

**The next meeting of Ousden Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 6p.m. in Ousden Village Hall.**

**Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting. There will be a public session near the start of the meeting to give residents an opportunity to speak to councillors informally about items on the agenda. Members of the public may stay and observe the rest of the meeting but may not address the Council.**

#### **AGENDA**

1. To accept apologies and reason for absence.
2. Declaration of interest by councillors in items on the agenda and dispensation requests.
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2025 and the planning meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026.
4. Public session (10 minutes).
5. County Councillors Report.
6. District Councillor's report.
7. Police issues.
  - a) Crime update.
8. To receive an update on the list of actions agreed at the last meeting.
9. To discuss the following financial issues:
  - a) Approval of payments and signing of Schedule of Payments
  - b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings.
  - c) To receive a statement of receipts and payments made since the last meeting
  - d) Bank balances and confirmation of bank reconciliation as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026.
  - e) Update on the financial checks carried out by a councillor.
  - f) To review the income and expenditure for 2025/26 against the budget and discuss the level of reserves for general and earmarked expenditure.
  - g) To review the register of fixed assets and insurance values and check that the level of insurance cover is adequate.
  - h) To review the Council's risk assessment.
  - i) To check that the levels of liability insurance are adequate.
  - j) Review of confidential cashbook and deductions by a councillor.
  - k) To nominate a councillor to inspect the Council's property for damage or defects by 30th April 2026 and complete the inspection checklist.
10. To discuss any planning issues.
  - a) Planning applications received between meetings.
  - b) Proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework.
11. To discuss any highways/Rights of Way/tree/transport issues.
  - a) Update from the Suffolk Parish Road Safety Group about Suffolk County Council's new 20mph policy.
  - b) Registering for Suffolk County Council's Community Self Help Scheme.
  - c) Replacing the 30mph repeater signs in Ousden.
  - d) The Government's new Road Safety Strategy and 5 related consultations on:
    - Proposed changes to penalties for motoring offences
    - Mandatory eye testing for older drivers
    - Minimum learning period for learner drivers
    - Mandating safer technologies
    - Improving motorcycling training, testing and licensing
  - e) Parish Council survey carried out by Suffolk Highways.
12. To discuss any village issues:
13. To confirm the dates of meetings in 2026/27.
14. To discuss the procedure and possible items for the Annual Parish Meeting.
15. To discuss the following correspondence:
  - a) Email from Citizen's Advice West Suffolk requesting a donation.

- b) Email from West Suffolk Council about their Five Dinners initiative which is free to West Suffolk Council residents.
  - c) Letter from West Suffolk Council about their review of Public Space Protection Orders.
16. Any other business for noting or including on the agenda of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 6pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm.
17. To resolve to exclude press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960: the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of private and confidential information
- a) To discuss staffing matters.