

## **OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 370<sup>th</sup>), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024, at 7pm at Upwell Public Hall, New Road, Upwell. Chairperson, Mr. Fred Keer presided over the meeting.

### **1.1 Attending: -**

Councillor's Mrs Jane Sutton, Mrs. Tara Rust, Ms Donna Semmens, Mrs Jill Gooch, Mr Dale Boyce, Mrs. Gina Greenwood and Mrs Joanne Seaton.

County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson

Borough Councillor Mr. Chris Crofts.

3 members of the public

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

Councillors Mr. J. Watts and Ms Andrea Alexander.

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:** Mr. Paul Mather- representative from The Welle Creek Trust updated the Council on the meeting held, and correspondence since, with the Middle Level Commission and members of both Upwell and Outwell Parsh Council. It was agreed that both the Council would write to the MLC and request that health and safety cuts be added to the schedule that Middle Level have produced.

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were distributed before this meeting but not before they could be read properly, so the decision was for them to be accepted as a true record at the next meeting on 6ht May 2025 after the AGM.

1.5 **Council procedures-** Chairman introduced the new Councillor co-opted on at the February meeting- Mrs Joanne Seaton.

**No election requests have been received so Council can go ahead and co -opt another member.**

Councillors agreed that due to the fact there were applicants who had applied to be co-opted in the last two months that they would not advertise the position but agreed that the application with the second number of votes would be asked if she would like to be co-opted onto the Council. Clerk to contact that person.

## **2 Councillor's Reports**

3.1 NCC – Chris Dawson – various updates and information have been sent by Chris since the last meeting. He informed the Council that the unification of both Norfolk and Suffolk, which both the CC and BC are informing the Council of all updates is going to save money in the long run.

The Trod that was proposed between the Sluice Bridge and the Boat basin should be installed as soon as is possible, due to the fact there will be money available to do this.

The safer crossings are in eyesight no- from 192 this time last year in the queue, OPC is in 2<sup>nd</sup> place because the feasibility study has necessitated them. Chris thanked the Council for their drive, as the Council thanked Chris for his wholehearted support.

3.2. BC – Chris Crofts reported the same that BC are working with the NCC to ensure tat the unitary works out. This will be ongoing until September 2025.

Borough Councillor - Matthew Henry - has retired due to the possible unitary. Un- ease with many members.

Borough Council have adopted the local plan – Government keep changing the planning regulati

### 3 MATTERS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION AND/OR DECISIONS

#### 3.1 To report matters arising from the minutes of the Meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

The Action plan has been produced with the minutes. This is updated.

3.2. It has been brought to Council's notice that a light has been erected on the Isle Bridge near the Bus Stop.

3.3. The possible selling of the land in Langhorn's Lane was agreed that the Clerk arranged a site meeting with Marcus Hawkins to ensure a professional valuation was sought.

3.4. Nuture's new quotes for grass cutting – Councilor's agreed to the new quotes Nuture have sent.

3.5. Request for a donation towards the OPAL scheme- that Beaupre School Governors are building for the pupils to encourage outdoor education. On a proposal by Councilor Dale Boyce of £200.00, this was seconded by Councilor Jill Gooch. The Council unanimously agreed to this Section 137 payment.

3.6 Councilor Andrea Alexander reported to the Council- via email- that the Upwell and Outwell Luncheon Club was a well-attended meet up of the elderly with Lunches cooked for them, from surrounding villages – there is a 62-person membership. On a proposal by Councilor Jill Gooch of donating £200 and this being seconded by Councilor Donna Semmens. The Council agreed unanimously that they would make this Section 137 payment.

**Chris Crofts left the meeting at 8.10pm**

### 4. FINANCE –

#### Payments for APRIL 2025 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	679.20	0.00	679.20	APR01/25	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	360.36	0.00	360.36	APR02/25	Village cleaner 31.5hrs @£11.44
VODAPHONE	32.00	0.00	32.00	APR03/25	Monthly Broadband
K & M Lighting	125.44	25.09	150.53	APR04/25	APR Streetlighting maintenance
SSE	1233.95	52.07	1286.02	APR05/25	Electricity FEB & MARCH
HMRC	62.60	0.00	62.60	APR06/25	Month 10,11,12 TAX
BCKL&WN	250.00	0.00	250.00	APR07/25	Upwell community Car park
Meeting room	22.00	0.00	22.00	APR08/25	Upwell Village Hall
D W Boyce	18.17	0.00	18.17	APR09/25	Cutting of the Rec
Mrs Nicholas	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	APR10/25	Allotment Rent
K & M Lighting	565.00	113.00	678.00	APR11/25	2 Replacement lanterns
<b>WAVE water</b>	<b>18.10</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>18.10</b>	APR12/25	Water for the Cemetery
NALC	486.62	0.00	486.62	APR13/25	NALC Subscription
Up/Out YC	200.00	0.00	200.00	APR14/25	Section 137 donation
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5553.44</b>	<b>190.16</b>	<b>5743.60</b>		

#### 4.1 Decisions/action

4.1.1 February Accounts were formerly approved

4.1.2. Payments for April were formerly approved.

#### **4.2 For information**

4.2.1 TC Group are the accountants that ensure the Clerk's salary is accounted for.

4.2.2 Variance report for February was presented

4.2.3 Received from Advertisers for Magazine- £210.00, HMRC- VAT Claim- £7245.50.

#### **5. REPORTS-**

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

**5.2 To receive the report from the School Liaison Officer** – Councillor Mrs Gina Greenwood reported that the school now has a breakfast club during term times. After school care – all provided by an external company. There are extra school trips proposed.

**5.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party. No report**

**5.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee** – Councilor Mrs. Tara Rust reported there is to be a Jumble Sale on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and then the next fundraiser is the OUTFEST on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025.

**5.5 To receive the report from the Planning working party** – report attached to the agenda. Chairman requested that if anyone went to the appeal meeting for the Dog Breeding application in Basin Road that they could make personal comments but not on behalf of the Council- their consultation had been accepted.

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

5.6.1. Streetlights reported as and when.

5.6.2 Any highway reports to Councilor Mrs. Jane Sutton.

**5.7 To receive the report from the Allotment committee:** - the rent invoices have been sent

#### **6. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL TO ACTION: -**

6.1 and 6.2 Agenda items were dealt with under finance.

6.3 KL&WNBC- Change of residential property address. Norfolk House, 4 Downham Road, Outwell to Peony, 4 Downham Road, Outwell. - information only.

6.4. Councilor Mrs Tara Rust informed Council that the meeting with Freebridge at the village Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025 starts at 4.30pm. It will be advertised on social media.

6.5. Chairman has sent his apologies for the next meeting- but realizes that it is the AGM too. He has said if no one is wanted to take on the Chairman position for the next year- that he would- but will no step in if someone else would like to have the position.

6.6 The laptop that Council purchased 5 years ago, to do Council work on, is no longer functioning. It was agreed at the meeting that she could replace it- on a proposal by Councilor Jill Gooch and seconded by Councilor Jane Sutton it was unanimously agreed for it to be replaced- but with Chairman's and Vice Chairperson's agreement of cost. It was suggested to use Diamond Byte to find a suitable one

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

**8 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 30.04.2025.**

**9 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday May 6th, 2025, following the A.G.M at 7pm at Upwell Village Hall, New Road, Upwell.**

**Meeting Duly closed at 8.45pm**

**Signed.....**

**Date.....**