

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 4th February 2025

MINUTES

At the meeting of the Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel Oulton on Tuesday 4th February 2025 the following members were present:

Mrs S Mather (chair)

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

In Attendance

Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)

Angela Brook – National Trust

1. To receive apologies for absence.

None

2. To receive members' declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for dispensation and the new Chair to sign the Declaration of office

None Received

3. To confirm minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2024 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 Marque is hired out for 14/6/2025 for a private garden party

Box day – 25th Anniversary event in the church – 28th June 2025

The chair has spoken to the church about the RWE grant and confirmed they would need to apply for this themselves.

De-fib is still being checked and all is ok with it.

5. To adjourn the meeting to receive

a. reports from police, district and county

No reports received

b. report from Blickling National Trust

Andrew Brookes is the new Countryside Manager. This spring the theme for Blickling is creativity and they will be working with schools focusing on creative responses, creation and exploration and sensory aspects. Work is being done on a new strategy up to 2035 that will focus on ecology and stability of the gardens and environment. May 21st between 10am – 5pm Blickling Estate will be showcased at Itteringham Village Hall

c. Members of the public

None present

6. Finance

a. To approve payments

No Payment made

b. Allotment Gate Update

No update available

7. To consider planning matters

a. Planning applications received before 3rd December 2024 & any updates

None received

b. To receive Offshore wind updates

RWE Norfolk Vanguard

Alison Shaw attended a public exhibition in Aylsham Town Hall and spoke with one of the engineers.

Information was requested on how the contractors intend to approach Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), especially under local rivers as well as the expected working hours for this work.

It was established that HDD work would be carried out 24hrs a day. This is disappointing as this was discussed during the planning stage and it was OPC's understanding that the developers (formerly Vattenfall) had said, only in an emergency would there be 24hr construction work for HDD.

Orsted Hornsea Three

OPC contacted Orsted to get an update of Abnormal Load movements for the New Year.

A letter was sent and forwarded to residents giving details of Abnormal Loads going into and out of the Construction Compound and to the cable route, over the coming weeks.

Orsted was also asked if they were aware of the construction of an 'EXIT' associated with Docking Farm Solar, at the southern end of The Street, Orsted were unaware of any such works.

Orsted continues to have regular meetings with RWE/Bluefield Solar (airfield Solar farm) & Sheringham & Dudgeon EXT project, but have not had contact with Metka EGN the developers of Docking Farm Solar.

c. Docking Farm Solar update

It had come to the attention of OPC that construction of the 'EXIT' access had started, as temporary traffic light appeared in the southern end of The Street. OPC had not been informed about this work and only discovered the road works on NCC Highways map.

The Chair has emailed the landowner to ask for any information on construction timelines as well as contact details of the developer.

The land owner was only made aware that work was due to start a week before.

The Chair has emailed the developer Metka EGN as well as the agents Lighthouse Development prior to the parish Council meeting but has had no response to date.

It is also noted that the solar farm appears to have been renamed as 'Bluestone Solar' as it is now on google maps as such.

8. To receive an update on Septic Tank Scheme

The chair reported that onsite surveys were being carried out in neighbouring houses. However small gardens were difficult as there was not enough curtilage for septic tanks to be fitted and required the removal of hedges and fencing to gain access.

9. To note items for of information/ future agenda

Allotment Gate

10. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council Meeting

11th March 2025

6th May 2025 Annual Parish Council Meeting 7pm

6th May 2025 Annual Parish Meeting 8pm

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.05