

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 348th), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 1st March 2022, after the APA at 7pm at Outwell Village Hall.
Chairman, Councillor Mr. Fred Keer presiding.

Attending :-

Councillors, Mr Paul Brenchley, Mrs Jill Gooch, Mr John Hollands, Mrs Jane Sutton, Ms. Sarah Arden, Mrs Tara Rust, Mr Dale Boyce, Mr John Wake and Mr John Watts
2 members of the public.

1.1 Apologies accepted for absence :-

Councillor Mr Matthew Titmarsh.
County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson.
Borough Councillor's 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 a 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 for electors to address the Council.

The village cleaner reported that his internet wasn't working therefore the Chairman and Clerk to choose the bin to replace the one next to the Post Office.

A resident reported that the area around the Village sign is untidy with the grass longer, advertising boards gone rotten, and posts removed. The Clerk informed the Council that CGM cut this piece on behalf of Goldings Nurseries. Clerk to ask Mrs Golding if they want to continue to be responsible for this area?

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st February 2022 were distributed before this meeting. They were accepted on a proposal by Cllr Jane Sutton and seconded by Cllr Tara Rust..
These were duly signed by the Chairman.

1.5 **Council Procedures:** At the meeting held on 1st February the Parish Council asked for a written explanation of remarks made in an internal email sent on 9th January 2022. This had not been received by the 1st March. The Chairman offered the author of the email the opportunity to withdraw or explain the relevant remarks. This offer was not accepted. The Chairman explained that the Council could consider the matter closed or take it further. If Council decided to take the matter further the proper procedure would be to arrange a meeting between the writer of the email, the Internal Monitoring Officer (The Chairman) and one other member of Council. It was proposed that such a meeting should be arranged. Six councillors voted in favour of the proposal. Since this was a clear majority of councillors attending the meeting the Chairman said he would arrange the meeting as soon as possible. He offered the writer of the email the opportunity to nominate the other councillor to attend. This offer was accepted and Councillor Boyce accepted the nomination.

2 MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION AND/OR DECISIONS

2.1 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 7th December 2021

2.1.1 **New Cemetery** :- No update. Clerk and Councillor Jane Sutton to send a letter to the Charity Commission requesting as to how the Recreation Ground can be put to good use. I.e. a Cemetery and place to recollect.

2.1.2 Still waiting for a New Bin near the Post Office.

2.1.3 Councillor Brenchley bought the new Village Sign to the Council meeting- it was agreed by all the Council this sign was to replace the existing Village Sign. Councillor Mr. Paul Brenchley to erect it.

2.1.4. At the last meeting it was agreed that the Council would purchase commemorative mugs for the Children at the local school. Since then, Borough Councillor, Chris Crofts informed the Council that he had money available to give to any group in the Parish to help with the Platinum Jubilee- therefore it was decided that the Playingfield committee would order the mugs. It was suggested that the Council should still do something, perhaps more permanent, for the village with the money they were to spend on the mugs. A seat in the Boat Basin was suggested with of a budget of £500. This was unanimously agreed. Councillor Mr. Paul Brenchley was asked to submit a quote before the next meeting.

2.2. MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/OR DECISIONS

2.2.1 An email from Welney PC was received -requesting support from local Parish Council's for the Causeway they are trying to action. Council agreed to support the efforts of their proposals.

2.2.2. The Clerk was contacted by the owner of the Post Office in the village regarding erecting barriers in front of his premises due to the fact it had been ram raided recently. He had contacted NCC Highways and had no response. The Clerk contacted the Highways with this matter and received a response the very same day with the owners copied in. This matter has now been dealt with.

2.2.1. A Parish Partnership

Safer Crossings- Councillor Jane Sutton reported that the finance was going through with the proposals made by the Council.

2.2.1 B RECREATION GROUND:

2.2.1.B The Horses are still on the Recreation Ground . The next stage is to send another notice declaring that if the property is not removed within three months then the Council will take action under the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977. Chairman and Clerk to deal with this.

2.2. C OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING ACTIONS AND/OR DECISIONS

2.2.1C An email received from Jackie Scroten- secretary of the Luncheon Club- requesting a member of Council to attend their AGM on March 1st, at Methodist Church Upwell at 1pm- no one attended. Clerk to write and apologise.

3. FINANCE –

Payments for March 2022 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	541.00	0.00	541.00	DD	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	216.60	0.00	260.60	Mar-01	Village cleaner 30 hrs @£8.72
Plusnet	25.52	0.00	25.52	Mar-02	BT Telephone/broadband Dec
1and1	15.00	3.00	18.00	Mar-03	Web Site monthly subscription
K & M Lighting	105.15	21.03	126.18	Mar-04	Feb Streetlighting maintenance
Viking	108.28	21.66	129.94	Feb-05	Print inks /Rubbish Sacks
Haven	229.66	44.37	274.03	DD	December Electric Charges
PWLB	64.67	0.00	64.67	DD	Loan fo allotments
WAVEWATER	12.35	0.00	12.35	DD	Water for cemetery
Total	1318.23	90.06	1452.29		

3.1 Decisions/action

3.1.1 Janaury Accounts were formerly approved.

3.1.2. Payments for March- were agreed.

3.2 For information

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

3.2.2. Variance reports for December.

4. REPORTS-

- 4.1 –**To receive Police updates** – all relevant emails forwarded to Councillor's.
- 4.2 – **To receive report on Neighbourhood Planning** – Cllr Gooch no updates
- 4.3 – **To receive report from School Liaison Officer** – Cllr Rust is going to get the head to ask parents and guardians to write individual letters to re- iterate how important the position of the Safer Crossings.
- 4.4 **To receive report from Old Cemetery Working Party** – the grass is ready to cut. An email was received from the Chairman of the Cemetery Dissenters instructing that its Council's responsibility to ensure a new Cemetery is available when the original one is full. The Chairman is to respond to this accordingly.
- 4.5 – **To receive report from Playing field & Village Hall representative** – Cllr Brenchley reported an act of Vandalism occurred before Christmas and this is still being dealt with. A successful Snail Race fundraiser. The committee are proposing a picnic on the Boat Basin on June 5th with Music. There is also an 'Outfest' proposed in July.
- 4.6. **To receive report from Planning working Party**–report attached to the minutes.
- 4.7 **To receive report from Allotment Working Party** – nothing to report
- 4.8 **To receive the report from the Village and Highways Working Party-**
 - 4.8.1. Streetlights reported as and when.
 - 4.8.2 Several Highway Matters were reported. Coucillor Mrs. Jane Sutton is to meet Mr. Andy Wallace NCC Highway on Monday 7th March 2022 to report all these matters. Overhanging vegetation is becoming a nuisance on some highways. Clerk to contact property owners.
- 4.9 **To receive the Norfolk County Councillor's Report – updates sent throughout the month-** not present at this meeting.
- 4.10 **To receive Borough Councillor's Reports** –neither were present.
- 4.11 **Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-** no update from Councillor Sarah Arden on modernising the Website.
- 4.12 **To consider agenda items for the next meeting 30.3.22**
- 4.13 **Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 5th April 2022, at Outwell Village Hall, Wisbech Road, at 7pm.**
- 4.14 **With no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.**

Signed as true record of the meeting :- **Chairman**