



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Stephen Hubner

Clerk: Tina Newby

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Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 6th July 2026 In The Village Hall, Occold

Attendees: Cllr Hubner (SH), Cllr Chittock (KC), Cllr Duggett (AD) (arrive 8:09pm), Cllr Erhorn (JE), Cllr A Hall (Aha), Cllr St Pier (RSP), and Cllr Weller (TW) (arrived 8:28pm).

Also in Attendance: Tina Newby (Clerk), County Cllr Mittuch and District Cllr Elkin. 7 members of the public attended.

1 Apologies for absence:

- a** Councillors to receive any apologies for absence. Apologies received for Cllr Howarth.
- b** Councillors to vote on acceptance to apologies for absence. Accepted.

2 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation considerations:

- a** To receive any Councillors' Interests in subsequent agenda items. Cllr Weller expenses.
- b** To receive and consider any requests for dispensations. None

3 Minutes of previous meetings: Councillors to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 1st June 2026. **Resolved to Approved the minutes of 1st June 2026, unanimously.**

4 Public Forum:

- a** To receive a report from the County Councillor. No report received.
- b** To receive a report from the District Councillor. District Cllr Elkin discussed her report, which has been uploaded to the PC website.
- c** To receive comments or questions on matters of interest from members of the public.

The public were asked for their opinions on the solar farm (NSIPs).

The Clerk noted the following:

- Solar panels 3.75m angle take away light from neighbouring gardens.
- Adjust location of pads.
- Area 4 appears to be higher in power 100mw or more
- Shrink it, change it, move it
- Can we gain for more amenities from this



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

- 2 x permissive paths go to nowhere
- NE is so close to National Cycle Path
- Are the boundaries fixed.
- Plans are Area 4 are not accurate
- Put up high hedges 3.5 meters within 5 years!
- Concern over Bats and Deer, Badgers etc.
- Scoping report – developer limit as much as the impact on animals, glint and glare
- Distributed battery storage scheme – 50 Dbells and above
- Cleaning the solar panels not been address, incoming water to wash and disposable of contaminated water after wash.
- Storage of water for emergencies such as fire
- High Quality grass and flower seeds
- Sheep will not be used for Biodiversity
- Keep sending comments in before 23.59pm 15/8/26. More comments more weight
- £125,000 per year review as a starter point
- Stated that no HGVs will come through the village
- Multiple interest groups in Eye, do we join forces
- Suggestion box to be placed by the bookshelf at the pavilion

There was some discussion over new play equipment. Contact ORAC and see their views. **Action** Cllr Erhorn to discuss this with ORAC.

5 Planning: Councillors to consider and note the following items relating to the Local Planning Authority (MSDC) relating to Occold: -

a Applications:

b Determinations: White House Farm, Dublin Road, Occold.

Appeal reference 6002670 and 6002671, both being dismissed.

6 Finance (all supporting papers sent separately):

a Councillors to approve the finance report for the period ended 30th June 2026 including:

i Bank reconciliations: Total in Banks £19,936.15.

Meeting papers were approved by Cllr Erhorn.

ii Budget to actual payments and receipts. Noted

iii Reserves. Noted.

b Councillors to note receipts since the last meeting. Reclaim of Vat £2,256.48 and interest £62.12

c Councillors to approve payments as per schedule.

Freethought
Freethought

Website
Website

77.00
72.00



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk	Wages June	350.10
Clerk	Expenses	60.18
HMRC	NI Tax	86.21
Wave	Cemetery	26.11
Defib Store	T Weller Defib pads	102.00

Total payments of £773.60 were approved.

d Update on Oven for Village Hall. No update

7 NSIPS:

a EcoPower Suffolk: Update.

It appears that the developer is pushing for Area 4. Tilting of the solar panels. None of the Parish Councils items mentioned in the first round have been considered. Area is well known for good agricultural land.

Occold PC would like to join the discussion group in principle. Set up a suggestion box, collate comments to the developer, produce a draft. Put up notices around the village of the suggestion box location. Cutoff date end of July 2026. Repeat the original comments. There are fundamental errors and misinformation in the project documentation.

b Essex and Suffolk Water: No update, they are firming up the route and is likely to miss Occold.

8 Website: Old website pages have been set up and the new website. All data has been transferred, if even it is old data. Cllr Doggett will ask groups and organisations for updates.

9 To receive updates and reports from officers and take appropriate action:

a Neighbourhood Plan: No update. The funding decision has not been received.

b Flooding: The group had a meeting with the River Waveney Trust. Work in progress,

c Defibrillator: There was a correspondence that the defib was not charging. Cllr Weller to look into this after the meeting.

d Speed through village: Church Road had the ANPR for a week. Mr Guy Ainsworth met Cllr Doggett for a site visit for possible Community Speed Watch site, he suggested a couple. There was an



OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

article on Facebook asking for volunteers for the community speed watch, no replies received.

- e Footpaths:** Have not been maintained. Some of them could be cut by the landowner. Report these using the 'pothole' reporting tool. There was a concern over a resident changing the footpath to avoid the driveway. This needs to be progressed properly and the landowner notified. **Action** (Aha) to have a word with them.

- f Community Support Group:** Completed.

- 10 Correspondence:** none

- 11 Any other matters for information to be noted, or for inclusion on a future agenda:**

Driving out of the village hall driveway is becoming dangerous. Now that the pedestrian island is in place the vehicles are in the middle of the road. The hedge is also overgrown. **Action Clerk** to ask the process for having a mirror on the railings of the school.

- 12 Next scheduled meeting:** 7th September 2026

- 13 Chairman to close the meeting.** 21:57pm