

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 371st), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 6th May 2025, at 7.10pm at Upwell Public Hall, New Road, Upwell. Newly elected Vice Chairperson, Ms Donna Semmens presided over the meeting.

1.1 Attending: -

Councillor's Mrs Jane Sutton, Mrs. Tara Rust, Mrs Jill Gooch, Mr Dale Boyce, Mrs. Gina Greenwood Mrs Joanne Seaton, Mr. J. Watts and Ms Andrea Alexander.

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson

Borough Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts.

8 members of the public

Apologies accepted for absence: -

Councillors Mr. F. Keer.

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

Please indicate whether the interest is a personal one only 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:** Members of public spoke on their issues with both the proposed traveller/gypsy sites in Hall Road and Cotton's head. They expressed their concerns which the Council took on board for later discussion when the planning discussion came later in the meeting.

The village cleaner requested a new rubbish bin near the bus shelter- next to the Crown Public House. Clerk to look into this matter.

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 were distributed before this meeting on an amendment to change Mathew Henry to an employee not a Borough Councillor, the minutes were accepted on a proposal by Councillor Mrs. Jane Sutton and seconded by Councillor Mrs. T Rust.

1.5 Council procedures-

2 Councillor's Reports

3.1 NCC – Chris Dawson – various updates and information have been sent by Chris since the last meeting.

The Trod that was proposed between the Sluice Bridge and the Boat basin should be installed as soon as is possible, due to the fact there will be money available to do this. Also a possible bus shelter.

The safer crossings are in eyesight now from 192 this time last year in the queue, OPC is in 2nd place because the feasibility study has necessitated them. Chris thanked the Council for their drive, as the Council thanked Chris for his wholehearted support. (He left the meeting at 8pm)

3.2. BC – Chris Crofts reported the same that BC are working with the NCC to ensure that the unitary works out. This will be ongoing until September 2025.

The local plan has accepted a supply of 72 sites for Traveler/gypsy sites- Upwell and Outwell being Key sites- 2025/2035. He advised the public to use the planning portal with their objections to both proposed sites with key planning issues- i.e. non suitable highways, no footways, no bus routes. (He left meeting 8.05)

3 MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION AND/OR DECISIONS

3.1 To report matters arising from the minutes of the Meeting held 1st April 2025.

The Action plan has been produced with the minutes. This is updated.

4. FINANCE –

Payments for MAY 2025 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	£692.40	£0.00	£692.40	MAY01/25	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	£402.93	£0.00	£402.93	MAY02/25	Village cleaner 33hrs @£12.21
VODAPHONE	£34.05	£0.00	£34.05	MAY03/25	Monthly Broadband
K & M Lighting	£125.44	£25.09	£150.53	MAY04/25	MAY Streetlighting maintenance
SSE	£1,226.18	£37.31	£1,263.49	MAY05/25	MAR & APR Electricity
BCKL&WN	£612.06	£0.00	£612.06	MAY06/25	REFUSE SKIP
BCKL&WN	£1,098.50	£219.70	£1,318.20	MAY07/25	Dog Bin emptying
Meeting room	£22.00	£0.00	£22.00	MAY08/25	Upwell Village Hall
Limetree Printing	£633.98	£0.00	£633.98	MAY09/25	Printing of APR mag
Upwell/Outwell	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	MAY10/25	Section 137 donation
Beaupre school	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	MAY11/25	Section 137 donation
McAFee	£39.99	£0.00	£39.99	MAY12/25	Security for Laptop
TC Business	£54.00	£10.00	£64.00	MAY13/25	Clerk's PAYE
Donna Semmens	£69.99	£0.00	£69.99	May14/25	Annual payment for Sim Camera
Viking	£106.59	£21.32	£127.91	May15/25	Paper and inks
KLIDB	£87.48	£0.00	£87.48	DD	Drainage Rates
Totals	5605.59	313.42	5919.01		

4.1 Decisions/action

4.1.1 March Accounts were formerly approved

4.1.2. Payments for May were formerly approved.

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 March

4.2.3 Received from Advertisers for Magazine- £240.00, BKL&WN - CIL £565.77, BCKL&WN Precept for half year £14,287.00, Allotment rents £7180.00.

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 Gina Greenwood reported that the Under 5's at the school are offered a carton of milk daily. There has been 2 school trips since the last meeting. Co-Chairperson of the Governors- Tom Fairbrother has invited Councillor members to have a tour around the school. He wants to liaise between the School and Council. Councillors asked if the meeting time could be changed to later in the day- after school times, due to them having daily work.

5.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party.

5.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee – Councilor Mrs. Tara Rust reported that the Jumble Sale on 26th April 2025 raised £1,200.00 and everything was taken away. The next fundraiser is the OUTFEST on the 21st of June 2025.

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

The Council discussed the two latest applications, 25/00390/F and 25/00474/FM and both were to be opposed. Clerk and Vice-Chairperson to write the objections as discussed.

BC are holding Planning Parish Update Sessions on 12th June 6.30pm – 8pm, and Wednesday 25th June 3.30pm -5pm. All three members of the Planning team hope to attend these meetings.

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 new railings are currently being installed in rectory road. The ones on Downham road are completed.

5.6.4. A new bus Shelter initiative has been set up by NCC. NCC Chris Dawson and Councilor Mrs. Jane Sutton will be looking into this venture for new shelters in the village.

5.7 To receive the report from the Allotment committee: - all rents have been received.

It was reported that on inspection- Land at Langhorns Lane had been extended and a road way obliterated. The clerk informed the Council that Mr. Seiley rents the main part of this area and has also sown wheat on the Acre Mr. Andrew Robb is tenant of. Mr. Robb will be claiming his acre back after harvest in October.

The council to write a letter to Mr. Seiley requesting that he re-install the roadway when the crop has been harvested.

6. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL TO ACTION: -

6.1 Councilor Mrs. Jill Gooch requested that Broadband was on the agenda. She reported that the Broad band in the Parish was not very good. She has had a parishioner contact her with figures and facts about the exchanges in the village that are full and that the Parish Council should do something about it. The Clerk reminded her that if any parishioner approaches a Councilor, then they should be requested to email the clerk with their issue so the email can be sent to all Councilors before the meeting and we appear transparent. The rest of the Councilors didn't consider there was an issue with Broadband in the Parish and that Fibre was available. She requested that Clerk to ring Sky to sort out the issue. The Vice Chairman advised that this was not an issue for the council to deal with but the parishioner who is complaining.

7 Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-

8 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 30.04.2025.

9 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday June 3rd 2025 at 7pm at Upwell Village Hall, New Road, Upwell.

Meeting Duly closed at 8.40pm

Signed.....

Date.....