

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 363rd), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 4th July 2023, at 7pm at The Crown Lodge, Downham Road.

The Vice Chairperson, Ms. Donna Semmens presided the meeting.

Attending:-

Councillor's Mr. Dale Boyce. Mrs. Jill Gooch, (7.10pm) Mrs. Jane Sutton, Mr. John Watts, Mrs Gina Greenwood, Mr. David Murfitt and Ms Sarah Arden.

Borough Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts (7pm to 8.15pm)

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson (7.30pm to 8pm).

8 Member's of Public.

1.1 Apologies accepted for absence: -

Councillors Mr Fred Keer, Mrs Tara Rust and Ms Andrea Alexander.

Borough Councillor Mr. Harry Humphrey.

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:

1). A member of public expressed his concerns of the new Trod that will run at the rear of his property. He hoped that the Council have made sure that the design accommodates those residents that enter their properties. Councillor Ms Sarah Arden said she will contact Mr. Andy Wallace, NCC Highways engineer, for all the details on the design and costs.

2). Several members of public spoke about their concerns of a Retrospective application for a dog breeding business in Basin Road- the Council took on board their issues. Borough Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts requested permission from the Council that should the planning department decide to recommend approval then he requests that the application goes before the planning committee for a final decision. This was agreed.

3). A member of the public complained about the lack of streetlighting on Wisbech Road and that the LED lights do not give off enough light, he also had concerns about the trod that proposed to run behind the house he is living in. Clerk to send him further details when they have been obtained.

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 were distributed before this meeting. They were accepted with amendments pointed out by the Clerk, on a proposal by Cllr Jane Sutton and seconded by Cllr Georgina Greenwood.

These were duly signed as a true record by the Vice Chairperson.

1.5 **Council Procedures:** None

2.1 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 4th June 2023

2.1.1. New Cemetery Working party – Councillor Jane Sutton informed the Council she was looking at suitable allotment land for the location of the new Cemetery and the only viable area is at Goodman's Crossing, although it is located in Upwell. It was proposed that Councillor's Sutton and Arden contact Upwell Parish Council to request that Outwell parishioners, who are buried in the Upwell Cemetery shouldn't have to pay double the burial fees. Report at the next meeting. The discussion went on further that those that live in Outwell and want to be buried should be buried in their own Parish.

2.1.2. Parking at the School- the Council considered that this should be left with County Councillor Chris Dawson for him to liaise with Adam Binn.

2.1.3 Council are aware that all Appeals were successful for places at the Downham Market academy- continue to fight for next year. Credit was given to Councilor's Tara Rust, Georgina Greenwood and County Councillor Chris Dawson.

2.1.4 Many suggestions were made for essentially making good use of the Recreation ground. Garden Allotments, community gardens, Dog Run area, Councillor Mrs. Jane Sutton to write to the Charity Commission to see if any of these proposals are allowed to go ahead. Councillor Sarah Arden mentioned that David Murfitt had removed the broken seat at the Hunter Rowe corner of the Boat Basin and that she had cleared the vegetation and is going to plant spring bulbs in this area. She proposed that a new bench should replace the old one- this was agreed. Clerk to find prices of vandal proof seats. Thanks went to Cuncilor's Sarah Aden and David Murfitt for their work.

At this time- County Councillor Chris Dawson was invited to speak- he had another meeting to attend.

He re- iterated on all the emails he has sent –

Highways are reviewing the verge cutting program, although they have a budget that local Councils can have and use their own contractors. (OPC request more information).

NCC are currently advertising jobs- the staffing levels need improving- especially in the rural areas. Programming is taking too long- due to using funds wisely.

Parking at the schools- he will contact Adam Binn and see where his proposal is at. He wants all local schools to be monitored by the police.

He is also continuing to see what can be done about the railings along Rectory Road.

2.1.5 CIL Funding is available again from 1st July- Councillor Sara Arden is dealing with this- re Trod. She has all the information she requires from Andy Wallace- the price of the trod has gone up but she has been assured that the Parish Partnership payment will match half. She will let the Council know whether the application has been successful.

2.1.6 Retired Councillor's gift- Clerk and Vice Chair- person has looked at brochure and there is a Crystal cut tankard for £38.50- Tankard box to present I in for £6.00 and engraving is free. Council agreed on one each for long serving retired Councillor's.

2.1.7. The Churchyard has finally been cut.

2.1.8. The Railings on the riverside are still contentious. No one owns them and wants the responsibility of giving permission to have them removed.

2.1.9. Cutting of the verges- this is now in the hands of NCC highways and MLC.

2.1.10 Meeting with Liz Truss and subsequent letter of support from Liz re- Safety Crossings.

2.2.1 NCC – Delivering local highway improvements in partnership with town and parish council for the financial year 2024/25, no decisions made- this is to be on agenda until necessary.

3. FINANCE –

Payments for JULY 2023 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	595.00	0.00	595.00	DD	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	345.51	0.00	345.52	July01/23	Village cleaner 33hrs @£10.47
Plusnet	38.58	0.00	38.58	July02/23	BT Telephone/broadband May
K & M Lighting	105.15	21.03	126.18	July03/23	July Streetlighting maintenance
Rob Shaw	372.66	0.00	372.66	July04/23	Web Site
G. Boyce	150.00	0.00	150.00	July05/23	Cutting of the Recreation Ground
D. J. Newton	70.80	0.00	70.80	July06/23	Postage for 2022/23
CGM	516.16	103.23	619.39	July07/23	Infilled 12/05 26/05
CGM	220.00	44.00	264.00	July08/23	Bad wood removal 26/05/23
CGM	57.78	11.56	69.34	July09/23	Boat Basin 12/05 26/05
CGM	364.02	72.80	436.82	July09/23	Cemetery 03/05 16/05 30/05
PWLB	732.01	0.00	732.01	DD	Loan for the Village Hall
Crown Lodge	125.00	25.00	150.00	July10/23	Meeting room 9.5.23 6.6.23
Crown Lodge	29.42	5.88	35.30	July11/23	Meeting with Liz Truss
CGM	516.16	103.23	619.39	July12/23	Infilled 09/06 and 23/06
CGM	57.78	11.56	69.34	July13/23	Boat Basin 09/06 and 23/06
CGM	364.02	72.80	436.82	July13/23	Cemetery 02/06, 13/06 26/06
Totals	4660.05	471.09	5131.15		

3.1 Decisions/action

- 3.1.1 May Accounts were formerly approved.
- 3.1.2. payments for July were formerly approved.
- 3.1.3 May Actual versus Budget- information available.

3.2 For information

- 3.2.1 BulleyDavy are the accountants that ensure the Clerk's salary is accounted for.
- 3.2.2 Internal audit carried out- no issues.
- 3.2.3 Allotment payments- £1450.00

4. REPORTS-

4.10 To receive Borough Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts report- he asked that he might speak at this time with his report- he informed the Council that the results for the Borough Council worked out as 21 Conservative, 7 independent, 2 green party and 2 others- so therefore the Conservatives do not run the Council. He is aware of the planning issues with the application of the Dog Breeding in Basin Road- he will call it in as requested at the Public speaking.

He believes that applying for CIL money for the Trod is a good idea.

He then left the meeting (8.15pm)

4.1 To receive monthly Police Updates sent via email. All relevant emails sent to the Councillor's. Anything received is posted on social media.

4.2 To receive the report from the School Liaison Officer – Councillor Mrs Georgina Greenwood informed the Council that the children received The Coronation Coins from the Borough Council as prizes for their sports day. The Children have written to the parents to request they park their cars safer and not on the zig zags. They are becoming actively involved with the parking issue. The school is looking for another governor.

4.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party – the Cemetery is looking tidy- the Churchyard has now been cut. Councillor Mrs. Georgina Greenwood is to ask Chris Brown if it was him that did it. If so then Council want to thank him personally

4.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee Councillor Mrs Jill Gooch would like to know how many more years the loan must run. (Clerk to email her)

4.5 To receive the report from the Planning working party – report attached to the agenda. 1). Appeal to be held Monday 3rd July -re extension of Fishing Platform.

2). To discuss planning application 23/00940/F. This was fully discussed and for various reasons Council objected to this application.

3). It was requested that Neighbourhood planning was to go back on the agenda. Clerk to ask Chairman to email all Council with information about this.

4). The request to build Affordable housing in Church Drove- Council needs to see plans and the proposal before agreeing to support this venture.

4.6 To receive the report from the Allotment Working Party- allotment inspection to be arranged between Councillor's Dale Boyce and David Murfitt and to report at the next meeting.

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. He also reported earlier in the meeting.

4.11 Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-

4.12 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 26.07.2023.

4.13 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 1st August 2023 at 7pm at the Crown Lodge.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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