

# **FULMODESTON AND BARNEY PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting**

**held on Monday, 7th April 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in the Christ Church, Fulmodeston**

### **Present:**

Clive Lickley (Chairman \*\*)  
David Cooke  
Josephine Marston  
Kevin Webb (Clerk)  
Mike Hankins (District Councillor)  
Ten parishioners

\*\* In the absence of a Chair of the Parish Council, Mr. Lickley volunteered to act as the Chair for this meeting. This was accepted by all those present.

### **1) Apologies for absence**

None

### **2) Coffee and Chat**

Mrs. Marshall said that the group meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month in the Old School Hall. It is free to all and everyone is welcome. The Parish Council pays for the cost of hiring the Hall and has allocated up to £200 for the project. Some private donations and contributions from attendees have been received so drawing down of the full amount has not been needed. The meetings involve conversation, friendship, activities and refreshments. Two members of the Parish Council have joined sessions to help and to observe how the group works. Between 16 and 18 people are regulars and a Christmas meal was provided last year. Feedback has been very positive and the sessions are greatly appreciated.

### **3) Food Production Club**

A report was made which had been provided by Mrs. Harris, Chair of the Club which is currently in its 84<sup>th</sup> year. There is a strong membership with excellent attendance at talks and events. The one area it struggles with is volunteer help and, if this is not addressed, the Club may not exist in the future. Recent events have included talks on the secret lives of plants, how and why plants communicate with each other, and a Sculthorpe Moor warden giving details about the reserve and how to encourage wildlife into the garden by creating a variety of habitats. There was also a talk on butterflies and planning throughout the seasons in the garden to benefit them, and a visit from Candi of Candi's Cupboard who explained how she started, with her range having subsequently expanded beyond chutneys. The plant sale takes place on April 26<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Show will be on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Membership remains at £10 per year and the majority of the events are free to members, many of whom actually live outside the village.

#### **4) Newsletter**

Mrs. Vaughan, the editor, has been in the role for a year. It was previously agreed to produce a bi-monthly, A4 size newsletter. Initially, it involved two sides, mainly advertising events. It has grown in size and now includes various inserts with the publication currently consisting of four sides.

#### **5) Playing Fields Association (PFA)**

Mrs. Joule, Chair, said that the P.F.A. was formed in October, 1964 and provides play areas with equipment for Barney and Fulmodeston. There are eight Committee members and, over the last three years, funds have been raised so that the outdated pavilion in Barney can be replaced. The initial goal to raise £126K was achieved, (the actual cost will be about £137K), but other grants are in the pipeline which will enable the project to be completed. The usual activities continue (e.g. mole catching, grass cutting and maintenance of equipment). A grant was received from the Parish Council towards the cost of the new building and a grant is also received from the Parish Council to cover the cost of grass cutting. An application for the first third of that grant will be made at the May meeting. A grant is also made by the Parish Council to cover the annual cost of the P.F.A.'s insurance policy. The duck race did not take place this year.

#### **6) Footpath 6**

Mrs. Marston referred to the December, 2024 minutes and footpath 6. It has been cut and a number of new plants have appeared. Highways, Norwich County Council, have been working in this area and Mrs. Marston is delighted with the current condition of the footpath.

#### **7) Barney and Fulmodeston Cricket Club**

Mr. Liam Riseborough reported a successful year for the Club with three competitions having been won. The National Village Cup was entered for the first time. The field is in good condition and it is hoped that there will be another good season in 2025. Details of fixtures are on the Facebook page with the first match scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **8) Christ Church, Fulmodeston**

Mr. Lee had submitted a report as follows:-

Thank you again for the continuing grant of £150 p.a. towards the upkeep of the churchyard which, like the church itself, continues to serve the village and is clearly visible at its centre. The church continues to deliver its full range of services and offices and is always open for anybody.

## 9) Fulmodeston and Barney Defibrillator Project

Mr. Lee had submitted a report as follows:-

The defibrillators were installed just over six years ago and fortunately they have not had to be used in that time, although that is not to say that they will not be needed at some point in the future. The insurance and maintenance on the defibrillators now costs around £250 per year in total and as from this year we are wholly dependant on the grant from the Parish Council (currently £200 p.a.) the original "ring fenced" sum raised by parishioners having been exhausted. The defibrillators (though not necessarily their cabinets) have a nominal life of 10 years, so before long we will have to think about the possibility of having to replace one or other of them.

Thank you to the Parish Council, to the volunteers who continue to check them regularly and to the Old School Hall and Yew Tree Farm who "host" them.

The meeting closed at 7.16 p.m.

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Chairman

..... Date