**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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

7th November 2013 at 7.30pm

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

Mr B. Leathwood Mrs E. Sidebotham

Mr. J. Marriott Mr R. Best

Mr T. Jones

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Elaine Oliver – Sedgemoor District Council Housing Officer

Mr Peter M. Shaw (Clerk)

 Councillor Mr J. Edney

66/13 APOLOGIES

Councillor Ms J. Pay

67/13 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2013 were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

68/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

 Dick Best declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6 (ii).

69/13 HOUSING SURVEY

The Chairman welcomed Elaine Oliver to update us. She handed out a summary and information on conducting a site search. It is hoped that land may be found which is outside the development boundary where costs make for an “Affordable” scheme. The hand-out included a potential development land questionnaire which will be returnable to her. If land is found and looks suitable a Housing Association will be involved, and only persons with a local connection will be eligible, the Parish Council will help to judge. Elaine asked for two members to assist her in the next stage and the chairman and Mervyn Brown volunteered.

70/13 PLANNING MATTERS

 Application Number:-

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*

 39/13/0008BT Box for Outreach. Crossways Farm Lane *– Permitted*

71/13 MATTERS ARISING

1. Hinkley Point C Development

The Chairman reported on the recent agreement on the Strike Price and EDF are now very positive. He had visited the engineering training facility at Cannington. The sound proofing scheme for properties near the Wharf has been circulated with probable action date of June 2014. The Chairman suggested that we should pursue EDF over the effect on house sales in the Village, as some action has started in other villages including House purchase by EDF, he also recommended that the informal group of affected residents should be re-activated, Tim Jones agreed to take this on and report back.

The Chairman’s approach to other Parishes affected on the C182 has produced positive responses. The Chairman attended a “Drop-In” day re the low level waste situation and the problem re transporting to Hinkley A. There is a consultation on-going to 31st January 2014 and the council should consider this at the next meeting.

The Clerk asked, as the A station turbine hall is not going to be used for fabrication, will fabrication “come back” to Combwich, the Chairman said that he is certain, from talks with EDF that it will not.

The Chairman reported that he and his wife have accepted an invitation from EDF to a sponsored rugby match.

1. Steart Peninsular Project

Dick Best said that with scheme almost complete there is little to report. The Villagers invited the contractors to celebrate a successful outcome to the scheme.

The Clerk had been asked by walkers and cyclists when further new paths will be open, Dick said that this is dependent on the completion of the car park and toilets, likely to be early in 2014.

1. Bus Shelter

Repairs to make safe have been completed and a monitoring scheme by the Chairman and Clerk.

A permanent replacement to be looked at when funds available.

72/13 FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Current Balances Current Account £1470.79 Business Call £9993.20

Pension Fund £1852.84

1. Accounts for

 Payment Otterhampton Village Hall £36.00 Meetings/Chat and Chill.

 Brian Jones £270.00 Structural report. Bus shelter.

 Sedgemoor DC £975.24 Grass cutting. 8 cuts.

 Mike Ingram £120.00 Bus Shelter repair

(c ) Annual Accounts The Account Books tabled – to be passed to internal auditor

The Clerk circulated his preliminary draft budget to be discussed at the next meeting.

73/13 WARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor John Edney reported that some SCC staff are moving into Bridgwater House to share costs.

Next week SCC cabinet will discuss the budget and necessary savings, the union and staff are cooperating, it is intended to have no increase in Council Tax.

74/13 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

1. Children’s Playground Repairs

Repairs RLT3 – John Marriott reported on information available making it clear that it is mainly for purchase and development not repairs or improvements.

*Councillor Mr J Edney left the meeting*

The ROSPA report and inspection items to be actioned in Spring.

1. Cycle Route

The Chairman reported on his meeting with Rachael Listor, SDC Cycle officer, who is mandated to find a route for workers to Hinkley point. There were several options the C182 being the most expensive, the preferred route appears to be through Combwich, which would bring problems, John Marriott said that we need information on likely numbers. The Chairman has sent a list of the problems to Rachael asking for solutions/comments and had asked that the C182 route be re-considered. The cycle group to be involved. Members asked for maps of the various routes.

1. Defibrillator Location

Dick Best said that Wessex Water have been most helpful in locating the cabinet but it needs protection. Children who use the site need to be informed of it’s importance. Dick suggested signs and publicity and re-activating the trained group. Dick was thanked for his efforts.

1. Signs

The Clerk has again written to EDF re “the closure” of the Haul Road and its affect on our Wharf Road. Misuse of the track has reduced, the Clerk is monitoring and “posting” offending vehicles.

1. Combwich Common Issues

The Chairman referred to contact from the Drainage Board re the grill on the new drain and will discuss with IDB.

1. Internet Usage

Likely to be implemented in the Spring.

1. Estuary Park Bridge

The Clerk read the reply from SCC Bridge Manager who said that they hope to include the work in the New Year programme.

Comment was made about unauthorized wooden skateboard ramps on this bridge footpath, agreed to contact our PCSO.

75/13 CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Requiring Council Decision**
2. 7 Oct – SALC – New standing orders – await information event
3. 15 Oct – AON Insurance – Fireworks - noted
4. 16 Oct – SDC – Dog Bins – Quotations – next meeting
5. 19 Oct – OPRA – Fireworks - noted
6. 24 Oct – SCC Highways – Bridge Parapet Estuary Park – see 9 (g)
7. **To be Noted :** All other correspondence considered by the Chairman and Clerk.
8. **Received after Preparation of Agenda.**
9. 1. November – AON insurance – Liability for snow clearing etc.
10. **Outgoing List – Available**

76/13 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. Hinkley Liaison

Mervyn Brown spoke to his detailed written report – *filed.*

1. Village Hall

Liz and John reported on a good Halloween event, volunteers helping to decorate, starting on first floor. The external walls were inspected by a chartered surveyor who highlighted several major problems, cost £10,000. An application for funds made to Sedgemoor District Council.

1. Steart Ward

Dick Best spoke to his written report; including a talk about schemes for energy in Bristol Estuary including TBPC deep water harbour.

1. OPRA

Barry reported that Pensioners Dinner Plans well in hand.

The 100 club now has 100 members.

The old tractor has been sold and a new machine obtained.

77/13 MATTERS OF REPORT

1. Parish Cluster Group –The Chairman reported, SDC Clean Surroundings reported on signs and adverts on the highway.
2. SALC – *Awaiting date of next meeting.*
3. Misuse of Wharf Road. – *See 74/13 (d).*
4. Replacement of Clerk *– Members agreed to advertise in November.*

78/13 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Tidal lagoons - Estuary
2. Budget/ Precept
3. Nuclear waste

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 5th December 2013 at 7.30pm

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