

OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on

THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018 AT OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

PUBLIC SESSION:

No items were raised.

PRESENT:

Dave Cather (Chairman), Dick Best, Bob Birkenhead, Barry Leathwood, Murray Lister (after minute 3/18) Rachel Perrett, Aly Prowse (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Dist. Cllr Julie Pay.

2/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5.4.18:

The minutes of the meeting held on 5.4.18 were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

3/18 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR:

Murray Lister was formally co-opted on to the parish council following the interviews held on 1.5.18. The Chairman welcomed Murray and invited him to join councillors at the table.

4/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations applied for other than those declared to SDC as part of Member's Interests disclosed at the time of taking Office. This information can be viewed on the SDC website.

5/18 WARD REPORTS:

In the absence of both ward councillors, there was nothing to report.

6/18 PLANNING MATTERS:

1. **39/18/00003** – Alterations and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation, 4 Old Ship Inn, Ship Lane. GRANTED.
2. **39/18/00012** – Partial discharge of requirement re lighting strategy at Combwich Wharf. GRANTED
3. **96/18/00011** – Consultation to PW7 (1) and (5) highway work for No 8B Combwich Wharf and C182. Necessary road safety work to improve accessibility/visibility at junction of C182/Haul Rd. GRANTED

7/18 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

1. **Bank Balances** - Current A/C £2438.12; Deposit A/C £12093.02; Reserve A/C £8449.48.
2. **The following payments were AGREED:**
Mrs A Prowse - £469.23 (April salary inc £21.68 misc office costs)
Wicksteed - £2292.00 (Remedial ground settlement repairs)
SDC – £668.93 deducted from Precept (Empty 4 dog bins Apr-Sep 2018)
Defibshop - £1599.60 (Stear Defibrillator - funded from the Hinkley Community Fund Grant)
Zurich Municipal - £809.94 (Renewal Annual Insurance)
Love Musgrove MRI - £250 (Donation towards a new MRI scanner)
3. **Income** – SDC £11500 (50% Precept) and £246.36 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment.
4. **Annual Accounts to 31.3.18**
The Annual Accounts were APPROVED as proposed by B. Leathwood and seconded by B. Birkenhead.
5. **Annual Audit Return**
 - a) Section 1 Annual Governance Statement to 2017/18
This statement was unanimously APPROVED and SIGNED by the Chairman
 - b) Section 2 Accounting Statements to 2017/18
This statement was unanimously APPROVED and SIGNED by the Chairman

8/18 ITEMS FROM THE LAST MEETING:

1. **Review of the Action List (for actions not covered by the agenda):**
No 5 – Request “Stop” sign at Combwich junction. Highways would not permit this as use is restricted to concealed junctions. **Action complete.**
No 6 – Article for Otter tales on road safety and transport issues. **Action complete.**

- No 7** – Arrange for the small common to be cut and white lining for races re Village Fun Day. Waiting for details of nos. and length of lanes from committee. **Action ongoing.**
- No 9** – Write to School re disappointment that the Mobile Library will no longer visit as unable to turn in the turning circle. **Action complete**
- No 10** – Vegetation removal at Brownie Copse (Common Enhancement Scheme). This action transferred to Tree Strategy Team for discussion at its meeting on 21.6.18.
- No 11** – Article for Otter Tales re inconsiderate parking in Church Hill and other areas in the village. **Action complete.**
- No 14a** – Chase critical tree works to willow on Wharf Rd. **Action: Clerk**
- No 16** - Advertise refreshments at the end of the Annual Assembly/Annual Meeting. **Action complete.**

2. Play Area – Ground Settlement Issues

The repairs have been carried out but during a requested site visit with Wicksteed (Barry and the Clerk) on 2.5.18, we identified two areas that had not been done and a further two new areas that needed repair. Wicksteed will revisit and carry out the works. It was noted that what work had been done was very good.

3. Photocopier Proposal to include Otter Tales Publication

The Clerk advised that the editorial team responsible for producing the Cannington Target are not interested in printing the magazine themselves. Cannington parish council will discuss this issue at its meeting on 8.5.18. B.Leathwood has arranged for the May Otter Tales to be printed online. The quote for 400 copies of 16 pages is £190; this would rise to £270 for 20 pages. Barry is struggling to contain this edition to 16 pages. He also advised that a volunteer has come forward to help with production. Agenda item for next meeting to consider Cannington's response together with the success (or not) of the online addition. **Action: Clerk**

9/18 ENHANCEMENTS:

The Tree Maintenance Strategy Sub Group (D.Best, J.Evans, R.Perrett and J.Doble) will meet on 21.6.18. See also minute 8/18/1 No 10 above.

10/18 MEETING REPORTS:

11.4.18 – Village Hall

The Clerk was unable to attend the meeting but had received an email advising the architects estimate it will take circa 6 months to get planning permission and tenders for the Hall refurbishment so the committee will not be able to place a full bid until quotes have been received. The committee will ask OPPT if a single bid might be considered to bring forward some of the work ahead of the main refurbishment.

11.4.18 – Highways re Dame Withycombe Hill (L.Hackling and K.Tyson)

L.Hackling thought the use of grass crete as a quicker and cheaper alternative to widening the layby was false economy. The width of the layby at 1.9m, is not the requisite width of 2.4m so there is no question that it is inadequate. Lawrence subsequently submitted an estimated quotation to widen the layby for £8k, subject to surveying for services. As Highways (maintenance) has no budget and A.Coupe refused our request for this to be funded from the additional £4.2m, it was AGREED to apply to the parish Community Impact Mitigation (CIM) fund. L.Hackling will be asked to undertake a survey re services. An Expression of Interest (EOI) will be submitted to OPPT. **Action: Clerk.**

16.4.18 – Visit of Mr P Flaherty and A.Coupe (SCC)

a) The parish council instigated the visit on 16.4.18 so that Mr Flaherty could see for himself the impact of Hinkley C on the parish and in particular traffic and the C182. We drove him around the parish and pointed out where all the accidents had been, the state of the lay-by at Bolham, difficulties crossing the road for Dame Withycombe Hill residents together with the inadequate width of the lay-by there; erosion of the verges along the C182 and the blind spot when exiting the Steart Marshes/C182 junction (Biffen's Corner). We requested chevron signage on the bend at Dame Withycombe Hill to replace the reflective markings. Additional safety signage and road markings will also be implemented just outside of Combwich. We also understand that a Vehicle Messaging Device will be erected near Biffen's Corner.

b) D.Best said the recent fatality at Bolham re-enforced our concerns about speed and the safety of the C182. Operation HAROLD was implemented but it did not appear to have been successful so the Police must review it. M.Lister asked if double white lines have been considered. The Clerk said this had been suggested many times but not considered for a variety of reasons, the most obvious one though, is that the C182 is not wide enough.

c) J.Evans will once again raise our concerns at the Transport Forum on 3.5.18 including a request to revisit a 40mph limit along the C182 through the parish.

11/18 FORTHCOMING MEETING NOTIFICATION:

- 3.5.18 – Transport Forum
- 9.5.18 – Village Hall AGM
- 17.5.18 – Community Forum

12/18 **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION:**

1. General List

- a) Copy of letter from P.Gripton to A.Coupe calling for his resignation as Chairman of the Transport Review Group re allegedly misleading councillors and the public re the additional 250HGVs per day and for the lack of timely information to the Transport Forum, thus denying the opportunity to comment before controversial decisions are made.
 - b) Rural Crime Survey www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net by 10.6.18 for rural residents to share their views on the Police response to rural crime.
 - c) SDC - Review of its Gambling Policy; consultation until 6.7.18.
 - d) Community Council for Somerset (CCS) – confirmation of our annual membership until 31.3.19.
 - e) Rebecca Miller – noting our concerns re Hinkley C in terms of parking and accommodation. SDC is monitoring the impacts of Hinkley C on communities and any evidence of local families affected in the parish are to be reported to Rebecca. EDF is promoting accommodation further afield now; including areas within Taunton Deane and North Somerset.
 - f) SDC – E-Planning consultation addressing all the issues raised except for areas of poor Broadband coverage,
- 2. General Data Protection Training 22.5.18**
The Clerk and B.Leathwood will attend the training.

13/18 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

1. Steart Ward & Defibrillators (D.Best)

- a) The grant funded defibrillator for Steart has arrived. It will be erected on the wall of the small chapel in the centre of the village courtesy of Mr & Mrs A Clark at Channel View, who will also provide the electricity to run it.
- b) Dick attended an “engagement strategy” meeting with WWT. He was impressed with the emphasis WWT is placing on not overly advertising the Site re the numbers of visitors increasing and the volume of traffic.
- c) The road lining at the Steart/Otterhampton/Stockland junction is hardly visible. This will be reported to Highways. The Clerk said the road from Steart to Biffens Corner is programmed for surface dressing this summer. There are a lot of bad ruts at the side of the roads, mainly at the passing places. We will ask Highways if the “haunching fund” is still available and if so, if some of it could be used to carry out the road repairs which would need to be done before any surfacing dressing.

Action: Clerk

2. OPRA (B.Leathwood)

Nothing to report.

3. Otterhampton Parish Project Team (OPPT)

The Community Plan meeting has been deferred from 2.5.18 to 23.5.18.

4. School Liaison (R.Perrett)

R.Perrett will attend a meeting at the School on 10.5.18. A new Head has been appointed with effect from September 2018.

5. Public Rights of Way (B.Birkenhead)

The re-routing of the footpath between Stockland and Otterhampton is awaiting a bridge to be built across the rhyne near Mazoe.

6. Otter Tales (B.Leathwood)

See 8/18/3 above.

7. Otter Wheels

This service is working very well and also has a couple of new drivers.

14/18 **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be on * **MONDAY** 11 June 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. *Amended 20.5.18

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

Signed:
(Chairman)



Date: 11 June 2018