



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 2nd October 2023 in the Village Hall at 8pm

AGENDA

1. Roll call and Apologies for Absence.

Present – Cllrs C Cripps (Chair), K Chittock (Vice Chair), A Duggett, S Hubner, T Weller, DCllr Lucy Elkin, and CClr Andrew Stringer

Apologies accepted – Cllrs H Stone and A Hall

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations - Members reminded of their obligations under the National model Code of Conduct.

3. Public Forum – No members of the public were present to observe the meeting.

Report from County Councillor Andrew Stringer (Summary)

Condition of School Buildings

Councillors attended the Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Committee to discuss issues with the Schools Infrastructure team. These included RAAC, building new schools in the County ensuring there are enough school places for children, school admissions and school transport.

Suffolk County Council overspend

Concerns were raised at Cabinet about the predicted overspend for the financial year 2023-24. The Cabinet agreed that senior leaders at the Council would look how money could be saved to protect reserves and prevent cuts to services wherever possible.

New Suffolk Fire and Rescue Control Centre

Officers from Suffolk Fire and Rescue have recommended to Cabinet that the Council leave the current control centre partnership with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire and open a new control centre in the County by the end of 2024. This would create significant extra cost but was deemed necessary for the safety of Suffolk residents. The recommendation was approved.

Report from District Councillor Lucy Elkin (summary)

MSDC Update

The Planning Inspectorate have completed their review of Joint Local Plan Part 1, so it now needs to be formally adopted by the Full Council. Planning Policy Officers are now focusing on Part 2 which will include housing allocations.

CIFCO

CIFCO is an investment vehicle owned jointly by Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils which contributes income to both Councils.

New Corporate Plan

The State of the District report was considered at the Full Council meeting which set out a range of issues for Mid Suffolk. The data will form part of the evidence to help inform the Corporate Plan.

Inspiring Climate Action Event

The Climate Action Roadshow will visit Eye on 7th October with a range of activities and advice on a range of areas including keeping homes warm.

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Chair.....



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

Events for older residents

MSDC is supporting the Silver Sunday Campaign to help tackle loneliness for older residents. Events are taking place across the District to bring young people into care homes for activities.

Electric Bus Project

MSDC will be discussing the electric bus project at Cabinet this month.

Pride in your Place awards

The Pride in your Place grants to support improvements in litter picking, sign cleaning, graffiti removal etc will close on 31st October.

MSDC Community Grants

A rolling grants programme is available to fund activity by community organisations. Full details are available on the MSDC website.

Eye Ward District Councillor Drop in Sessions

A number of drop in sessions have been arranged across the District for any resident wishing to raise an issue or concern with the District Councillor.

The full reports 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 on 4th September 2023 were approved and signed.
- b. Matters arising - The Clerk reported that when the Invoice for the Insurance was received an Administration fee of £25.00 had been added to the renewal, which was not included in the figures in the September meeting (Minute ref. 11b). Having queried this with the Company she was informed that the fee had been applied to all policies for the coming year.

5. CIL Funding

- a. Cllr Duggett reported that the application for grant funding through the Eye wind farm fund 106, that might be suitable to purchase solar units to power the SID batteries, had been submitted and he was awaiting a response.
- b. There were no new projects to consider for CIL Funding.

6. Neighbourhood Plan – In the absence of Cllr Stone, Cllr Hubner reported the following:

- MSDC have confirmed designation of an NP area in line with the Parish Boundary.
- Following an initial meeting with Ian Poole, a small group has worked through a draft survey for review by the wider working group and Ian Poole for suitability for electronic release. The plan is to release the survey at a community event and the working group would like to request the funding of a prize draw by the Council to encourage participation. £250 is suggested however, the Council is asked to advise what it would consider acceptable. Funding towards the community event would also be appreciated.

Resolved for the request for funding a community event and prize draw to be put as an Agenda item for the November meeting.

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OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

- The grant application has been submitted and a number of queries raised as a result which are in the process of being responded to. The grants are being turned around quite quickly now so we should be ready to move to survey stage in the coming weeks. A copy of the application is available from the Clerk for anyone interested.
- The grant submission includes a request for funding for a Landscape Character Assessment. Part of this will include a key views assessment of views particularly important to the sense of place in Occold, in order that their special qualities can be identified and protected in the NP. Any support from Councillors in assisting with photographs would be appreciated.

7. **Governance** – None.

8. **Suffolk Highways, Speeding, and Road Related Issues.**

a. Cllr Duggett had circulated the SID report for September. He reported that from 4-12th September he had moved the SIDs such that the two units were approx. 100m apart and facing the same direction, with the objective of determining if both units were recording comparable data. He concluded the statistics were reasonably similar in terms of speeds and number of vehicles recorded. Normal recording would take place next month following this experiment.

The full report can be viewed on the website at <http://occold.onesuffolk.net/organisations/parish-council/minutes-and-reports-for-2/>

b. ANPR Project update – Cllr Duggett had not received the data from the period of hosting the ANPR camera in the village. However Cllr Stringer had received the data and reported that 126 drivers were travelling at more than 24mph and would receive letters.

c. School Safety Project – Cllr Stringer reported that he was in communication with the school to arrange an on-site meeting to go over the draft plans.

9. **Items for Discussion**

a. Occold Circular walk leaflets – Cllr Hall had sent an update in her absence. She reported that the responsibility for the project at SCC had changed and they would be walking the route. SCC had asked for some historical information to be included in the leaflet, any input from Councillors on this would be gratefully received.

10. **Planning**

a. **New Applications** – There were no new applications to consider.

b. **Determined** – DC/22/03796 | Land South East of Bulls Hall Cottage, Bulls Hall Road, Occold, Eye, IP23 7PH Full Planning Application – Change of use of land for a temporary period of 3 years for the stationing of a shipping container to store equipment used in conjunction with the land management (re-submission of DC/22/02720)

The Appeal Decision for this application being dismissed was noted.

11. **Financial Matters**

- a. The following payments were approved:

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OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR
Staff salary	254.76		254.76	Clerk Salary – September 2023
HMRC	191.00		191.00	Tax on Clerk's Salary Q2
Community Action Suffolk	50.00	10.00	60.00	Website Hosting
RECEIPTS				
Precept 2 nd Instalment	4400.00			

12. Correspondence - Correspondence received from SCC (Improvements to the A140 survey), BMSSDC (Publication of the Inspectors' Report on the Examination of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan and Dementia Friends) was noted, no action required.

13. Date of next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 6th November 2023.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

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