

OUTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting (the 378th), of the Council, commenced on Tuesday 4th December 2024, at 7pm at Upwell Public Hall, New Road, Upwell. Chairperson, Mr. Fred Keer presided over the meeting.

1.1 Attending: -

Councilor's Ms. Donna Semmens, Ms. Andrea Alexander. Mr. John Watts, Mrs. Jane Sutton, Mrs. Georgina Greenwood, Mrs. Jill Gooch, Mr. Dale Boyce and Mr. David Murfitt.
County Councillor Mr. Chris Dawson
1 MOP

Apologies accepted for absence: -

Councilor Mrs. Tara Rust.
Borough Councilors Mr. Harry Humphrey and Mr. Chris Crofts.

1.2. Councilors' 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 matters raised

1.4 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th November 2024 were distributed before this meeting. They were accepted on a proposal by Cllr Donna Semmens and seconded by Cllr Jane Sutton.

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

1.5 **Council procedures- None**

2 Councilor's Reports

2.1 NCC – Chris Dawson – various updates and information have been sent by Chris since the last meeting. He re-iterated on all the information he had sent to Council.

3 To report matters arising from the minutes from the Meeting held 5th November 2024.

All updates are on the Action plan-this is attached to these minutes.

4. FINANCE -

4.1 Decisions/action

4.1.1 October Accounts were formerly approved.

4.1.2. December payments were formerly agreed

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 October.

4.2.3 Allotment receipts - £2630.00. Magazine receipts - £260.00.

4.2.4. Council were informed by the Chairman that due to steady budgeting that Council are in a better position financial wise at the moment than have been for a few years. There are many projects that the Council would like to fulfill in the next Budget year.

On a proposal by Cllr Ms Donna Semmens of raising the Precept for 2025/26 10%, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs. Jill Gooch. The Council agreed unanimously with this proposal; the motion was carried.

4.2.5. SSE have provided a new contract to Council with the choice of a 1 year, 2 year or 3-year fixed package. On a proposal by Cllr Mr. John Watts to go for the 36 months fixed rate at £5,738.00 per annum- this was seconded by Cllr Mrs. Jane Sutton. This was unanimously agreed. Cllr Jane Sutton to let SSE know the outcome.

Payments for DECEMBER 2024 to be Authorised

Payee	Goods	VAT	Total	Ref	Supplier/ Service
Debbie Newton	700.00	0.00	700.00	DEC01/24	Clerk Wages
Mr Ellington	360.36	0.00	360.36	DEC02/24	Village cleaner 31.5hrs @£11.44
VODAPHONE	32.00	0.00	32.00	DEC03/24	Monthly Broadband
K & M Lighting	125.44	25.09	150.53	DEC04/24	December Streetlighting maintenance
Upwell Village	22.00	0.00	22.00	DEC05/24	Hire of Hall November meeting
SSE	500.57	25.03	525.60	DEC06/24	Electricity September
McFEE security	19.99	0.00	19.99	DEC07/24	ONLINE SECURITY
Amazon	25.57	0.00	25.57	DEC08/24	Camera signs and attachment
Amazon	177.80	0.00	177.80	DEC09/24	Cameras and Sim cards
Nurture	800.06	160.00	960.06	DEC10/24	Cemetery and Infilled Sept/Oct
Totals	2763.79	210.12	2973.91		

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 Georgina reported that many concerns are being raised from the parents about the lack of extra-curricular time is spent with the pupils, there are not many school trips. Concerns as to why the pupil intake was particularly low in September 2024. Council to write to school governors raising these concerns.

5.3 To receive the report from the OLD Cemetery working party –
Nothing reported

5.4 To receive the report from the Playing field and Village Hall Committee –
Nothing reported.

5.5 To receive the report from the Planning working party – report attached to the minutes.

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: - nothing reported.

6. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL TO ACTION: -

Sheet attached to minutes.

- 1). New Cemetery?**
- 2). Riverside Railings.**
- 3). Community Garden.**
- 4). Penn Sluice**
- 5). Safer Crossings.**
- 6). Riverside Banks.**

6.1.1. Next year's meeting dates have been agreed.

6.1.2. Commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Days next year. Councillors to bring ideas to the next meeting.

6.1.3. Nurture have informed Council that they are going to change the process of invoicing. Instead of invoicing on a per occasion basis, they are moving to a fixed costing system whereby Council will pay 1/12th of the total contract value each month throughout the year.

7 Outwell Parish Council Web Site is updated monthly-

8 To consider agenda items for the next meeting 29.01.2025.

9 Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 4th February 2025 at 7pm at Upwell Village Hall, New Road, Upwell.

Meeting Duly closed at 8.00pm

Signed.....

Date.....