

## **OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 360<sup>th</sup>), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023, at 7pm at Outwell Village Hall.

Chairman Mr. Fred Keer presided the meeting.

### **Attending: -**

Councillor's Mr. John Wake, Mr. Dale Boyce. Mrs. Tara Rust, Ms. Donna Semmens, Mr. Matt Titmarsh, Mrs. Jill Gooch, Mrs. Jane Sutton, Mr. John Watts.

Borough Councillor Mr. Harry Humphrey and Mr. Chris Crofts

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson.

2 Members of Public.

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

Councillor's Ms. Sarah Arden and Mr. Paul Brenchley

Borough Councillor Mr. Harry Humphrey and Mr. Chris Crofts

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:**

Village Cleaner reported that there was fly tipping in the rambles next to the Sluice.

Chairman then invited Mr. Peter Russell (Chairman of the Cemetery Dissenters) to speak with the Council about various issues with the cemetery.

1). Report of the Limes at the top of the cemetery needs work carried out. After much discussion it was agreed that the Dissenters and the Council pay half each if the amount is no more than £1,000.00 when quoted. Sense of urgency- Clerk to contact CGM.

2). The question as to who is responsible to insure the top half of the cemetery with is the Church of England end that is now closed.

The Chairman pointed out that they had no responsibility of the land and therefore its not their responsibility to maintain or insure it. It was up to the Dissenters to find ownership, although there was a clause that if this was not possible at this time, the Parish Council proposed that the Dissenters claimed ownership with their permission. This was proposed by Chairman Fred Keer, seconded by Councillor John Wake. Seven members voted for it, 1 abstained and 1 declared an interest.

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 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 Chairman.

Chairman and Clerk had been notified by NALC that someone had reported that the minutes that were published on the Web Site- indicated that one particular part was highlighted, and this accentuated a certain subject, On further investigation it transpired that there was a particular virus in the word document. This has now been rectified.

1.5 **Council Procedures:** The external monitoring has not responded yet to letter written by the Chairman

**Chairman then moved County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson's report from the end of the meeting to this time.**

1). Secondary School allocation- he firstly wanted to thank Councillor Tara Rust and Holly from Upwell for their hard work and support with this issue. A joint group has been formed. OPC then gave they're thanks to Chris for all the hard work he has put into this. He said that there is a fight for a traffic regulation ruling.

- 2). Councillor Tara Rust touched on Parking issues at the local school and did some research on getting a TRO. He said that there is a fight for a traffic regulation ruling and that the police are the only people to deal with this. The parking at Emneth is an issue too and the County Council are working on this. He responded with the fact that a TRO is not necessary and a waste of money. He would investigate this matter further and contact Tara.
- 3). Tara touched on transport to Kings Lynn College for students in Outwell and surrounding areas. They are public transport busses and do not go as far as the College or the Sprots Centre. Concern over youngsters having to walk to the bus station at nights. Again, Chris is to investigate and get back to Tara.
- 4). Chris touched on the Cemetery subject- he is quite surprised that people are being buried in unconsecrated ground and that surely that if income is coming into this that the group have ownership of the whole cemetery.

### 2.1 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023

- 2.1.1. New Cemetery Working party –no further update- looking for other suitable land.
- 2.1.2 Due to Councillor Ms. Sarah Arden's sabbatical, the Village Clean up won't happen this month.
- 2.1.3 The Chairman did not attend the Upwell and Outwell Age Concern AGM- he is to write to them to apologise.

### 2.2. MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION AND/OR DECISIONS: -

#### 2.2.1 PARISH PARTNERSHIP – 2023/24.

The bid has been successful. Council to write to Mr. David Brown to request some funding towards the newly proposed Trod.

2.2.2 Council accepted the proposed quotes from CGM for Cemetery Maintenance, Cutting of Infilled Canal, and the Boat Basin for 2023, but requesting 10 cuts for the Cemetery, not 14.

2.1.3. After much discussion about the brambles on Mr Tinworth's land, it was decided to write to them and ask if they would dig up the brambles and move them to the rubbish already on the tramway and the Council then remove all the rubbish.

2,1,4 It was agreed to renew the NALC's subscription again this year.

#### 2.2.5 MATTERS OF INFORMATION NOT REQUIRING ANY ACTION: -

2.2.6 Awaiting date of the feasibility study for the Safer Crossings.

2.2.7 KLWNBC notification of New Street names on the development W of Tikka Chef. New names were suggested- Orchard End close and William Lynne Road.

### 3. FINANCE -

Payee	Goods	VAT	Payments for April 2023 to be Authorised		
			Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	551.48	0.00	551.48	DD	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	289.75	0.00	289.75	Apr01/23	Village cleaner 30.5hrs @£9.50
Plusnet	21.41	0.00	21.41	Apr02/23	BT Telephone/broadband April
K & M Lighting	105.15	21.03	126.18	Apr03/23	April Streetlighting maintenance
Goldings	30.00	0.00	30.00	Apr04/23	Chairman's expenses
Microsoft 365	49.99	10.00	59.99	Apr05/23	Subscription for Microsoft
CGM	70.00	14.00	84.00	Apr06/23	Pollarding trees in cemetery
Mrs Nichols	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	Apr07/23	Allotment rent
Nalc Subs	456.31	0.00	456.31	Apr08/23	NALC yearly subscription
Viking	76.27	15.25	91.52	Apr09/23	Inks and paper
NCC	2500	0	2500	102434	Feasibility study for crossings
Drax	7.03	0.33	7.36	DD	April electricity
Totals	<b>5657.39</b>	<b>60.61</b>	<b>5718</b>		

**3.1 Decisions/action**

3.1.1 Council formerly approved February Accounts.

3.1.2. The council approved payments for April.

3.1.3 February Actual versus Budget.

**3.2 For information**

3.2.1 BulleyDavy are the accountants that ensure the Clerk's salary is accounted for.

3.2.2. Emma Bateman has agreed to be the Parish Council's internal auditor.

3.2.3 PKF Littlejohn has sent all information for the external audit.

3.2.4 Minimum wage goes up on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to £10.47.

3.2.5 Clerk wage will go up to £595.00 per calendar month from the 1<sup>st</sup> April as advised by NALC

**4. REPORTS-**

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

**4.2 To receive the report from the School Liaison Officer** – Councillor Mrs Tara Rust reported earlier the issues she had to raise. The Council decided to order 235.00 medals for the school and pre-school for King Charles Coronation.

**4.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party** -discussed earlier.

**4.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee** – Councillor Mrs Tara Rust reported that there is to be a raft race and another event to be organised for the Weekend of the Kings Coronation. Any volunteers to help over the weekend would be welcome.

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

**4.6 To receive the report from the Allotment Working Party-** allotment rent letters have been sent.

**4.8 To receive the report from the Village and Highways Working Party-**

**4.8.1.** Streetlights reported as and when.

**4.8.2.** Please report any highway issues to Councillor Jane Sutton.

**4.9 To receive the Norfolk County Councillor's Report -Mr. Chris Dawson** has sent all updates via email and spoke at the beginning of the meeting.

**4.10 To receive Borough Councillor Mr. Harry Humphries/ Mr. Chris Crofts report-** absent.

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

Councillor Donna Semmens mentioned that the Website isn't chatty or friendly. Perhaps admin rights should be available to another Councillor? She believes that extra links would give far more information to the locals.

**4.12 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 03.05.2023.**

**4.13 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 9th May 2023 at the Crown Lodge, Downham Road, Outwell, after the AGM at 7pm.**

**Chairman thanked the retiring Councillor's for their sterling efforts whilst belonging to Outwell Parish Council.**

**The meeting closed at 8.45pm.**

**Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....**

