

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 349th), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 5th April 2022, at 7pm at Outwell Village Hall.

Chairman, Councillor Mr. Fred Keer presiding.

Attending :-

Councillors, Mr Paul Brenchley, Mrs Jill Gooch, Mr Matthew Titmarsh, Mrs Jane Sutton, Ms. Sarah Arden, Mrs Tara Rust, and Mr John Wake.

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson.

Borough Councillor's Mr Harry Humphrey and Mr Chris Crofts.

1 member of the public.

1.1 Apologies accepted for absence :-

Councillors Mr John Watts, Mr Dale Boyce and Mr John Hollands

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.

Before the minutes were accepted and signed- the Chairman re- iterated that the minutes are lawful documents and cannot be changed after acceptance and signed.

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

County Councillor report – Mr Chris Dawson

Chairman pushed the County Councillor's Report to this part of the meeting due to the fact Councillor Dawson had another meeting to attend. He regularly sends updates from NCC and keeps the Parish Council in the loop with Highway updates. He reported that there is now In fact £3,000.00 ring fenced to contribute to the feasibility study required for the Safer Crossing project. It must take place this financial year.

1.5 **Council Procedures:** Chairman read out a report which had been previously distributed to all Councillor's before the meeting. This was about the informal meeting with himself, Vice Chairman Mr. Dale Boyce and Councillor Jill Gooch. Still no explanation for the reason why an allegation was made against the Council or a withdrawal. The Council voted that this matter should be taken to the outside monitoring officer on a vote of 6 for, 1 against and 1 abstain. Clerk to contact NALC on this matter.

2 MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION AND/OR DECISIONS

2.1 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 1st March 2022

2.1.1 **New Cemetery :-** No update. Borough Councillor Chris Crofts said he will help Councillor Jane Sutton find out who originally owned the field and bequeathed it to the Village.

2.1.2 A Quote of £500.00 was received from Councillor Brenchley for a new seat to be located in the boat basin for the Platinum Jubilee. This was accepted by the Council apart from one member who abstained. It I hoped to be in situ for the celebrations.

2.2.1. A Parish Partnership

Safer Crossings- Councillor Jane Sutton reported that the Parish Council team are ensuring that the Crossings are to be in the positions that The Parish Council have requested and not where the NCC have suggested. Councillor Sarah Arden is to contact Linda McDermott to see how long the feasibility study term would be, if done this year. NCC have put the simpler/cheaper option as their proposal- County Councillor Chris Dawson did inform Council that we are 192nd on the list for crossings. He is to continue to liaise with Councillor Jane Sutton.

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson left the meeting at this point.

2.2.1 B RECREATION GROUND:

2.2.1.B The Horses are still on the Recreation Ground . A letter of Notice has been written and sent to Mr and Mrs J. Boyle Webb informing them that if the horses and payment is not made in the next three months then the horses become Council's property to sell. Awaiting response.

2.2. C OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING ACTIONS AND/OR DECISIONS

None.

3. FINANCE –

Payments for APRIL 2022 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	541.00	0.00	541.00	DD	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	287.76	0.00	287.76	Apr-01	Village cleaner 33 hrs @£8.72
Plusnet	25.52	0.00	25.52	Apr-02	BT Telephone/broadband Dec
1and1	15.00	3.00	18.00	Apr-03	Web Site monthly subscription
K & M Lighting	105.15	21.03	126.18	Apr-04	April Streetlighting maintenance
Debbie Newton	123.24	0.00	123.24	Apr-05	Back pay for Clerk
BCKL&WN	335.66	67.13	402.79	Apr-06	Emptying of Dog waste bins
Mrs Nicholas	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	Apr-07	Half yearly land rent
NALC	380.26	0.00	380.26	Apr-08	Subscription
Haven	207.42	40.08	247.50	DD	February Electric Charges
Total	3521.01	131.24	3652.25		

3.1 Decisions/action

3.1.1 February Accounts were formerly approved.

3.1.2. Payments for April- were agreed.

3.1.3 Village Cleaner left the room – his wage is to basic wage level which is £9.50 per hour. The Council agreed this apart from one abstaining. He returned.

3.1.4 Clerk left the room for the Council to discuss wage rise and back pay to April 2021 as NALC had recommended. This was unanimously agreed. Clerk returned to the room.

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 January.

3.2.3 Emma Bateman is to be internal auditor for the Parish Council.

3.2.4 PKF Littlejohn have sent all relevant information and forms.

4. REPORTS-

4.1 –**To receive Police updates** – all relevant emails forwarded to Councillor's. Councillor Jane Sutton reported that the information comes in a different format now, this makes it hard to transfer to social media.

4.2 – **To receive report on Neighbourhood Planning** – Cllr Gooch no updates

4.3 – **To receive report from School Liaison Officer** – Cllr Rust informed the Council that nationwide they are trying to introduce one way systems to prevent congestion and bad parking.

4.4 **To receive report from Old Cemetery Working Party** – nothing reported.

4.5 – **To receive report from Playing field & Village Hall representative** – Cllr Brenchley reported that bookings are high. A jumble sale is arranged for the 9th April to raise funds for the Hall, Accounts are ok, there is to be a picnic on the Boat Basin to be arranged for June 5th- Queen's platinum celebrations- music included.

4.6. **To receive report from Planning working Party**—report attached to the minutes.

BC Planning officer Mr. Keith Wilkinson rang the Clerk to ask if the Parish Council were going to make a different decision on the amendment made on planning application 21/020308/RMM. The Council agreed that they will continue to object to this application for the same reasons as previously. Clerk to email Mr. Wilkinson with response.

4.7 **To receive report from Allotment Working Party** – invoices 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 Several Highway Matters were reported. Councillor Mrs. Jane Sutton met with Mr. Andy Wallace NCC Highway on Monday 7th March 2022, several issues discussed including that Parish Council were wanting to go ahead and build a footbridge , then NCC would pay for the foundations. Meetings are as and when, if there are any highway issues to report them to Councillor Jane Sutton.

4.9 **To receive the Norfolk County Councillor's Report – updates sent throughout the month-** his report was earlier in the meeting.

4.10 **To receive Borough Councillor's Reports –**

Councillor Mr. Harry Humphrey reported mainly on the support given for the Ukrainian refugees in the BCKL&WN area.

Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts reported that the Local has been submitted to the Government to see if it's sound. It will take 6 to 12 months to study. Borough Council are now to start licensing Dog Breeders. Those that have at least 2 litters a year or receive over £1,000.00 income per year are regarded as business. There is a prosecution going on currently. The Borough Council are going to employ a person two days a week to manage this department.

4.11 **Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-** Councillor Sarah Arden reported that she had quotes from people locally to help update the Current Website. She had two quotes from local businesses one being £500.00 and the other £1,000.00. She has also contacted the guy who does Upwell Parish Council's website and he is willing to do it for £250.00. Chairman gave Councillor Sarah Arden permission to continue progress with getting quotes and then reporting at the next meeting.

4.12 **To consider agenda items for the next meeting 27.4.22**

4.13 **Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 3rd May 2022, at Outwell Village Hall, Wisbech Road, after the AGM at 7pm.**

4.14 **With no other business to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm.**

Signed as true record of the meeting :-

..... Chairman