

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING – 17th May 2022

DRAFT MINUTES

At the meeting of the Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel Oulton on Tuesday 17th May 2022 the following members were present:

Mrs S Mather (chair)
Mr P Killingback, Ms A Shaw, Mr A Nash,

In Attendance

Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2022-2023

It was unanimously **AGREED** to appoint Mrs Mather as Chair for the coming year

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mrs Mather signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of the Chair of the Council

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr G Peck, Mrs S Catchpole

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th April 2022, having previously been circulated to all members, were considered and confirmed as an accurate record. These were then signed by the Chair.

6. MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

The meeting that was going to be arranged with Phil Courtier will be discussed at the next meeting

7. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK

None

8. FINANCE

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number 100624 Norfolk Association Of Local Councils £97.00

Cheque Number 100625 Country Style Recycling £18.00

Oulton Parish Council Draft Minutes 17th May 2022

page 1 of 4

9. CLERK'S REPORT

Precept of £3200 received

10.SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2022-2023

It was **AGREED** the Parish Council will meet on the following dates:

2022

28th June

2nd August

6th September

25th October

6th December

2023

17TH January

28th February

18th April

(23rd May 2023: PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING 7pm
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 8pm)

11. DEFIBRILLATOR

The first defibrillator has now been registered – still looking for a home for the 2nd one.

12. TREES

To be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting

13. PLANNING

Offshore wind farm updates.

Orsted

Survey team have been seen along the southern end of The Street last week. This appears to be in connection with the Highway intervention Scheme for The Street, they were surveying the passing places and the railway hump.

I have sent an email to Orsted requesting an update/timeline, as yet have not received a response, this follows on from our Clerk sending an email on 14th April, apart from an email passing on to the appropriate person.

Vattenfall

Alison Shaw and myself attended the Community Benefit Funding meeting in Reepham on 11th May. Vattenfall have set aside £15m over 25 years, which works out to be £600,000 a year, however this amount may vary year by year, dependent on how funding is allocated.

The meetings aim was to get small numbers of communities together to work out what funding they need. However, many parishes have not had meetings as yet or have had no communication with Vattenfall. The meeting took the form of a workshop, attendees were put onto tables and had to write down suggestion for funds. Reepham charities and groups were very proactive. I suggested that small communities will find it difficult to find projects to fund due to lack of infrastructure. Vattenfall propose further meetings in July with funding to start at the end of 2022 when pre-construction work commences. Alison reiterated OPC's stance that Equinor should still be seriously considering the use of an OTN and that this Benefit Fund process is premature and inappropriate when there is so many major planning conditions and mitigations still unresolved - a suggestion was that they take their £15 million away and use it to contribute to the rapid evolution of an OTN.

Equinor

Oulton PC wrote a robust letter to Equinor on 26 th April 2022, reminding them of the suggestion that had been made at the Aylsham Town Hall meeting by at least 4 Parish Councils, namely that Equinor should return to National Grid and BEIS and vigorously request, in light of changed circumstances, a different and more rational grid connection point – before they enter the planning process.

A more strategic approach could be achieved in the case of SEP/DEP by a marine export cable running along the coast westward to The Wash and joining the national onshore electricity grid at Walpole. Alternatively, connection could be provided at the currently mothballed Sutton Bridge power station nearby, where there is capacity that could accommodate the projected output of SEP/DEP.

Equinor has not yet done us the courtesy of responding.

Offshore Transmission Network review

Alison Shaw continues to update the 95 parish councils on the latest news on the OTNR.

On 26th April BEIS sent out an email with an update on the OTNR by publishing their consultation response to multi-purpose inter-connectors. BEIS state that they are continuing to work with Ofgem to develop legal and regulatory frameworks. This however still does not help with the current consented offshore wind point to point projects, which are set to construct once the Contract for difference auctions are announced in July. OPC continues to keep a dialogue open with the relevant channels and through local MP's.

National Grid (NG) have also announced their upgrade of the grid, which is needed to be able to accommodate the increase of generated power from offshore wind of the east coast to supply London and the south. NG propose to build pylons, this project (East Anglia Green) will impact Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex, Norwich Main being the starting point, via Bramford and on to Tilbury in Essex. The public consultation opens on 21st April and will close on 16th June.

14. ITEMS OF INFORMATION / FUTURE AGENDA

Trees, Phil Courtier Meeting

021/015 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

28th June 2022

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20.00