



# OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 7 November 2022 in the Village Hall at 8pm

### AGENDA

1. **Roll call and Apologies for Absence.**

Present – Cllrs C Cripps (Chair), Cllr K Chittock (Vice Chair), M Grange, A Duggett, S Hubner, T Weller, H Stone. CCllr Andrew Stringer and District Cllr Peter Gould.

**Apologies accepted** –Cllr D Griffiths and Cllr A Hall

2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** - Members reminded of their obligations under the National model Code of Conduct. No Register of Interests updates.

3. **Public Forum** – No members of the public were present.

**Report from County Councillor Andrew Stringer. (Summary)**

SCC has released a survey to local residents, asking for their thoughts on the upcoming 2023/24 budget. A summary of responses will be considered when deciding how to spend your money.

For a link to the online survey, click here: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/7BQY0J/>

Over 85,000 leaflets, highlighting information and guidance during the crisis, were distributed amongst Suffolk communities. The leaflet shows all the help Suffolk offers with finances and household expenses, as well as how to stay warm this winter. For a link to the leaflet, click here:

<https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/scc1>

SCC have launched their Winter Matters campaign, which aims to help ease the pressures of winter for Suffolk residents. For more information and advice on how SCC can support you during winter, visit:

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/wintermatters](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/wintermatters)

The Cabinet met for the first time since the summer political recess. The Cabinet agreed to spend £2m on new care provision for Children and Young People in Felixstowe. In addition, SEND services received £10m to provide another round of specialist units in Suffolk.

The Suffolk Local Access Forum submitted their annual report, which included their concerns about Sizewell C and its effect on green networks and Rights of Way.

Cabinet endorsed Transport East’s new 2050 strategy, which focusses more on green travel and linking rural communities to local economies.

Suffolk has declared an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone to mitigate that risk of further outbreaks of disease occurring. The Zone, meaning mandatory housing measures for poultry and captive birds, will be in place until further notice and will be under regular review.

Bird keepers and members of the public should report dead wild birds to Defra’s national Dead Wild Bird Helpline on 03459 33 55 77 and keepers should report suspicion of disease in their birds to the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) on 03000 200 301.

For more information on your local area, visit

<https://defra.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8cb1883eda5547c6b91b5d5e6aeba90d>”

Cllr Stringer also reported that the new Highways engineer was currently working on the school safety project for Occold Primary school and it is hoped that this can be costed and produced in the coming weeks. CCllr Stringer will contact the school to discuss some of the suggestions that the engineer has come up with.

**Report from District Councillor Peter Gould (summary)**DCllr Gould and MP Dan Poulter have written to the CEO’s of Morrisons and the Post Office in respect of the threatened Post Office closure in Eye.

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Chair.....



# OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

McColls has been bought out by Morrisons and they are currently in the process of closing down the stores which are not financially viable which includes the store in Eye containing the Post Office. The impact on the residents of the town and surrounding areas will be significant especially in relation to items such as pre-payment top up cards for meters and pensions. This is ongoing.

Lead has been found in drinking water in the older water system around the Eye area – this may affect other surrounding areas. This has been raised as a public health issue with the water authority by DCllr Gould and the MP Dan Poulter as residents have been advised to drink only bottled water which is unacceptable. This is also ongoing.

A public consultation is underway over a plan to cut council tax for the poorest households in Babergh and Mid Suffolk. The consultation, which runs to November 24, asks for views on how the councils should run their Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24, and whether bills should be reduced by up to 100% for working age adults with the lowest incomes.

Thousands of pounds were made available to grassroots groups last month to keep the doors of their activities open for longer this winter. The [Winter Warmth Support Grant](#), offered groups and non-profit organisations between £250 to £5,000 to cover the rising costs of energy, rent and food, and to keep operating without passing on increased costs to residents across Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have launched a competition to help them name their new environmentally-friendly bin lorries – in the biggest upgrade to their fleet in almost 10 years. A new initiative encouraging households to recycle food and drink cans, aluminium foil and trays, empty aerosols and metal screw caps has been rolled out by the Suffolk Waste Partnership. Dozens of council-funded activities took place across Babergh and Mid Suffolk during October half term, keeping children and families, happy, healthy and active.

Detailed planning consent has been given for the first unit at Gateway 14, Stowmarket, to be occupied by home, garden and leisure products retailer The Range - creating an estimated 1,650 jobs

The full report from the County and District Councillors can be found at <http://occold.onesuffolk.net/organisations/parish-council/district-and-county-councillor-reports-2/>

#### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Clerks report

- a. The minutes of the meeting of 3 October 2022 were approved and signed.
- b. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

5. **CIL Funding** - No new projects at the current time. The CIL money available stands at £5156.59 (not including £2,000 set aside for the school safety project).

6. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Meeting took place on 13 October with Councillors and consultant. Cllr Stone/Griffiths leading. Now awaiting some costings for the plan to be project managed by a professional consultant.

7. **Governance** – No issues.

8. **Suffolk Highways, Speeding, and Road Related Issues.** Cllr Duggett has circulated the report for October.

A similar traffic pattern was seen for October when compared to previous months in 2022. The graph is showing activity for both directions of travel. Top speed was 58 mph (at 01:54 on Sunday 16th), heading out

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Chair.....



# OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

of the village and 51mph (at 18:25 on Thursday 27th) heading towards the Church. The distribution of speeds etc remains resolutely the same with 85% of vehicles passing the unit at 30/31 mph. The SID has been outside the school for twelve months, although in October 21 it was only recording traffic coming into the village.

Little has changed in 12 months; perhaps the most significant point to note is traffic volumes (15053 vs 12859) especially as October 21 was an incomplete month of data (4 days were missing).

The Council has now had contact with the ANPR team who will be visiting the village in January 2023

The full report can be viewed on the website at <http://occold.onesuffolk.net/organisations/parish-council/minutes-and-reports-for-2022/>

## 9. Items for Discussion – No items

- a. Occold Circular walk leaflets – (Cllr Chittock) – deferred
- b. Council resolved to donate £50 to the Royal British Legion in lieu of the poppy wreath. Cllr Chittock will attend the church on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November to lay the wreath.

## 10. Planning -

### a. Applications

DC/22/04695 | Full Application - Erection of 1no Agricultural Workers dwelling with attached double garage for farm manager (re-submission of DC/21/06625). | Castle Hill Farm Castle Hill Thorndon Suffolk

**RESPONSE** – There are no objections to this application which is within the Parish of Thorndon.

### b. Determined - none

## 11. Financial Matters –

- a. The following payments were approved (General Power of Competence applies)

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR
Staff salary	308.44	61.80	246.64	Clerk Salary – Oct
ORAC	36.00		36.00	Adjusted hall hire rate
ORAC	15.00		15.00	Neighbourhood Plan meeting
Community Action Suffolk	60.00	10.00	50.00	Annual website hosting
Scott Regan	30.00	5.00	25.00	Bus shelter cleaning
RECEIPTS				
None				

## 12. Correspondence – received since the last Meeting.

Date	From	Detail	Actions, if any
31/10/22	Transport East	Rural mobility survey	After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk will respond on behalf of the Council

## 13. Date of next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 5 December 2022

**The meeting closed at 9.15pm**

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Chair.....