

MINUTES

of the Meeting of Occold Parish Council held at 8pm on Monday 2nd April 2012 in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr K Chittock, Mr C Cripps, Mr S Hubner, Mr J Hewitson, Mr B Hull

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies had been received from Mrs Grange (owing to family bereavement) and Mrs Noller (due to illness)

2. Reports from County Councillor, District Councillor, Community Police Officer

2(1) County Councillor report

County Councillor Andrew Stringer gave his report to the meeting. See Appendix

2(2) District Councillor report

District Councillor Charles Tilbury gave his report to the meeting. See Appendix

3. Minutes of the previous Meetings held on Monday 5th and Monday 19th March 2012, which had previously been circulated to Councillors, were approved

4. Matters Arising

4(1) Item 4(1) 5.3.12: Diamond Jubilee mugs

It was confirmed that an order had been placed for 150 mugs. Mrs Noller was to place a notice in the forthcoming edition of Oracle to ask for any families with children of primary age and under who do not attend the school or pre-school to make themselves known to the Clerk so that they can be included in the presentation

4(2) Item 5(5) 5.3.12: Healthwatch questionnaire

On closer review of the questions in the questionnaire Councillors did not consider that it was worth spending the time debating answers to submit when the decisions about what action will be taken appear to have been made already

4(3) Item 9(1) 5.3.12: registration for PAYE

The Clerk explained that she had sent a letter to HMRC stating that Occold Parish Council would not be registering as an employer for PAYE purposes as none of the five criteria specified on the website was applicable

4(4) Item 10(1) 5.3.12: dead rabbits on Barrack Lane

The landowners had been contacted and had been unaware of the dead rabbits disposed of on their land. It appeared that they had been dumped by someone else. Arrangements would be made to cover them up with earth to prevent rats attacking the carcasses

5. Correspondence

5(1) Correspondence for circulation – LAIS Up2Date 120319; information from Anglian Water about drought measures

5(2) A letter of resignation had been received from Mr Burnett who felt that he was unable to contribute fully to council matters due to his commuting which meant he was unable to attend other meetings, etc. Clerk to write to him and also to advertise the vacancy on the notice board and website

5(3) A letter had been received from Mid Suffolk District Council about a change to procedure for Street Closure Orders which in future would be handled by the County Council

5(4) The Parish Council had been informed about a consultation on moving Riverside Clinic services to Ipswich Hospital

5(5) The Clerk had been sent a poster calling for volunteers to help run Thelnetham Windmill

5(6) A letter had been received from The Suffolk Foundation about grant funding available

5(7) Information had been received from Suffolk ACRE on updating Parish Plans. There was also information about Neighbourhood Planning which was placed in the bundle.

6. Parish Paths Partnership

The work party dates would be in the Oracle with a call for volunteers to help

7. Planning Matters

7(1) Copies of the CPRE Neighbourhood Planning booklet were distributed to councillors. This will be an important issue in the future and the Parish Council will need to consider whether to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan

7(2) The success of Leiston Town Council's proposal to help Town and Parish Councils facing consultation on major planning applications was reported. Councils were asked to send any feedback about the response they get from developers when asking them to provide the assistance outlined in the guidelines

7(3) Planning Application 0536/12 Benningham Hall: Installation of wind turbine
The plans were viewed and discussed. There were several inaccuracies in the submission document and no photo-montage giving an impression of the effect of the proposed turbine on the view from the village, making it hard for councillors to assess its impact. It was noted that the proposed turbine was taller than others nearby and there was no background tree cover to hide its appearance. Councillors voted 4 to 1 to oppose the application on these grounds

8. Finance

8(1) Submitted for payment an invoice from Glasdon UK for Fido25 dog waste bin for £133.74 + £26.74 VAT = £160.48. Approved

8(2) Submitted for payment an invoice from Essex & Suffolk Water for rates for cemetery tap for period 1/4/12 to 31/3/13 for £93.40. Approved

8(3) It was noted that the audit date had been set for 18th June 2012 (Clerk to arrange for internal auditor's report to be carried out)

9. Date of next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting on **Tuesday 8th May 2012** immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 9.50pm