OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 9th December 2025

MINUTES

Present:

S Mather (chair) A Shaw
P Killingback A Nash
K Reeves,

W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)
A Brook (National Trust)

1. To receive apologies for absence.
G Peck

2. To receive members' declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for Dispensation
None

3. To confirm minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
The minutes of the Meeting held on 21st October 2025 having previously been circulated to all members were amended and then APPROVED as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. To receive information on matters arising not listed elsewhere on the agenda
The chair welcomed back A Nash after having had a special dispensation from the council

5. To adjourn the meeting to receive
a. Reports from police, district and county councilors
None received

b. Members of the public
A Brook from National Trust gave an update on what has been happening at Blickling, she gave information about the winter program and the Christmas lights at the estate. She confirmed that the hall would only be closing on Christmas day.

6. Finance:
a. To approve any accounts for payment
Cheque 100714 £20.00 W Murphy for ROSPA inspection (Cheque lost in post)
b. To receive and agree the Budget 2026/2027
The Budget which had already been circulated to all council was unanimously agreed. It was also agreed to make an earmarked reserve for £1k to go down as allotment development. The Village Fund was amended to £3334.37, and a Training budget was agreed for £500.
c. To agree the Precept request 2026/2027
It was unanimously agreed that the precept for 2026/2027 should be £3,600. This is an increase of £100 from last year.
d. To receive an update on the VAT Claim
The clerk confirmed that the VAT Claim is in the process of being submitted
e. To discuss Assertion 10 and the requirements required
This was deferred until the next meeting

7. To receive information on Allotments
K Reeves confirmed that he thought there could be 12-14 allotments on the field. He

will speak to Aylsham Town Council for advice on how their allotments work.

8. Chairs report on an informal meeting with Parish Council Chairs in Aylsham

S Mather gave an update on the meeting and confirmed that councils will be working together and helping each other out.

9. To consider any planning matters

Planning applications received before 21St October 2025 and any updates

Bluefield Solar farm

Alison Shaw, Keith Reeves and Susan Mather had a meeting with Bluefield Solar (airfield Solar farm) about the construction of Phase 2 on 21st November.
HGVs will be side curtain type they will come off the B1149, then to and from the site.
Port being used for solar panel deliveries will be either port of London or Felixstowe.
Construction hours of work 07.30am-17.30pm Mon-Fri
Sat 08.00am -12pm No Sunday or bank holidays

Wildflowers will be sown on edge of site
There is a query about whether there will be grazing sheep as site may be too small.
The earthing issues which occurred with Phase 1 can be resolved for Phase 2.
Zara who is an environmentalist with the company can attend PC meetings to give update on wildlife as well as an opportunity for site visits.
The Phase 2 site was pre sown 1 year ago.
Start date Dec/January
Peak period will be Feb/March
There will be lighting during construction, however once built HSE lighting only at the infrastructure cabins only and will be downlighting
Project team will contact PC with regular updates.
Bluefield Solar were not aware of the proposed AD, which would be next to the solar farm site.

Bluestone solar (AKA Docking Farm Solar)

Work appears to have started on the solar farm
BT have installed cables
The entrance and exit have seen works being carried out.
Had to contact NCC Highways as the road was in a bad state, slippery.
Traffic lights were removed when work finished at 4pm.
NCC Highways said the traffic lights should be in place for the entirety of the works.
Road does look clearer, seen workmen sweeping the road and I believe traffic lights are now in place.
Bluefield Solar were not aware of the construction work being carried out on the southern end of The Street.
They will try to establish a contact with the developer.
The Chair has tried to contact METKA EGN, now known as METLEN EGN, but have had no reply.

RWE Norfolk Vanguard

The ducting phase of the cable route is now complete; the haul roads have been installed along the cable route.
The cable pulling phase will start for Norfolk Vanguard West in 2026.

10. To note items of information / future agenda

Assertion 10 requirements
Allotments

10. To confirm day and dates for the next meetings

21st January 2026
10th March 2026
21st April 2026

Meeting closed 20.41

10. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To exclude the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 during discussion of the following item

It was agreed to offer the Job to the person that had applied starting in July 2026. The Clerk will attend a meeting with her and then do a handover.

It was agreed to increase the clerk's payscale by 1 point as she has obtained her CILCA qualification.