

## **OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 380<sup>th</sup>), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025, at 7.15pm at Upwell Public Hall, New Road, Upwell. Chairperson, Mr. Fred Keer, presided over the meeting.

### **1.1 Attending: -**

Councilor's Ms. Donna Semmens(7.15pm), Ms. Andrea Alexander. Mr. John Watts, Mrs. Jane Sutton, Mrs. Jill Gooch, Mrs. Tara Rust and Mrs. Joanne Seaton.

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson

Borough Councilor Mr. Chris Crofts. (left meeting at 8pm)

3 MOP (one member of the public left at 8pm)

### **Apologies accepted for absence: -**

Cllrs Mr. Dale Boyce and Mrs. Georgina Greenwood.

1.2. Councilors' Declaration of Interest in tonight's Agenda items.

**Please indicate whether the interest is a personal one or one which is also prejudicial. A declaration of an interest should indicate the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. In the case of personal interest, the member may speak and vote on the matter. If a prejudicial interest is declared the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.**

1.3. **Public Forum:** No matters raised

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were distributed before this meeting. They were accepted on a proposal by Cllr Tara Rust and seconded by Cllr Jane Sutton These were duly signed as a true record by the Chairperson.

**1.5 Council procedures- letter of resignation from Cllr Mr. David Murfitt, Clerk to Contact Borough Council.**

## **2 Councilor's Reports**

2.1 NCC – Chris Dawson – various updates and information have been sent by Chris since the last meeting. He updated on the issues raised through the meeting and on the boundary devolution.

2.2. B.C. Chris Crofts reported that Mintlyn Crematorium raise money for various charities in Kings Lynn and surrounding areas and various other matters in planning and the devolution.

## **3 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

All updates are on the Action plan-this is attached to these minutes.

## **4. FINANCE -**

### **4.1 Decisions/action**

4.1.1 Accounts – February- were formally approved

4.1.2. Payments for March- were approved

4.1.3 The 4<sup>th</sup> Draft budget was approved.

4.1.4 On a proposal by Tara Rust of £200.00 to donate to the newly formed Upwell and Outwell Youth Club for payment towards the insurance, this was seconded by Donna Semmens. This was unanimously agreed.

4.1.5 Nurture have raised their prices far higher than CGM have in years gone by. They have also missed out quoting the price for the cutting of the infilled canal. Clerk to write to Nurture to query their prices and to quote for the cutting of the Canal.

## 4.2 For information

4.2.1 TC Group are the accountants that ensure the Clerk's salary is accounted for.

4.2.2 Variance report for February was presented. 4.2.3 Received from Advertisers for Magazine- £140.00, NCC Trod repayment £8,750.00, NCC for filled canal, Credit from BCKL&WN- over charged for Dog Bin emptying.

4.2.4. Notice of Change to Parish Precept Payments- there will be two payments made instead of the whole amount being paid in April. 50% in April and 50% in September.

### Payments for MARCH 2025 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	679.00	0.00	679.00	MAR01/25	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	343.20	0.00	343.20	MAR02/25	Village cleaner 30hrs @£11.44
VODAPHONE	32.00	0.00	32.00	MAR03/25	Monthly Broadband
K & M Lighting	125.44	25.09	150.53	MAR04/25	MARCH Streetlighting maintenance
SSE	2086.06	104.14	2190.20	MAR05/25	Electricity Oct, Nov. DEC, JAN
Ebay	125.95	0.00	125.95	MAR06/25	Tree protectors for the garden
Coote safety	500.00	100.00	600.00	MAR07/25	Safety check for railings
PWLB	64.67	0.00	64.67	DD	Allotment loan
Meeting room	22.00	0.00	22.00	MAR08/25	Upwell Village Hall
Limetree printing	640.38	0.00	640.38	Mar09/25	Printing of oracle
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4618.7</b>	<b>229.23</b>	<b>4847.93</b>		

## 5. REPORTS-

5.1 To receive monthly Police Updates sent via email. All relevant emails sent to the Councillor's.

5.2 To receive the report from the School Liaison Officer – Councillor Mrs Georgina had nothing to report.

5.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party – Nothing reported

5.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee – Nothing reported.

### 5.5 To receive the report from the Planning working party – report attached to the minutes.

Cllr Donna Semmens bought up the issue with the Local MP liaison officer Roger Atterwill about Council's concerns of the number of Travelers' sites are going to be allocated in this area particularly in Upwell. It was noted, but nothing can change this situation now but when planning for these sites comes through then the local Councils can share their concerns.

Council was not happy about the response from the Enforcement officer regarding the issue of caravans and timber building in Langhorns lane. Council agreed that Chairman to write letter to head of planning about the concerns from the Council.

### 5.6 To receive the report from the Village and Highways Working Party-

5.6.1. Streetlights reported as and when.

5.6.2 Any highway reports to Councilor Mrs. Jane Sutton.

5.6.3 The issue of another Streetlight being installed in the Village Centre as requested was discussed at length. Quotes were looked at. Further discussion was required as to whether lamps could be installed on the bridge or light could be installed in the kerb of the bus stop. These matters to be carried to the next meeting.

5.6.4. K & M Light maintenance company had informed the Council that two replacement lamps and brackets were required. On a proposal by Mr. John Watts that quotes of £230.00 +VAT and £335.00 plus VAT should be accepted. This was seconded by Mrs Jane Sutton. The council unanimously agreed.

**5.7 To receive the report from the Allotment committee:** - nothing reported.

**6. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL TO ACTION: -**

The sheet attached to minutes.

- 1). New Cemetery?**
- 2). Riverside Railings.**
- 3). Community Garden.**
- 4). Penn Sluice**
- 5). Safer Crossings.**
- 6). Riverside Banks.**
- 7). Youth Club**

6.1 A request has been sent to ask if Outwell Parish Council would endorse the Fenland Flag. They agree they would.

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**7 Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-**

**8 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 26.03.2025.**

**9 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at 7pm at Upwell Village Hall, New Road, Upwell.**

**Meeting Duly closed at 8.40pm**

**Signed.....**

**Date.....**