

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 2nd August 2022

Draft Minutes

At the meeting of Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel,
Oulton on Tuesday 2nd August 2022 at 19. 30
the following members were present:

Mrs S Mather (Chair), Mr P Killingback, Mr G Peck, Mr A Nash

In Attendance Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)
Broadland District Councillor Sue Catchpole
1 Member of the Public

1. Apologies for absence

Ms A Shaw

2. Declaration of interest and requests for dispensation:

None

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28th June 2022, having previously been circulated to all members, were APPROVED as an accurate record, and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising not listed elsewhere on the agenda:

The Clerk confirmed that she had received the ROSPA report and will send a copy to Mr Killingback and Mr Nash – The main thing that was brought to light was the monkey bars are loose.

Covid Plaque is pending installation

It was confirmed that Blickling were holding a Community Stakeholder meeting on 20th September 2022

Defibrillator workshop will be arranged for the Autumn

5.To adjourn the meeting to receive reports from police, district and county councillors.

Cllr Sue Catchpole gave a report and confirmed that a letter has been send to Broadland District Council from the Department for Levelling Up concerning the nutrient pollution into the rivers. A planning meeting has been arranged to discuss this and hopefully central government will be sorting this problem out. She also confirmed that there is a Youth project that is being looked into with Aylsham Town Council and the High School.

Cllr Greg Peck confirmed that South Norfolk and Broadland District Council should be moving into the Horizon Building on Broadland Business Park by the end of this year at Thorpe Lodge would be put up for sale. He also mentioned that Norfolk County Council had put a helpline together to help with the cost-of-living crisis. This is for anybody over the age of 18 suffering difficulties and is called the Norfolk Swift Response. The number is 0344 800 8020 option 1 and is open 24 hours per day 365 days per year.

Police: No report

Questions from the public: None

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6. Finance

To approve payments: Approved and signed cheques:
Cheque 100629 Play Safety Company £96.60

The clerk will put together an Asset Register to be adopted at the next meeting

7. To consider Planning matters.

Poultry Unit NNDC PF/21/0317.... The Chair emailed NNDC for an update on the Poultry unit. The case officer responded that there had been implications as a result of the recent Natural England advise on Nutrients, and therefore they are still seeking further advise.

Solar farm 20211249... The Chair had been approached by a resident who had received an email from friends of a resident asking who at BDC they should contact, as there were concerns there had been tree and hedge clearance on the wooded area next to the solar farm site and B1149. BDC case officer was contacted regarding possible unauthorised tree clearance contrary to condition 6 of the planning permission. BDC have now referred the case to the enforcement team. (ref 2022ENF182)

Airfield Solar Farm 20150592.... The recent Contract for Difference auction which saw Hornsea Three and Norfolk Boreas receive their funding, also gave details of successful bids from Solar Farms. It was noted that Oulton Solar Farm (phase 2) had been successful. It has been 7 years since Phase 1 had been constructed. The Chair contacted BDC for advice on how further construction would proceed and whether any contact had been received from the developers. As the original application was granted permission for phases 1 and 2. Phase 1 was completed within three years of consent, Phase 2 could be constructed at any time. BDC also added that they have had no contact from the developers regarding phase 2.

WindFarm updates...

1. **National Grid published their HND on July 7th:** this was supposed to be the design of a comprehensive Offshore Transmission Network for the whole UK but was a massive disappointment, as it failed to alter anything significant about the situation in East Anglia. Local MPs were horrified. **On July 13th**, Susan and Alison attended a webinar hosted by Nat. Grid, to discuss the failings of the current plan.

2. Meanwhile, NG's earlier announcement in May, of their need to build a whole new pylon route (**East Anglia Green**) from Norwich Main down through Suffolk and Essex to export all this energy out of Norfolk, has put the cat among the pigeons all over again, by enraging the populations of those counties.

3. Most of the MPs of the entire region (13 at least) are now united in a bid to pressure the govt. (again) into a radical re-think - and transform this plan into a sub-sea cable straight to London. They instigated and led a robust **debate in Westminster** Hall on this issue on **July 19th** and are continuing to have meetings with Nat. Grid, Ofgem and the govt. department (BEIS).

4. There is now an extremely active and well-organised campaign group covering this issue for Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk (pylonseastanglia.co.uk), which is having an important meeting this week, to discuss strategy and tactics. They have significant financial and human resources - and legal counsel.

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5. Back here in Oulton, a meeting is coming together on **August 18th 12 noon** probably in **Cawston Village Hall**, between **Oulton PC, Cawston PC, Vattenfall and Orsted**, to discuss the local impacts of the Construction Compounds in Oulton and the HGV traffic through Cawston High Street. This will be the first time we have ever had Vattenfall and Orsted in the same room.

Holistic Network Design (HND).... It is now clear that Norfolk's offshore wind projects have been scoped out of the HND for coordinated projects offshore and currently will remain as point-to-point projects.

There are two proposed 'Pathfinder Projects' included as part of the HND in Norfolk, Equinor's Sheringham & Dudgeon Ext: Project.

Equinor have stated that they will be sharing a cable route and therefore are 'coordinated' and Orsted Hornsea Three together with Orsted's 'Energy Balancing Infrastructure' (EBI) Battery storage at Norwich Main now renamed 'Boudicca project'. The 'EBI', will not be going through the NSIP examination process but will go through local authority planning process.

Proposed meeting with Broadland District Council Planning.... ongoing.

8. Trees

Oulton Parish Council in the participation in the One Million Trees for Norfolk scheme After several discussions with Stuart Banks from the National Trust, we are now in a position to submit an application to Norfolk County Council under their "Jubilee Trees Offer" for this winter's tree-planting season.

We have formed a plan to completely renovate the back hedge of the playground, and plant some more trees around the edges of the field - while keeping the centre of the field clear of course, to accommodate games and our parish events. For that plan we're going to be ordering 2 packs of their "smaller trees" (20 trees in all) and 4 of their mixed hedgerow packs, which would allow us to re-plant along the whole of the back hedge and along the fence dividing the field from the pasture. This is approx. 100m of mixed hedgerow.

All species are native to this country and the trees include rowan, hazel, whitebeam, hawthorn and crabapple, to be planted as standards.

The total cost, after the 50% subsidy provided by NCC, will be **£315.40** and a small further amount for tree guards - also subsidised.

It was agreed that the Clerk would chase up the funding which was previously agreed in principle.

Alison Shaw will submit the application, and await to hear if OPC's bid is successful.

It's going to be quite a lot of work, of course: we first have to clear the existing derelict hedge (already planned with the Nat. Trust for Nov. 13th), then plant the new hedge and trees in January - and then commit to essential maintenance for the first few years until they all get their roots down.

The Chair will send out a resident's letter seeking volunteers to work alongside the NT volunteers. This is due to happen on the **13th November 2022** at Oulton Playing Field

9. To discuss the possibility of OPC acquiring a SAM2: It was agreed to look at purchasing a new one in the future.

10. To note items of information / future agenda:
Co-option of a new councillor

11. To confirm the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 6th September 2022:
6th September was confirmed,

Mr G Peck confirmed that there has been a new charity formed. Jim Agnew memorial charity which will be targeting help with course funding for youngsters.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE
FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.15pm

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES 2nd August 2022

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