

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 3rd September 2024

MINUTES

At the meeting of the Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel Oulton on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 the following members were present:

Mrs S Mather (chair)

Mr P Killigback, Mr A Windross. Ms A Shaw, Mr A Nash

In Attendance

Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)
Adam Curtis – National Trust
Cllr Abu Miah

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Mr Greg Peck

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 Annual Parish Meeting held on 3rd September 2024 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

A Windross attended the Blickling Stakeholders meeting and gave a report on the Ibiza and Aylsham Show events. He confirmed Blickling are looking at updating the toilets and a new car park. He confirmed that they are looking to be open between Christmas and New Year. The Christmas Light events will be ticketed.

5. To adjourn the meeting to receive

a. reports from police, district and county councillors and Blickling

Cllr Abu Miah introduced himself but gave no report.

Adam Curtis confirmed that there had been no issues with the Ibiza and Aylsham Show events. In the high winds there have been 4 trees down.

Blickling would only be closed to the public if the winds gusted above 50. He confirmed that heritage open days will be taking place.

There were no members of the public present

6. Finance

a. To approve payments

Payments were made for Clerks Salary £791.60, HMRC £197.60, A Nash (Pedestrian gate) £69.99

b. To approve the New Financial Regulations

As proposed by S Mather and seconded by A Nash it was RESOLVED to adopt the New Financial Regulations. – The clerk will check to see if the council needs an internal scrutineer.

c. Allotment Gate/Playground Gate update

The Pedestrian Gate has been completed and the Allotment Gate is on order.

7. To consider planning matters

a. Planning applications received before 3rd September 2024 & updates

Planning application 2024/2021 Elmerdale Farm Barns – Install 7 new rooflights in existing dwelling of roof - NO OBJECTION

b. To receive Wind Farm Updates Orsted Hornsea Three

There was a road closure for two days at the entrance to the Main Construction Compound, this was to repair the road which had become uneven and potholed.

Cable drums have been arriving and leaving the Main Construction Compound, Orsted has sent out a timetable for movements of Abnormal loads to OPC, these were then emailed to the residents.

Orsted were contacted by the chair, regarding the project team attending a Parish Council Meeting, this is for Orsted to give an update and to answer any queries OPC or residents may have. Orsted will be attending the next PC meeting in October.

Orsted have requested that any question be sent two weeks prior to the meeting.

Orsted have also told the chair that they are in contact with Bluefield's about the Airfield Solar Farm, as there will have to be some sort of coordination to access the site.

RWE Norfolk Vanguard.....The entrance to the access for the Horizontal Directional Drilling crossing (HDD) point off the B1149 has been completed, along with the access to MA8 along Heydon Rd in Oulton.

Contract for Difference/ Orsted & RWE

The results of the Auction Round 6 for the Contract for Difference have been published. This is the funding mechanism for renewable energy.

Orsted Hornsea Three won funding for 720MW under a permitted reduction bid, having previously bid in an earlier auction round.
It is understood that this is to compensate for lower funding amount.

RWE Norfolk Vanguard appears not to have won this round or were not entered into the AR6 bid.

The chair will ask RWE about their plans, when attending the next public information day in Cawston on 10th September in Cawston Village hall from 1-5pm.

Airfield Solar Farm Update

Alison Shaw & Susan Mather attended and spoke at the BDC Planning committee meeting on 14th August, for application 2024/1261, extension of years from 25 to 40 years, Oulton Airfield Solar Farm.

Despite putting forward our objections to the extension of years which would result in the loss of 76% best and most versatile land, the planning committee supported the applicants. This means Phase 1 will have an end date of 2056 and Phase 2 an end date of 2065, from first generation of power.

The Chair has sent an email inviting the project team to attend a Parish Council Meeting so they can set out when the construction period will start and any impacts on the community. The project team responded that they will contact OPC soon.

8. To receive an update on Blickling Road/Highways

NCC Highways has sent an email updating when work will start (4-6weeks)
However no report setting out the proposed work has been received, despite repeatedly asking for one.

The Chair had an email asking for news of works from one of the residents of Blickling Rd. As the report has not materialised the Chair has emailed all residents effected, setting out OPC's understanding of works to be carried out.

Another resident from Blickling Rd informed the Chair on Monday 2nd September by email, that workmen arrived to start putting posts in, however the resident informed the chair that due to confusion and misunderstanding by her partner, they were stopped from installing the chevrons, The owners of the land have agreed previously they could put them in. Workmen went away, the chair has emailed NCC Highways to ask if prior notice of works can be done so that the residents can be pre-warned.

There has not been any information from NCC Highways about RWE's use of the Blickling Rd (Link 75).

The Chair will contact the Highways local office to find out what is happening.

There were also reports of accidents outside of Oulton Lodge, further up on the Blickling Rd. It appears a car had crashed into bollards, police were informed.

In a separate incident a bit further up from the previous incident, a van caught fire, fire engines attended.

Oulton Parish Council will keep note of these incidents.

9. To note items of information / future agenda

Budget
Allotment Gate
Orstead
Blickling Road
Internal Scrutineer

10. To confirm the date of the next meeting

22nd October 2024

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR
ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20.31