.**
4. Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillors Bickford and Green, District Councillors Hookway and Hughes and County Councillor Steptoe.
5. **To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council’s Code of Conduct and with section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**
6. There were no declarations of interest.
7. **To sign as a correct record** **the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th August 2017.**
8. Proposed Councillor Giles, seconded Councillor Porter that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th August 2017 be signed as a correct record.
9. **To receive a report from the District and County Councillors for the area on any matters of interest.**
10. District Councillor Efde asked whether there was any information regarding the possible re-opening of a Post office on the Island. The Clerk advised that he would deal with that matter in his report under item 8 of the agenda.
11. **Financial Matters**
12. Proposed Councillor Giles, seconded Councillor Porter that the Payment requests for August/September 2017 be approved. Carried unanimously.
13. Proposed Councillor Giles, seconded Councillor Porter that the Receipts for August/September 2017 be approved. Carried unanimously.

1. **Essex Air Ambulance**
2. The request for a donation from Essex & Herts Air Ambulance was noted.
3. Proposed Councillor Pitts, seconded Councillor Porter and carried unanimously that, under the powers granted under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council would make a donation of £50.00.
4. **Clerk’s Report**
5. Burial Ground Tender – The Clerk reported that he was preparing the specification for the tender and also preparing a schedule of those people who would be interested in tendering.
6. Post Office – The Clerk reported that they had received 20 responses to the questionnaire regarding the requirement for a Post Office on the Island this being just under one third of the total residences on the Island. Those who responded are 100% in favour of Post office facilities being provided, even if it is only on a part time basis. The Clerk would pass this information to County Councillor Steptoe.
7. External Audit Report – The Clerk reported that the External Audit Report had been received and was completely clear. Copies would be posted to the notice boards and the website and also circulated to Councillors for the next meeting.
8. **Ministry of Defence**
9. There was no report from the Ministry of Defence.
10. **Defence Infrastructure Organisation**
11. Nicki Uden reported that,
12. The L8 survey was ongoing and some surveys were still outstanding. It was intended to issue advice to tenants.
13. There had been twenty-two inspections of the properties recently released for letting and it was anticipated that these would be occupied by Christmas.
14. Compensation in respect of the Power Outage on the Island was still being processed.
15. **QinetiQ Report**
16. Nicki Uden of QinetiQ gave her report.
17. **The meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners of Foulness to Address the Council.**
18. Questions were raised about
19. The failure of the bridge giving access to the Island.
20. The future of the empty hut
21. The rubbish thrown out by the bus drivers at Landwick
22. Residents’ meeting with QinetiQ
23. Builders Rubble at the car park
24. Cutting of verges
25. **At the Chair’s discretion for Councillors to exchange information on matters relating to the Parish.**
26. There was no information to exchange.
27. **Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and the public be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.**
28. **Play Area**
29. The Clerk gave an update regarding the legal position in respect of the Play Area.

Meeting Closed at 8.17 pm

Issued 3rd October, 2017.