

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 24th October 2023

MINUTES

At the meeting of the Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel Oulton on Tuesday 24th October 2023 the following members were present:

Mrs S Mather (chair)

Ms A Shaw, Mr A Nash, Mr Greg Peck, Mr P Killingback

In Attendance

Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council),

Dereth Morgan, Orsted, Community Liaison Officer (CLO)
James Darwent, Volkerfitzpatrick, Project Manager
Ryan Woods, Orsted, Health & Safety Advisor
Lilly Dowe, VolkerFitzpatrick, (CLO)

Adam Curtis – National Trust

17 Members of Public

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Mr A Windross

2. To receive members' declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for dispensation.

None

3. To confirm minutes of the Parish Council

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th September 2023 having previously been circulated to all members, were APPROVED as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. To receive information on matters arising not listed elsewhere on the agenda

Ms A Shaw confirmed that the next Blickling Stakeholder meeting will be 27th January 2024.

5. To adjourn the meeting to receive

a. Police report – No report received

Norfolk County Council – Mr G Peck confirmed that NDC has received funding for the Western Link Road.

Broadland District Council – No report received

b. Questions from the public – None received

National Trust representative – Adam Curtis confirmed that they are still looking into policies regarding deer management. He confirmed that there are certain plants and flowers that deer do not like. He confirmed that there are 3 members of National Trust that can cull in woodland on National Trust land. All Game keepers have to have Licences to be able to shoot deer.

c. Personnel from Orsted and VolkerFitzpatrick introduced themselves to the parish. After giving a short presentation, they answered questions from residents and councillors on the following topics:

Light pollution:

Residents and OPC raised serious concerns about the excessive amount of light coming from the compound, as well as from how far it can be seen. Residents voiced their issues about light now filtering directly into their homes and had provided photos to the showing light pollution impacts in the nearby village of Corpusty, 3 miles away.

Greg Peck urged VFP to contact David Hook, the expert on rural light pollution for CPRE Norfolk, who has information about the correlation between excessive use of permanent security lighting on construction compounds and an increase in thefts. VolkerFitzpatrick said they were only recently aware that the lighting was causing an issue and have arranged for a 'qualified electrician' to come on Thursday 26th October, to try to rectify the positioning of the lights and determine whether they need all of them. A change to movement- sensitive downlighting, especially outside their permitted working hours of 7am - 7pm, was also discussed and VolkerFitzpatrick appeared to take this on board.

OPC and residents were asked to monitor and provide feedback on the situation. Orsted will contact the Chair with an update and the outcome of the work. The Chair will then contact residents with the update.

Other issues were also raised about the compound, including: the nuisance of car alarms, the need for changes to some signage, and questions about traffic. For full notes on this part of the meeting, please see attachment.

Adam Curtis – Countryside Manager for National Trust introduced himself. He confirmed how the National Trust look after and control the deer on their estates and tenanted farms. He was asked if a working party could be set up to look into a Deer Management plan. He confirmed he would look into this and report back. It was discussed about the deer on the roads from dusk. Mr Adam Curtis confirmed that the Deer are not able to be controlled at night.

6. Finance

a. To approve payments,
Cheque 100662 Information Commissioner £40.00

b. It was proposed and **AGREED** to accept the 2024/2025 budget document. It was proposed and **AGREED** to request a precept sum of £3500.00

c. It was proposed and **AGREED** to purchase 2 sets of pads and 2 batteries for the Defibs as these ran out of date in November. The cost of this is £598.00 + VAT. The clerk will send an email to James Darwent – Volkerfitzpatrick's Project Manager to see if they would like to make a contribution towards this cost.

d. The cost of replacing the rubber swing seat and chains is £235.00. The Clerk will see if she can get another quote to compare the cost with.

7. To consider planning matters

a. Planning applications received before 23rd October 2023 and any updates

None received

b. To receive Wind farm updates. – No other reports

8. Allotment Site

The clerk confirmed that a new tenancy agreement has been arranged for the allotment field as of 1st October 2023. She is waiting for the tenancy agreement to be signed by the tenant and returned.

9. To discuss Dewer Management and any updates

Allow this was addressed at item 5 further notes on deer management on Blickling Estates can be found on our website oultonparishcouncil.co.uk

10. To note items of information / future agenda

Update on Deer Management

Update on swing seat.

Changing of Bank account to Unity Trust Bank

11. To confirm the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 5th December 2023

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.17