**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Otterhampton Village Hall on Thursday

2nd January 2014 at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Mr P. Gripton (Chairman) Mr. M. Brown

Mr B. Leathwood Mr T. Jones

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Ms J. Pay Mr M. Caswell

Mr Peter M. Shaw (Clerk)

92/13 APOLOGIES

Mr. J. Marriott, Mr R. Best, Councillor Mr J. Edney

93/13 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th December 2013 were corrected at 86/13 “Councillor Caswell” then APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

94/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

 All members declared personal interests in Agenda Item 6 (i).

95/13 HOUSING SURVEY

Barry Leathwood reported that the leaflet has been produced and will go to all households with the newsletter.

96/13 PLANNING MATTERS

 Application No.

 39/13/00003 Renewal of Application at Plot 4, 9 Church Hill – *Awaiting decision*

 39/13/00004 Renewal of Application for 3 dwellings, 9 Church Hill – *Awaiting decision*

97/13 MATTERS ARISING

1. Hinkley Point C Development

Councillor Caswell reported on the ‘Major Projects Alert’ ie notice of construction. It was reported that the recent judicial review was not upheld. A major enquiry into the EU case for “illegal discount” could cause further delay.

1. Steart Peninsular Project

An emergency flood warning was issued for 2rd/3rd January. Due to the weather the opening of the complete footpath circuit was delayed, probably over one month. The sign on the Combwich track, pointing to the car park, has caused ambiguity and has been removed, for the present.

At the moment Somerset County Council have not yet adopted the new paths.

Councillor Caswell said that the ‘pond’ near Stockland Bristol is full with possible flood risk.

98/13 FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Current Balances Current Account £553.92 Business Call £8557.20

Pension Fund £1852.84

1. Accounts for

 Payment H M Revenue & Customs £150.00 PAYE

 Approved for payment

1. Annual Accounts The Account Books tabled.

The draft budget was considered, some small changes made and the precept was set at £17,500 APPROVED unanimously

*The ward councillors left the meeting*

Grant applications considered and £280 for Village Hall and £50 for Bridgwater CAB were APPROVED

99/13 WARD MEMBERS REPORTS

None submitted

100/13 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

1. Children’s Playground Repairs

Nothing new reported.

1. Cycle Route

It was agreed to hold a meeting of all concerned Jan/Feb.

1. Defibrillator Location

The installation is imminent.

1. Signs – *Wharf Road*

The gates on the Haul Road are still blocked. The Clerk to chase.

1. Combwich Common Issues

Clerk to arrange meeting with IDB. Recent heavy rain has caused standing water on the field adjacent to Riverside Farm.

The Chairman presented and read the letter from John Bailey which referred to the Clerk’s action regarding cars parked on the track. Members supported the Clerk in pursuing council policy and the Chairman will draft a reply to include advice from DEFRA etc

*Dick Best joined the meeting*

The matter of children digging on the common to create BMX jumps may need informal contact with parents

1. Internet Usage

Nothing to report

1. Nuclear Waste

The Chairman’s response put to the meeting and APPROVED.

101/13 CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Requiring Council Decision :** None
2. **To be Noted :** All other correspondence considered by the Chairman and Clerk.
3. **Received after Preparation of Agenda:**

28th December 2013: Email – SALC; nominations
for attendance at Royal Garden Party. Agreed to nominate the Chairman.

1. **Outgoing List – Available**

102/13 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. Hinkley Liaison

The next stakeholder meeting – 9th January.

1. Village Hall

No report

1. Steart Ward

A formal E.A flood risk warning issued today, and the Village plan to deal has been implemented to deal with high tide, low pressure, strong winds and much ground water.

Dick Best recommended that regular meetings involving all parties should be called, probably initiated by Otterhampton Parish Council. Dick offered to start action and report back.

1. OPRA

A very successful Christmas dinner. Newsletter imminent.

103/13 MATTERS OF REPORT

1. Parish Cluster Group

*Details of January meeting awaited.*

1. SALC

Details of next meeting awaited

1. Misuse of Wharf Road.

Awaiting response from Dave Stokes – Hinkley B

1. Replacement for Clerk

Two people had submitted application forms, considered by the Chairman and Clerk and both are suitable for interview. It was agreed to hold the interviews on Wednesday 22nd from 2.30pm, subject to candidates availability, at the Clerks home. Items to be agreed; salary, expenses, hours, pension etc.

104/13 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 6th February 2014 at 7.30pm

Signed………………………….. Chairman Date…………………………….