**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

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

4th April 2013 at 7.30pm

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

Mr. J. Marriott Mrs E. Sidebotham

Mr T. Jones

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Coucillors Mr J. Edney, Mr M. Caswell

Elaine Oliver – Sedgemoor District Council Housing Officer

Janice Bailly – Defibrillator Volunteer

PCSO Georgina Long

Mr P. M. Shaw (Clerk)

114/12 APOLOGIES

Mr B. Leathwood, Mr D. Best, Councillor J. Pay

115/12 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2013 were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

John Marriott was thanked for his contribution.

116/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All members declared personal interests in Agenda Item 4(ii)

117/12 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Housing Survey

Elaine Oliver, Sedgemoor District Council Housing Officer reported on the survey results – to be circulated. 6 homes were needed to rent, but no call for shared ownership. If we decide that 6 units constitute a viable demand then a land search possibly in consultation with a Housing Association.

(ii) Hinkley Point C

Paul Gripton reported on the Secretary of State’s decision to approve the details of which were disappointing for Combwich, EDF got almost all of what they wanted and even more. The Secretary of State went against the Planning Inspectorates’ recommendations re: the Lay-down Site and the timing of construction of it and the Wharf. Paul believes that in reality, the large lay-down area will not proceed as approved – cost implications. He feels that EDF now want to be good neighbours, in particular in relation to disturbance.

Paul questions Sedgemoor District Councils powers and ability to monitor and police breaches in permission. He suggested that re-activating the group of people living close to the harbour to help identify breaches.

He said that our only option to try and overthrow the decision was to seek a judicial review, almost impossible and hugely costly.

The Chairman asked Councillor Caswell what views Sedgemoor District Council held, who replied that Sedgemoor District Council are not the Consenting Authority but are the “policing” body. Councillor Caswell stated that he will support Otterhampton Parish Council on shipping use, and timing of the Wharf.

Councillor Edney expressed concern about EDFs appealing against any enforcement action by Sedgemoor District Council.

The issue of notifying Parishioners was discussed and it was Agreed that, at the moment, we do not have enough details for a Public Meeting before the Annual Assembly on 1st May. We could use the Newsletter.

*Councillor Caswell left the Meeting*

(iii) Steart Peninsular Project

Nothing to Report.

(iv) Risk Asessment Update

This is needed following the Riverside Farm events. Members considered that the Wharf Road surface is a risk and asked the Clerk to report to EDF for repairs.

(v) Standing Orders - Revisions

The Clerks report was AGREED with the wording “in consultation with the Chairman”

added.

(vi) Financial Regulations

On a proposal by John Marriott, seconded by Paul Gripton they were ADOPTED.

118/12 FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Current Balances Current Account £ 559.44 Business Call £4858.62

Pension Fund £1602.20

1. Accounts for Otterhampton Village Hall £ 90.00 Hire of Hall – to be checked

Payment Clerks Salary £ 2207.00 Subject to PAYE

*HMC&E £ 420.20*

*P. M. Shaw £1786.80*

The Consortium £ 79.68 Printer

Sedgemoor District Council £ 465.00 Fence at Wharf Road

Purnells £ 176.76 Type/Print

N. A. Haggett £2448.00 Work at Riverside Farm

The above accounts were APPROVED for payment.

The Clerk to calculate an average monthly salary for PAYE

(c) Annual Accounts The books were tabled, to be passed to Internal Auditor

The External Audit papers received

The Clerk to prepare VAT re-claim and submit.

119/12 WARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor John Edney referred to the County Council Election on 2nd May and intends to stand again.

120/12 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

(i) Children’s Playground Repairs

Suggestion for resurfacing safety surfaces. John Marriott to obtain prices for RLT3 submission.

(ii) Village Gardening/Tree Work

The Wild Flower Project proceeding, the issue of insurance cover for the volunteers was raised, Clerk to enquire.

The Laurels replanted

(iii) Defibrillator Location

To be debated at next meeting with outside of the shop a suggestion.

(iv) Bus Shelter Light

As last meeting

(v) Grit Bins

Defer to September meeting

(vi) Site for BMX

Agreed to press Land Registry for an answer as to ownership

(vii) Lengthsman

Defer

(viii) Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk reported on quotations, they differ depending on approval to mulch rather than pick up. Clerk to enquire of English Nature on SSSI Regulations.

(ix) Damaged Wall

Work completed

(x) Flood Damage – Riverside Farm

The Clerk has been informed by AON that we do not have Insurance cover for the work. To be looked at on Renewal. The Clerk tabled a suggested letter to the owners, this was Agreed with a slight amendment.

(xi) Auditor - Appointment

The Clerk had invited Mr Rod Williams (candidate for co-option) to attend. Members CONFIRMED his appointment.

(xii) Blocked Gullies – Flood Risk

The County Highways have cleaned some, the Clerk has written re those left.

(xiii) Signs – Wharf Road limits – Track use

The Clerk tabled the quotations for both signs:-

Quick Signs £12.50 + VAT each

Brannan Signs £15.00 + VAT each

It was Agreed to accept Quick Signs quotation.

(xiv) 20mph Speed Limit

The Clerk tabled the reply from County Highways saying that they cannot support this, but offering a Speed Indicator Device – Clerk has accepted this.

(xv) Footpath – Combwich to Cannington

The Clerk has written to County Highways

121/12 CORRESPONDENCE

* + 1. **Requiring Council Decision.**

1. 12th Feb Community Council – Village Agents Project *– Invite Agent to meeting*
2. March Western Power Distribution – Stakeholder Workshop – *No Action*
3. 4th March Brian Sparks – Traffic Matters – *This was debated in some detail, but the issues*

*raised were complicated. Problems caused during use of the Village Hall to be considered by the Committee. The Clerk asked to prepare a reply to be approved by the Chairman, referring to action as at 120/12 (xiv)*

1. 4th March Sedgemoor District Council – Green Deal Somerset - *Noted*
2. 11th March Somerset Highways – Speed Limits, SID – *see 120/12 (xiv)*
3. 22nd March Land Registry – Result – *see 120/12 (vi)*
4. **To be Noted :** All other correspondence considered by the Chairman and Clerk.
5. **Received after Preparation of Agenda.**
6. **Outgoing List – Available**

122/12 PLANNING MATTERS

No new applications

123/12 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. Hinkley Liaison

*Nothing to report*

1. Village Hall

*Written report tabled and filed. Plans for improvement etc. to be available at AGM on 18th May*

1. Steart Ward

*No report*

1. OPRA

*No report*

124/12 MATTERS OF REPORT

1. Parish Cluster Group

*Meeting on 26th February reported on by Clerk. Main issues included Hinkley C, A39 and problems on Quantocks. The Clerk raised the issues affecting Riparian Ownership.*

(ii) SALC

*The Chairman reported on the sudden death of Peter Lacey, County Secretary, who will be sadly missed for his expertise and help. He will write a letter of condolence to SALC. The Clerk had written to Mrs Lacey. The Councillor Training Session moved to Monday 29th.*

125/12 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

1. Defibrillator siting.
2. Next Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Annual Assembly – Wednesday 1st May 2013 at 7.00pm

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