

OUSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
7th May 2024

PRESENT: Parish councillors John Gale (Chairman), Sylvia Pettitt (Vice-chairman), Edward Page-Turner and Geoff Ingham.

Also present: Joanne Kirk (clerk), Chris Ingham (Ousden Village Hall), District Councillor Mike Chester and County Councillor Bobby Bennett.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Helen Gale (Neighbourhood Watch).

The meeting was chaired by Parish Council Chairman John Gale.

All the reports presented at the meeting are available on Ousden Parish Council's website at <http://ousden.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/annual-parish-meeting/annual-parish-meeting-2024/>

1. Approval of the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2023 were confirmed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

2. District Councillor's Report by Mike Chester.

The full report is available on Ousden Parish Council's website as detailed above. He asked the Council's view on the elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

3. County Councillor's report by Bobby Bennett

County Councillor Bobby Bennett sent a written report. She talked about the key issues for Suffolk County Council. They are working hard to improve SEND (Special Education Needs) services. She also spoke about the possibility of devolution for Suffolk and encouraged people to respond to the consultation. She has been appointed Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

4. Ousden Village Hall Report

Chris Ingham presented her report. The planning application for a replacement village hall has been approved. They now have three years to raise the funds for a new hall. They are looking to employ a professional funding bidder. The costs of running the village hall are very high, especially due to high energy costs. There have not been many fund raising events, but those that have been run have been very successful. There are nine members on the village hall committee who all work hard to keep the hall running.

5. Neighbourhood Watch Report

There has been a theft of a trailer in Ousden.

6. Chairman's Report

The Parish Council Chairman, John Gale presented his report. The full report is available on Ousden Parish Council's website.

7. Financial Report 2023/24

The full report is available on the parish council website.

8. Any other issues or concerns which residents would like to bring to the attention of the Council.

No issues were raised.

The meeting closed at 8pm

Signed

Dated.....