

MINUTES

of the Meeting of Occold Parish Council held at 8pm on Monday 7th January 2013 in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr B Hull, Mr K Chittock, Mr C Cripps, Mrs M Grange, Mrs Di Noller, Mr R Owen, Mr P Standford

Also present District Councillor Charles Tilbury

The Chairman opened the meeting by wishing all present a Happy New Year

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies had been received from Mr Hubner (illness), Mr Hewitson (holiday), the Clerk (illness) and County Councillor Andrew Stringer

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

2(1) District Councillor report

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

2(2) County Councillor report

The Chairman read County Councillor Andrew Stringer's report to the meeting. See Appendix

2(3) Community Police Officer report

The Chairman read the police report to the meeting. See Appendix

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting held on Monday 3rd December 2012, which had previously been circulated to Councillors, were approved

4. Matters Arising

4(1) Item 10(2) 3.12.12: Fire Service merger consultation

The Fire Service merger consultation document had been read by all councillors and it was agreed to give the following answers to the questions posed:

1. Occold
2. Councillors tended to agree
3. Councillors tended to agree
4. Councillors tended to agree
5. a) Councillors were concerned that there would be a lack of front-line service
b) Councillors were in agreement with the consultation, provided the same level of front-line service was maintained, as at present

4(2) Item 10(3) 3.12.12: Mary Wade's pictures

Councillors were all agreed that the painting previously donated by Mary Wade to the Parish Council, could be displayed in the Beaconsfield Arms. They asked that a display card be placed with the painting, stating that these had been loaned by the Parish Council. Mrs Noller apologised on behalf of ORAC, that the painting had not already been displayed in the new village hall.

4(3) Item 10(4) 3.12.12: use of Jubilee Baptist Church projector

Mrs Noller updated councillors regarding the situation of Parish Council borrowing a projector from Jubilee Baptist Church, when needing to view planning documents. This was such that the church were happy for council to borrow the projector, providing Parish Council could provide an insurance document to the church secretary, which would show that any accidental damage would be able to be paid for

Councillors were in agreement that the clerk could forward a copy of the insurance policy to Jubilee Baptist Church

4(4) Councillors asked that a note of thanks be minuted to Mr Hewitson, regarding his work on producing the Hedgerow Survey

5. Correspondence

5(1) Correspondence for circulation – *The Local Councillor* Issue 4 2012; *Under One Roof* December 2012; press release from Rural Services Network about impact of government cuts to council funding on the countryside

5(2) The Chairman read out correspondence from SALC concerning planning matters under the about Sustainable Communities Act. Councillors asked that the clerk should write a letter stating they wished that Parish Councils should maintain a say in planning matters

6. Planning Matters

6(1) PA 2962/12 2 storey side and single storey lean-to extension at Chancel House, 2 Old Rectory Gardens, Occold. It was noted that planning permission had been granted

6(2) Details of two more planning applications had been notified to the Clerk too late for inclusion in the Agenda. A meeting date will need to be arranged to discuss these before the deadline for comments

7. Meetings and Training

7(1) Result of Clerk's appraisal

Mr Hull and Mr Hewitson had carried out the clerk's appraisal, when no problems had been found. As all was satisfactory the Clerk's salary for 2013/14 would be paid at SCP 25

8. Finance

8(1) Dispensations had been granted to all councillors present in respect of setting the precept

demand

The Budget and Expenditure for 2012/13 were reviewed and the Budget for 2013/14 set

The Budget for 2013/14 was set as follows: -

Administration	£3000
Training	£ 150
S137 Donations	£ 400
Church & Chapel	£1000
Cemetery grasscutting	£ 550
Water rate	£ 100
Street Lights	£1650 (including £750 towards new unit)
TOTAL	£6850

It was agreed to precept £7000, an increase of £50 on the figure for the preceding year.

Mr Standford asked if an item could be placed on the next agenda to discuss possible review of the building society account

Councillors asked that an item be added to the next agenda to discuss funding for street lighting

8(2) The receipt of a cheque for £89.17 from Henman's charity was noted. Clerk to send acknowledgement

8(3) The charitable donations to be made in the current financial year were decided as follows:

-

East Anglian Children's Hospice	-	£40
Marie Curie Cancer Care	-	£40
MacMillan Cancer Support Suffolk	-	£40
Eye & District Volunteer Centre	-	£40
Suffolk Accident Rescue Service	-	£40
East Anglian Air Ambulance	-	£40
Vitalise	-	£40
Occold Pre-School	-	£60

With the £30 already paid to the Royal British Legion for the Poppy Wreath in November this brings the total charitable donations under S137 for the year to £370

9. Matters to be advised (at the Chairman's discretion)

9(1) Mrs Grange informed councillors that a resident, Mr David Nicholson, had been awarded a BEM in the New Year Honours List. The clerk was asked to send a letter of congratulations.

9(2) The clerk was asked to send a letter of good wishes to Mr and Mrs Appleton, following their stepping-down from running the Beaconsfield Arms

10. **Date of next meeting is Monday 4th February 2013** at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 9.30pm