

OULTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 30TH July 2025

MINUTES

At the meeting of the Oulton Parish Council held at the Old Congregational Chapel Oulton on Wednesday 30TH July 2025 the following members were present:

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

Mrs W Murphy (Clerk of the Council)
Angela Brookes (National Trust)
1 Member of the Public

1. To receive apologies for absence.

None

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 17th June 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

A Shaw made the council aware that one of the allotment holders no longer requires their allotment. The clerk will write to them so an inspection can be done.

The ROSPA was received and the clerk confirmed that nothing had come up that needed the council's immediate attention.

5. To receive nomination for co-option

As proposed by A Shaw and seconded by S Mather and with all in favor it was agreed for K Reeves to become a councilor. The declaration of office was signed.

6. To adjourn the meeting to receive

(i). reports from police, district and county councilors

G Peck confirmed that there was a new Community Grant Fund available from County Council up to £2,500 for projects including social inclusion and volunteering. This Grant is accessible from County Councilors and they have authority to agree grants up to £500.00

(ii). National Trust

Angela gave information on a sculpture head exhibition at Blickling which is running until middle of October. She confirmed that there were lots of families visiting. They have musical Mondays and Archery on Tuesdays.

(iii). Members of the public

None

7. Finance:

(i). To approve any accounts for payment

None received

(ii). To receive actuals against budget and balance sheets up to 31st March 2025

These were received and noted

(iii). To review Policies

Data Protection Privacy Notice, General Data Protection and Co-Option Policy were reviewed and accepted with no amendments

(iv). To review Direct Debits

OPC have one direct debit with Hugo Fox for the website

8. To consider any planning matters

(i). Planning applications received before 30th July 2025 and any updates

PP-14044888 2025/2018

The Hanger, Heydon Road, Cawston

Change of use of buildings and yard for agricultural storage, vehicle/equipment hire, sales & servicing center to storage and distribution use (Class B8)

No objection

(ii). To receive Offshore wind updates

Residents have notice more activity in the compound/accesses of Blickling Rd this is between MA7/MA8 compounds. The Chair has emailed Murphy's for more information.

RWE are holding public information days in Reepham Town Hall on 5th August 9-12pm and in Aylsham Market place on 22nd August 8-12pm.

(iii). To receive Solar Farm update

No further information has been received from the phase 2 airfield Solar farm or Bluestone Solar about when construction will be carried out.

(iv). Anaerobic Digester updates/screening opinion BDC 2025/1631

OPC had invited the applicants (**Bluestone Biogas**) to the 30th July meeting, however they have declined to attend at this time as they are still in the process of gathering further information following the exhibition feedback.

The EIA decision is also delayed as the applicants were wishing to submit further information, but OPC has now been told by planning and the applicant, that a decision should be made on the 6th August.

Alison Shaw and Susan Mather attended an informal meeting with NCC Highways, in Oulton on 8th July, along with representatives from Itteringham PC and Cawston PC to discuss potential impacts from the AD proposal. The main concern was the 15 radius from the AD site in Oulton for the growing and harvesting of energy crop feedstock, the delivery of 50,000 tonnes to the AD and the remaining 100,000 tonnes to any satellite clamps. It was agreed that there was a need to know where these clamps would be located in any planning application.

It was a constructive meeting and notes were taken and shared with all PC's.

Alison Shaw and Susan Mather also attended a meeting with the case office at BDC/S Norfolk Planning department on 22nd July, to discuss OPC's planning concerns. It was again a constructive meeting and all agreed that until a planning application was submitted it was hard to answer all of our queries.

On further reading of the screening opinion letter, it was noted by the Chair that the satellite clamps may also need to contain a digestate lagoon, as the digestate has to be stored and only used on land at specific times of the year, this is due to this area being in a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ). It is noted that about 70% of the digestate created from the AD process would be liquid.

9. To note items of information / future agenda

Biodiversity policy

10. To confirm day and dates for the next meetings

17th September 2025

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 for the Clerk to remain in post until June 2026

The Clerk advised council of the new NJC pay scales.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR
ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.30