

# **OUSDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th July 2021.**

**Councillors present:** John Gale (Chairman), Alan Johansen, Guy Holland- Bosworth, Helyn Dudley and Geoffrey Ingham.

**Also present:** Joanne Kirk (clerk) and District Councillor Mike Chester

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Chris Ridge and Sylvia Pettitt. County Councillor Bobby Bennett also sent her apologies.

**2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda and no dispensation requests were received.

**3. Approval of minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed them.

**4. County Councillor's Report**

No report was received.

**5. District Councillor's Report**

Mike Chester presented his report which is available on the Parish Council's website at <http://ousden.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/meetings/meetings-reports/13th-july-2021/>

**6. Police issues**

No issues were raised.

**7. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting**

- John Gale has started cleaning the village sign.

**8. Finance**

**a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments**

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- J P Kirk – expenses - LGA 1972, s111 - **£15.67**
- McGregor Services – grass cutting – Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 & 10 – **120.00**

Guy Holland Bosworth and Alan Johansen signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman countersigned it.

**b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings**

No payments were authorised between meetings.

**c) Statement of receipts and payments made since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

**Receipts**

Date	Description	Supplier	Total
10/05/2021	Bank interest received	Lloyds Bank	£0.05
29/06/2021	Electricity refund St Barnabas	Ousden PCC	£65.47

**Payments**

Date	Minute	Description	Supplier	Total
04/05/2021	343/8f	Electricity St Barnabas	EDF	8.00
11/05/2021	348/10	Walks leaflets (1/3)	Dalham Parish Council	120.00
11/05/2021	348/10a	Zoom subscription 1/8	J Kirk	17.99
12/05/2021	348/10a	Annual donation	Ousden Village Hall and Playing Fields	3,100.00
12/05/2021	348/10a	Internal audit fee	Cathy Whitaker	65.00
03/06/2021	343/8f	Grass cutting	McGregor Services	60.00
03/06/2021	343/8f	Electricity St Barnabas	EDF	8.00
28/06/2021	349/10f	Repairs to bus shelter	Troy Nichols Home Renovations	745.00
Staff costs as per confidential cashbook				

d) **Bank balances as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Lloyds Bank Current Account	£3,850.92
Lloyds Bank reserve account	£5,711.18
<b>Total in Banks</b>	<b>£9,562.10</b>

Guy Holland Bosworth and Alan Johansen verified and signed the bank statements.

e) **Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls**

Geoff Ingham completed the checklist of internal controls.

f) **Approval of the continued use of electronic banking**

It was resolved that the Council would continue to use electronic banking.

9. **To discuss the any planning issues**

a) **Letter from Steve Reed MP about planning forms and asking parish councils to support a motion in favour of the principle of protecting residents' right to say over individual planning applications in their own area as detailed in Mike Chester's report.**

Ousden Parish Council agreed to support the motion in favour of the principle of protecting residents' right to say over individual planning applications in their own area.

10. **Review of the following policy documents**

a) **Financial Regulations**

It was resolved that no amendments were necessary.

b) **Standing Orders**

It was resolved that the following changes would be made to 1a and 1c:

- a. *Meetings of the Council will be held in Ousden Village Hall on the second Tuesday (excluding Bank Holidays) in January, March, May, July, September and November unless otherwise notified. Dates of meetings can only be changed with the agreement of the Chairman and clerk if a meeting is not going to be quorate. Meetings will commence at **6p.m.** unless members of the public are present in which case the meeting will start at **6.15pm** following the open forum.*
- c. *If public meetings are not allowed (as for example during the Coronavirus outbreak in 2020), remote meetings will be held via Zoom. **Members of the public are welcome to join Zoom meetings. Login details will be included on the published agenda.** A public forum will be held at the start of the meeting at which members of the public are invited to speak to councillors about any items on the agenda.*
- d. *The Annual Parish Meeting shall normally be held on the first Thursday in May **after** the Annual Parish Council meeting.*

11. **To approve the updated Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan Leaflet**

It was resolved that the Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan leaflet would be approved.

12. **To discuss any highways/Rights of Way issues/tree/transport issues**

a) **Update on the Quiet Lanes project**

Ousden Parish Council is submitting its nominated lanes in conjunction with Wickhambrook Parish Council. It will be submitted in Wave 3, hopefully in August 2021. The Parish Council will be expected to pay £100 towards the cost. It was resolved that this payment would be approved.

b) **Update on the Parish Council's request for a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner about speeding**

Helyn Dudley contacted County Councillor Bobby Bennett about lorries and about a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, about speed enforcement in rural villages. She is waiting for Tim Passmore to confirm some possible dates. She is also looking into the HGV issue and what options there are.

c) **Outstanding drainage requests for Front Street and The Hill.**

All the issues reported have received the following response from Suffolk County Council Highways:  
*Our staff have visited the location of your report and assessed the issue you reported. We believe that at this time it does not warrant remedial action. However, we will continue to monitor the location as part of our routine inspections, and if the matter worsens significantly, we will take action.*

*While we would like to resolve every problem as soon as it is identified, financial and practical considerations mean that we must prioritise our work, as set out in publicly available criteria, and based on the severity and risk associated with the defect.*

*We receive thousands of highway-related reports each month, with significantly increased demand in winter months. We assess each and every report and when appropriate, repair or rectify the reported issue.*

*We need to ensure that all reports are treated with fairness across the entire county, as well as prioritising issues that pose an immediate threat to public safety.*

**13. To discuss any village issues:**

**a) Possible locations for dog bins**

Alan Johansen and John Gale agreed to investigate possible locations and make sure neighbours have no objections in time for the next meeting.

**14. To discuss any correspondence**

**a) Letter from Lord Lieutenant for Suffolk about the Festival of Suffolk 2022 to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee and the suggestion to appoint a Festival Community Champion and Email from SALC about community celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

John Gale agreed to speak to the Village Hall Management Committee about organising a village event.

**15. Any other business for noting or including on the agenda**

**The following items are for noting:**

A number of reflector signs were damaged recently when the verges were cut. John Gale agreed to report them.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 7pm.**

Signed ..... (Chairman) Dated .....