



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 4th September 2023 in the Village Hall at 8pm

AGENDA

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

Present – Cllrs K Chittock (Vice Chair), A Duggett, H Stone, S Hubner, A Hall and T Weller, DCllr Lucy Elkin, CCllr Andrew Stringer

Apologies accepted – Cllr C Cripps

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)

Pylon plan not supported by SCC

Suffolk County Council is objecting to the latest proposals by the National Grid to install 114 miles of electricity pylons across the County as part of the 'Norwich to Tilbury' project. 33 miles of the new pylons would run through Suffolk. The Council is continuing to press for an offshore solution to be researched and considered.

Onshore facility proposal for Suffolk Coast

The Lionlink project which aims to connect multiple offshore wind farms in the North Sea instead of individual wind farms connecting one by one to the shore, has identified an alternative landfall site at Walberswick. The Council will study the proposal and prepare a response to the second public consultation.

2023 Tour of Britain Cycle Race

The fifth stage of the Tour of Britain Cycle race will pass through Suffolk on 7th September.

New Fire and Rescue Service Training Centre

The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Training Centre at Wattisham has had a £1.3 million upgrade and was formally opened in August.

RAAC

Three schools in Suffolk have been confirmed as having Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete present. Remedial work has already taken place in 3 other affected schools.

Support for Ukranian refugees moving to private rented accommodation

The Independent Living Payment is available to Ukranian refugees moving into private rented accommodation after 1 April 2023.

Report from District Councillor Lucy Elkin (summary)

MSDC Update

Short term plans include holding more Council meetings in the District, making homes more energy efficient and working to improve rural transport.

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Solar Farms

Council Lader Andy Mellan has suggested the Government should provide a clear National Framework for the development of Solar Farms which balances delivering renewable energy, alongside food production and protecting the landscape.

National Grid Pylons

The latest public consultation on plans for the Norwich to Tilbury pylons project has launched. The Council have agreed to write to the Government to object to the scheme, due to its impact on landscapes and communities.

Pride in your Place awards launched

The Pride in your Place awards have launched to support improvements in litter picking, sign cleaning, grafitti removal etc. Full details are available on the MSDC website.

Holiday Activities

A range of activities for children and young people were funded by MSDC during the Summer holidays.

Paddock House update

Archaeology works have been carried out at the Paddock House site in Eye over the summer. Work is expected to start in the autumn and will provide affordable housing for local people.

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 3rd July 2023 were approved and signed.
- b. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda or in the Clerk's report.

5. CIL Funding

a. Cllr Duggett reported that DCllr Elkin had informed him over the summer about grant funding available through the Eye wind farm fund 106, that might be suitable to purchase solar units to power the SID batteries. This is an annual grant scheme available for solar projects. Cllr Duggett had completed the application form and it was resolved to apply for the grant. Cllr Duggett also reported that he had received a quote from Radarlux for a solar unit for the older SID and would work on how to source one from Germany.

b. There were no new projects to consider for CIL Funding.

6. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Stone reported that the Grant funding window for Neighbourhood Plans was now open. The next Neighbourhood Plan Working Group meeting was scheduled for Thursday 7th

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September. Ian Poole had agreed to attend this meeting and would then prepare the grant funding application.

7. **Governance** – The Annual Report 2022-23 was approved for publication.

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

a. Cllr Duggett had circulated the SID report for July and August. The highest speed recorded was 57mph heading inbound (on Friday 21st July at 00:55) and 72mph heading outbound (on Friday 25th at 15:40). The trends for speed followed the pattern as for many previous months. The SID by the school only showed 3 days of data for August, however when the data was downloaded it was all present. It was also showing a massive difference in the number of cars passing compared to the other SID. It suggests the device isn't functioning correctly which Cllr Duggett will look into and try and resolve.

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 confirmed that the village was currently hosting the ANPR camera for the week, which began on 1st September 2023.

c. School Safety Project – Cllr Stringer reported that he has requested a meeting with the school to go over the draft plans. As the County Council was now fast approaching the new Highways Contract being in place, the possibility of this moving forward had now increased.

9. **Items for Discussion**

a. Occold Circular walk leaflets – Cllr Hall reported that she was still waiting to hear back from SCC regarding finalising the Circular walk leaflet. She hoped to be able to report more about progress in October. Cllr Stringer would look into why there was no response from SCC.

10. **Planning**

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

| Reference | Address | Date received | PC Meeting | Response | MSDS Decision | Date |
|-------------|--|---------------|------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| DC/23/02000 | Castle Hill Farm Castle Hill Thorndon IP23 7JT | 17/05/23 | 05/06/23 | Approve | Granted | 28/06/23 |
| DC/23/01846 | Occold Hatchery Barric Lane Occold IP23 7PX | 13/06/23 | 03/07/23 | Noted | Granted | 24/07/23 |
| DC/23/03155 | The Beeches The Street Occold Eye Suffolk IP23 7PW | 05/07/23 | No meeting | None | Granted | 16/08/23 |

11. **Financial Matters**

- a. The Quarter 1 financial report was received and approved.
- b. The payment of the Annual Insurance Policy renewal at a cost of £421.04 (in accordance with the 3 year contract resolved at Agenda item 22a on 6 September 2021) was approved.
- c. The following payments were approved:

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| PAYMENTS | £GROSS | £VAT | £NET | WHAT FOR |
|-----------------|--------|-------|--------|--|
| Staff salary | 254.96 | | 254.96 | Clerk Salary – August 2023 |
| SALC | 60.00 | 12.00 | 72.00 | Councillor Training Course – A. Hall |
| ORAC | 20.00 | | 20.00 | Hall Hire (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group) |
| MSDC | 139.04 | | 139.04 | Parish Election Recharges |
| WAVE | 22.17 | | 22.17 | Cemetery Water |
| RECEIPTS | | | | |
| NIL | | | | |

12. **Correspondence** - Correspondence received from the River Waveney Trust (Strategic Plan), Cllr Elkin (Pride in your Place Grants), Suffolk Highways (Grit Bins) and BMSDC (Biodiversity) was noted, no action required.

13. **Date of next meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 2nd October 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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