

FOULNESS ISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Foulness Island Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th January, 2017, at Lodge Farm Staff Premises, Foulness Island, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors G. Bickford (Vice Chair), R. Green, E. Pitts (Chair) and A. Porter.

In attendance: N. Uden (QinetiQ), J. Watson (Clerk).

MINUTES

- 1. The Chair to declare the meeting open.**
 - a. The Chair declared the meeting open.
- 2. To receive apologies for absence.**
 - a. Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Seagers, District Councillors Hughes, Hookway and Efde, Parish Councillor Fran Giles, Geoff Evans (MOD) and Chris Hewitt (DIO).
- 3. 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.**
 - a. There were no declarations of interest.
- 4. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14th December, 2016.**
 - a. Proposed Councillor Porter, seconded Councillor Green that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14th December, 2016 be signed as a correct record. 3 for, 1 abstention. Carried.
- 5. To receive a report from the District and County Councillors for the area on any matters of interest.**
 - a. No District or County Councillors were present at the meeting.
- 6. Financial Matters**
 - a. Proposed Councillor Pitts, seconded Councillor Bickford that the Bank Reconciliation as at 30th November, 2016 be approved. Carried unanimously.
 - b. Proposed Councillor Porter, seconded Councillor Pitts that the Payment requests for December 2016/January 2017 be approved. Carried unanimously.
 - c. There were no Receipts for December 2016/January 2017.

7. 2017/18 Budget and Precept

- a. Proposed Councillor Pitts, seconded Councillor Porter that the Budget for 2017/18 be approved. Carried unanimously.
- b. Proposed Councillor Pitts, seconded Councillor Green that the precept demand for 2017/18 be set at £2,538 this being an increase of £51 (1.99%) over the previous year. It was noted that the Council Tax Support Grant from Rochford District Council would be £136 for 2017/18, this being a reduction of £42 from the previous year. Carried unanimously.

8. Clerk's Report

- a. The Clerk reported that he had received a "thank you" letter from Relda Farenden regarding the gift voucher sent to her following her retirement from the Foulness Island Post Office.

9. Risk Assessment

- a. The Risk Assessment report prepared by the Clerk and circulated at the previous meeting was noted.
- b. Proposed Councillor Pitts, seconded Councillor Bickford that this be approved. Carried unanimously.

10. Transparency Code for Smaller Councils

- a. The Clerk reported that he was continuing to work on setting up a Parish Council Website.

11. Play Area Funding

- a. Councillor Porter reported that he was continuing to investigate alternative sources of funding to improve the Play Area.
- b. It was suggested that the Clerk write to Thorpe Bay Rotary Club to see whether they would be prepared to give a donation to improve the Play Area

12. Ministry of Defence

- a. There was no report from the Ministry of Defence.

13. Defence Infrastructure Organisation

- a. There was no report from the Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

14. QinetiQ Report

- a. Nicki Uden from QinetiQ reported as follows,
 - i. **Early Starts** - 12th & 31st January, 08:00 at DAT
 - ii. **Power Interruptions** - There were no scheduled Power Interruptions
 - iii. **Water Interruptions** - There would be interruptions to the Water Supply at Courtend and at Tree Farm on 12th January.
 - iv. **Road Works** - Road Works would be taking place on Havengore Road
 - v. **Tree Works** - Work had been carried out on trees the previous week and the tree surgeon would be returning to deal with a tree outside 1-2 Churchend on 23rd January.
 - vi. **Empty Properties** - Minor snagging was still required on the refurbished properties and, once this had been completed, those

properties would be let. Further refurbishment was due to be carried out on two further properties this year.

- vii. **Flood Warning** - There was an Orange Alert in place for Foulness for the evenings of 11th and 12th January.

15. The meeting will stand adjourned to permit Parishioners of Foulness to Address the Council.

- a. No parishioners addressed the Council

16. At the Chair's discretion for Councillors to exchange information on matters relating to the Parish.

- a. Councillor Bickford asked whether there was any news regarding compensation in respect of the recent power outage.

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