

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 359th), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 7th March 2023, after the Parish Assembly at 7pm at Outwell Village Hall.
Chairman Mr. Fred Keer presided the meeting.

Attending:-

Councillor's Mr. John Wake, Mrs Tara Rust, Ms Sarah Arden, Ms Donna Semmens,
Mr. Matt Titmarsh, Mrs. Jill Gooch, Mrs. Jane Sutton, Mr. John Watts and Mr Paul Brenchley., .
Borough Councillor Mr. Harry Humphrey and Mr. Chris Crofts

4 Member of Public.

1.1 Apologies accepted for absence: -

Councillor Mr. Dale Boyce.
County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson.

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:

No one spoke.

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th February 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.

1.5 **Council Procedures:** The external monitoring officer has reported on complaint made to him and has concluded that no further action should be taken.. The Chairman had obtained a copy of the report and had written to the Parish Council. He argues that the EMO's report is based on the false assumption that the complaint was made by one member of the Parish Council, acting as an individual, against another councillor. In fact, the complaint was made on behalf of the whole Council. Before proceeding the Chairman offered the councillor who was the subject of the complaint the opportunity to withdraw the contentious sentences. This offer was declined. Chairman then proposed to Council that he should write on their behalf to the External Monitoring Officer drawing attention to the Council's reservations regarding his conclusion and seeking his advice as to the options open to the Parish Council. A vote was then taken. Six councillors voted in favour of the proposal, two against and two abstained. The motion was carried.

2.1 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 7th February 2023

2.1.1. New Cemetery Working party – Cllr Jane Sutton reported that the Charity Commission has said that Parish Council can buy the Recreation land off themselves. Much discussion was made but no real decision as to the way forward apart from look at other areas for land.

2.1.2 Mr Lee has moved his fence back to the Boundary- clerk checked 02/03/2023. There is lots of vegetation debris on the field.

2.1.3 King's Coronation Weekend. St. Clement's Church would like to be involved with the celebrations on 7th May. They are to have a meeting to arrange either a street party or a Tabletop Sale and serve refreshments. They hope to get some Council support.

Prices for various memos- Mugs are £2.75 each if we order between 216-259, Postage between £45. And £50.

Coins in little plastic cases Quantity of 250 are £2.16 each plus VAT and postage.

As requested from Beaupre School- Pens Simple emblem Pen in a case work out £936.00 for 200= £4.68 each.

To be discussed. County Councillor Chris Dawson has offered £100.00 towards the costs.

No decision was made as to what mementos were to be purchased for the children. Medals were mentioned. Clerk to look at prices for these.

Outwell Playingfield are to have a meeting to see if they can get volunteers for a Tea Party on Monday 8th May at the Playingfield.

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

2.2.1. Safer Crossings- The Bid has been successful.

2.2.2 PARISH PARTNERSHIP – 2023/24.

The bid has been successful. Council needs to look for some help towards the cost of it.

2.2.3 Email from Chris Dawson- Norfolk Social infrastructure Fund- grants available for Community Projects.

2.2.4 Great British Spring Clean- Cllr Sarah Arden volunteered to organize this for the Parish of Outwell.

2.2.5 Email from Upwell and Outwell Luncheon Club- requesting a Councillor attend their AGM on Tuesday 14th March at Upwell Methodist Church at 1pm, The Chairman Mr. Fred Keer volunteered to attend.

2.2.6 MATTERS OF INFORMATION NOT REQUIRING ANY ACTION: -

None

3. FINANCE –

			Payments for March 2023 to be Authorised		
Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	551.48	0.00	551.48	DD	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	285.00	0.00	285.00	Mar01/23	Village cleaner 30hrs @£9.50
Plusnet	32.20	0.00	32.20	Mar02/23	BT Telephone/broadband March
K & M Lighting	105.15	21.03	126.18	Mar03/23	Mar Streetlighting maintenance
BCKL&WN	250.00	0.00	250.00	Mar04/23	Maintenance of Upwell Car Park
BCKL&WN	433.33	86.67	520.00	Mar05/23	Emptying of Dog waste bins
PWLB	64.67	0.00	64.67	DD	Loan for allotment land
Drax Elec	9.34	0.46	9.80	DD	Electricity February
Totals	1731.17	108.16	1839.33		

3.1.1 January Accounts were formerly approved.

3.1.2. March payments as above were formerly approved.

3.1.3 January Actual versus Budget was explained by the Chairman.

3.1.4. The 6th Draft Budget was explained to the Council by the Chairman.

3.2 For information

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

3.2.2 Outwell Village Hall and Playingfield have donated £532.82 to the Council to help pay the loan.

4. REPORTS-

4.1 To receive monthly Police Updates sent via email. All relevant emails sent to the Councillor's. There has been four thefts locally in the last month.

4.2 To receive the report from the School Liaison Officer – Councillor Mrs Tara Rust reported there was much upset with the allocation of Secondary School places for both Outwell and Upwell. Parents and Council had emailed relevant authorities with their dismay to the lack of support and knowledge given. A list of reasons why this isn't viable for the children to go to Icen Academy in Methwold was mentioned. The Council had much sympathy for both the parents and children. They are to write to all authorities involved in the selection process with the hope some weight might be carried and a selection can be made. County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson is also involved with this issue.

4.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party -all tidy.

4.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee – Councillor Mr. Paul Brenchley reported that the next two events organised are a snail race on 18.3.23 and the raft race on 7.5.23.

4.5 To receive the report from the Planning working party – report attached to the agenda. Clerk reported that the Informal hearing of 21/0008986/LDE had been cancelled on 1st March 2023. Application 23/00253/F was lightly discussed, and it was agreed to Refuse due to the location not being used as intended and the issue of vehicle obstruction.

4.6 To receive the report from the Allotment Working Party- it was reported that rubbish is being dumped on the piece of land that Mr. Seiley rents in Langhorn's Lane. On a proposal by Cllr John Wake that Mr. Sieley be given six months' notice to quit this piece of land seconded by Cllr Matt Titmarsh the motion was carried by a favour of five councillors. Three members abstained.

4.7 To receive the report from the Village and Highways Working Party-

4.7.1. Streetlights reported as and when.

4.7.2. Please report any highway issues to Councillor Jane Sutton.

4.9 To receive the Norfolk County Councillor Report -Mr. Chris Dawson has sent all updates via Email.

4.10 To receive Borough Councillor Mr Harry Humphries/ Mr. Chris Crofts report. Councillor Chris Crofts quickly reported OPC needs to send road names more appropriate for the new development nr The Tikka place.

The suggestions were Orchard End Avenue- since the land the new development is to be sited was originally orchards. The other road being William Lynne Road- due to the fact he was a benefactor to the Outwell Charities and there is a chapel in St. Clement's Church named after him.

4.11 Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly- Cllr Donna Semmens requested she speak about the current WebSite at the next meeting.

4.12 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 28.03.2023.

4.13 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 1st March 2023 at the Village Hall, Outwell, at 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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