##  MINUTES

##  OF THE FOULNESS ISLAND PARISH COUNCIL (FIPC)

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

##  ON WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER 2023.

## 69 23-24 To Record the Members and Public Present: 7.oo pm

 Councillor (Chairman) Mrs F Giles.

 Parish Councillors: Mr G Bickford and Mr A Holyland.

 Essex & Ward Councillor: Mr Mike Steptoe.

 Ward Councillors: None.

 QinetiQ representative: Ms Nicki Uden.

 Members of the Public: Mr and Mrs P Carr.

 The Parish Clerk: Mr B Summerfield.

**70 23-24 Chairman’s Comments:**

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

**71 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: Cllr: Mrs E Pitts.

iii Ward Councillors: Mrs J Macpherson.

**72 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.

**7323-24 Foulness Island Public Forum:** (5 Minutes per person with a Maximum of 15 minutes).

 Councillors, Guests, visiting Ward/County Councillors and questions from members of the public.

i The QQ representative Ms Nicki Uden enhanced the published QQ news statements of the last month adding detail

 re: Havengore Bridge Audio Warning and Barriers – An ammunition lorry driver has been vocally abused - footpath

 greenery to be cleared soon – cladding work at Churchend coming soon – the sluice gates work is carrying on with

 traffic control - The MOD supplies a budget to QQ for the maintenance of the Island Estate.

ii Essex Councillor Mr M Steptoe reported: The local MP Sir James Dudderidge is stepping down at the next election

 in 2024 – The Election is rumoured to be potentially held on 24th May 24 – The ECC would like the Bus services to

 be ‘franchised out’, under Devolution – The Gov’s Devolution is gathering pace and waiting for the Chancellors

 announcement - the Locality Fund grants are available through the Ward Councillor and open to all bodies – Ten

 trees are available from the Councillor supporting the ECC’s push for the Gov’s Carbon Neutral actions – The

 Government has uprated pothole funding – the access to the Rayleigh recycling Centre is being questioned -

 Questions being raised as to why there are no Bus Services on the Hall Road and Cherry Orchard Road as the bus

 infrastructure is already built in.

iii Councillors and resident’s complaints were forwarded re: wandering domestic animals and noisy Dogs at various

 locations on the Island – Speeding vehicles through the villages – reinstatement of the road to the quay –

 contractors to clean up the mud left after them - thanks to Cllr Mr A Holyland for the pavement work completed.

**74 23-24 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the 27th September 2023:**

The Minutes were Resolved agreed.

 Proposed by Councillors: Mr A Holyland, seconded by Mr G Bickford and agreed by all.

 The Chairman duly signed the Minutes as a correct record.

**75 23-24 Matters Arising from the Minutes: (Not on the Agenda)**

 (Minute **68 23-24** /i) ‘BASIC ESSEX’, Bleed Kits and Essex Air Ambulance donations.

 All Items to Precept:

**76 23-24 Finance: PRECEPT (2024-2025):**

i A November 2023 letter from the RDC re: the Draft Council Tax Base/Parish Precepts was recorded.

iiThe Clerk’s advice and spredsheet calculations for 2024-25 including items forwarded from Minute 75 above,

 were discussed in depth and at length.

iii Resolved the Precept demand on the Rochford District Council for 2024-2025 is £4,000-00.

 Proposed by Councillors: Mr G Bickford, seconded by Mrs F Giles and agreed by all.

**77 23-24 Finance:**

i The FIPC Financial Statements (circulated on 6th December 2023) were recorded.

ii The Co-op Bank Financial Statements (circulated on 6th December 2023) were recorded.

iii The FIPC balances were checked as correct against Bank Statements by Cllrs: Mr F Giles and Mr A Holyland.

iv i The EALC Announcement re: \*NEW\* NALC Pay Scales Awards 2023-24 was recorded.

 ii The agreed monthly Bank transfer of the Clerk’s nett salary @ £178.37 from 1st January 2024 was recorded.

 iii The agreed one off January 24 Bank transfer of the Clerk’s salary back pay @ £108-00 was recorded.

v A requested invoice from the Belton Bros. for the two years rent from April 2021 up to March 2022 and 2023, for

the use of the Staff Premises at Lodge Farm for Foulness Island Parish Council meetings was not received.

vi Councillors Ratified Banking transfers to date:

 **1) Business Account** **CREDITS**:

Bank Interest @ £12-77.

 **Business Account** **DEBITS:**

£1,000-00 was transferred to the Community Direct Plus Account.

 **2) Community Direct Plus Account CREDITS:**

£1,000-00 was received from the Business Account.

**Community Direct Plus Account DEBITS:**

 02/10/23 B Summerfield. (Clerk’s Salary October) £ 168-77

 02/10/23 HMRC. (2nd Part PAYE-RTI 2023-24) £ 126-57.

 02/10/23 B Summerfield. (Clerk’s Office use 2022-23) £ 117-51.

 02/10/23 B Summerfield. (Clerk’s Fuel use 2022-23) £ 103-96

 17/10/2023 DIO RENT Bus Stop Courts End £ 60-00.

 27/10/23 B Summerfield/IJTDirect (Printer ink) £ 36-10.

 01/11/23 B Summerfield. (Clerk’s Salary November) £ 168-77.

 29/11/23 Cllr: Mrs E Pitts (Remembrance Wreath) £ 20-00.

30/11/23 DIO : Rent (Recreation Area, Church End) £ 10-00.

01/12/23 B Summerfield. (Clerk’s Salary December) £ 168-77.

vii **The above copies of receipts of income, payments and transfers were co-signed by councillors:**

viii Resolve all ratified Credits and Payments, auditing/financial statements, donations, receipts and Bank transfers.

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

**78 23-24 The Parish Council Burial Ground:**

i The Clerk’s advice re: burial ground hedging maintenance costs was discussed.

ii The Clerk will contact the contractors to discuss a way forward re: the hedging costs.

**79 23-24 Planning:**

i Application no: 23/00570/FUL The Rectory, Churchend, Foulness Island, Essex.

 (Replace Front Door) – The FIPC have no objection.

ii Application no: 23/00213/LBC, The Rectory, Churchend, Foulness Island, Essex.

 (Replacement Entrance Door) – The FIPC have no objection.

**80 23-24 Correspondence:**

i An e-letter of October 23 to MP Sir James Dudderidge re: FI Roads and green maintenance was recorded.

ii A negative email reply November 23 to RDC re: The suggestion that the Highway Ranger Service, to be funded

 by Parish Councils was recorded.

iii The QQ ‘Foulness Residents’ Updates: October/November 2023 were recorded.

iv The Foulness Island newsletters of October/November 2023 were recorded.

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

**81 23-24 Streetlights:** Councillor’s reports: None.

**82 23-24 Highways:**

i Councillor Mr A Holyland’s email and photographs of path potholes sent to QQ were recorded.

ii Councillor Mr A Holyland’s defibrillator report to the next meeting.

**83 23-24 Play space reports:**

Councillor Mr G Bickford’s Play space inspection reports to the next meeting.

**84 23-24 Website:** The website to be further updated with the inclusion of this meetings’ information.

**85 23-24 Next Agenda Items from Councillors:** *for the next Agenda and exchange of information only.*

 Items: None.

86 23-24 The next Foulness Island Parish Council Meeting:

 **Agreed :** **WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2024.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10.pm

**2nd February 2023. B. Summerfield, Foulness Island Parish Council Clerk/RFO.**