

OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on

THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2022, 7.00pm at OTTERHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL

DECLARATION(S) OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS:

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations applied for. Member's Interests are disclosed at the time of taking Office. This information can be viewed on the Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) website.

PUBLIC SESSION (INCLUDING WARD COUNCILLORS' REPORTS)

1. Ward Councillors Reports

- No ward councillors present.

2. General

- The HPC planning application for the bypass track has been withdrawn. Concerns were raised about the berthing bed again and the viewing platform.
- Regarding the Brookside Road planning application, SDC housing objected to the 60 houses. More objections have been raised by parishioners.
- Combwich to Hinkley Point cycle path – concerns were raised about possible fatalities and more traffic/additional cars parking in the village. Cars parking in the village to use the cycle path will be treated the same as fly parking.
- Boat Club - it seems to be classed as a boat yard which means business can be conducted.
- Combwich Ponds – what is happening with regards to it being reopened?
- It was reported that no-one from OPC has attended the last two cluster meetings. Clerk advised that notifications of meetings hadn't been received.

PRESENT:

Lindsey Parsons (Chair), Gina Mear (Clerk), Mike Haycraft, Andy Darch, Rachel Perrett and five members of the public.

130/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Tina Gardener, Connie Sanders, Amanda Gibbons, Julie Pay, Brian Bolt.

131/22 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 01.09.22

The minutes of the meeting held on 01.09.22 were APPROVED and signed by the Chair.

132/22 PLANNING MATTERS:

1. **39/22/00003** – Brookside Road - Outline planning permission with some matters reserved, for the erection of up to 60 dwellings, public open space, and other associated infrastructure. The Chair thanked Mr Paul Gripton for his help with the objection submitted by the Parish Council.
2. **13/22/00024** Combwich Wharf, Land To The South Of, Estuary Park, Combwich. Request for discharge of Requirement relating to PW4, C8, C9, C26 & C30. Application seeks to amend the existing berth height, access arrangements and finished floor levels within the wharf – As discussed in public session.

133/22 FINANCE:

1. **Bank Balances** - Current A/C £14,28.27 Deposit A/C £28,326.09; Reserve A/C £20,095.11.
2. **The following payments were AGREED:**
 - a) Sedgemoor Tree Services - £420.00 (Tree Survey)
 - b) G Mear - £63.97 (Printer Ink, Flowers, Stationery)
 - c) B Leathwood - £256.60 (Otter Tales Printing)
 - d) SDC - £360.00 (Grass Cutting)
 - e) PKF Littlejohn - £360.00 (Annual Audit)
 - f) G Mear - £600.60 (Clerk's Salary)
3. **Income Received**
 - a) SDC - £13,000 (Precept)
4. **Annual Audit**

The report was received from the auditor and no issues were raised. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been displayed as required.

134/22 **STEAR T WARD**

The Hinkley Point cycle path was discussed and parishioners were encouraged to respond to the consultation. Freddy, the lad missing from Stoford, was mentioned.

135/22 **HIGHWAYS**

Highways are looking at adding paving slabs to the layby at Dame Withycombe cottages. It was suggested that the road in this area could be moved towards the field.

136/22 **ENHANCEMENTS:**

1. Wharf Road Action Plan – T Gardener is going to contact community payback to see if they are able to help with clearing the area. Check with the Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund to see if we qualify for grant funding. Get quotes for dealing with the trees as detailed in the tree survey. Trees to be dealt with first then remove foliage.
2. Removal of old village sign post – A name and number was given to pursue. **ACTION: CLERK**
3. Play Area – The hedgehog rocker still needs to be fixed, Wicksteed to be contacted. B Birkenhead has been asked to put up the sign that has come down on the fencing. Add a note in Otter Tales about older children in the play area. **ACTION: CLERK**

137/22 **MEETING REPORTS:**

1. **14.09.22 – Village Hall (L Parsons)** The report was circulated before the meeting.
2. **14.09.22 – Tidal Barrier Stakeholder Group** M Haycraft was unable to attend but will be going into Rivers House. It does look as though minimal work will be done at Combwich.
3. **28.09.22 – Tidal Barrier** As above.
4. **05.09.22 – Unitary Council** The report was circulated before the meeting. T Gardener attended the City, Town and Parish Conference on 4th October and fed back to the councillors prior to this meeting. A Darch and R Perrett to attend the LCN engagement session on 7th October.
5. **21.09.22 – EDF Meeting** This was covered in the public session.
6. **27.09.22 – Cycle Path** The type of surfacing to be used for the path to the car park was discussed. It is a type of surface that will work for the various different vehicles that will use it. Feedback regarding surfaces has been asked for.
7. **22.09.22 – Community Forum** There is no further information and no idea when the coastal footpath will be reinstalled. HPC site accidents were discussed.

138/22 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

1. Public Rights of Way (B Birkenhead) An update on Combwich Ponds is required from B Leathwood. Issues with footpaths can be reported via Explore Somerset (SCC). **ACTION: B BIRKENHEAD**
2. OPRA (T Gardener) The charity cricket match held on 17.09.22 raised £530 for The Brain Tumour Charity in memory of Murray Lister. Future events; AGM on 17.10.22, fireworks on 06.11.22 and Seniors Christmas dinner on 03.12.22
3. School (R Perrett) No update.

139/22 **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:**

1. 12.10.22 – Village Hall
2. 18.10.22 – Steart Forum
3. 28.10.22 - SSG
4. 01.11.22 – School
5. Refreshments – there was a unanimous vote to have refreshments before meetings. This will start with the January meeting. Refreshments will be served at 6.30pm.

140/22 **REVIEW OF ACTION LIST (For items not on the agenda)**

2. Highways – the sign for the play area has been put in the wrong place but there is no update on moving it.
4. Communication Mediums – update required from B Leathwood
5. Potholes alongside the common have been reported but not yet fixed. Update required from Highways.
6. Water Safety equipment – write to the Boat Club regarding a new post in the car park, village side.
7. Allotments – A parishioner suggested an area of land at the bottom of Wharf Road could be used. This idea was put to EDF who own the land and they said they were unable to accommodate this at the moment while use of the wharf is ongoing and to contact them in the future when Hinkley C is up and running.
10. Emergency Plan – It was suggested that a sub-group could be set up to take this forward, an article could be added to Otter Tales. As a result of the storms in February the current plan needs updating.

11. Old Bolham Bridge has been fixed so this can be removed from the action list.
13. Tree survey action plan – The parish council needs to take into account resident's thoughts when planting trees especially if it affects them directly. Add an article to Otter Tales for parishioner's feedback. M Haycraft to talk to J Doble to narrow down the list of replacement trees.
15. Heritage List – A Darch has spoken to A Laver of the WWT who are keen to add the radio bunker to the Heritage List.
16. Bus Shelter – A Darch has asked M Ingram to have a look at the bus shelter and the large cracks.
17. Brownie Copse – R Perrett has emailed D Best and M Ward about clearing the Brownie Copse and has had contact about EDF volunteers.
20. OPRA Barn – It was noted that the vegetation growing over the barn may have been planted by the resident next door. Clerk to speak to resident with regards to tidying it up.
21. OPC Garage – T Gardener advised that she has a key to try. R Perrett to ask M Beckley if she has a key.
22. Overgrown Foliage – The majority of this has been done. SDC advised that the willows by the brook at the bottom of Church Hill are not their responsibility but can quote for the work.

A Darch left the meeting.

141/22 CORRESPONDANCE/COMMUNICATION

- a. Ukraine Evening – an email has been received from the village hall trustees asking for a donation for a fundraiser for Ukraine. Check with SALC if this is allowed. **ACTION: CLERK**
- b. Warm Bank/Space at the Village Hall – an email has been received from the village hall trustees advising of the idea to set up a warm bank. It may be possible to obtain a grant from SDC for this. The parish council agreed to this in principle.
- c. A young lad from Stolford, Freddy, has gone missing. At the time of the meeting, he was unfortunately still missing.
- d. West Monkton & Cheddon Fitzpaine Neighbourhood Plan – an email was received saying that this plan had been agreed. It was noted that this could be referred to in future when updating our own community plan.
- e. Greater Quantock Landscape Development Fund – information was received about grant funding. This is something to bear in mind for the regeneration of Wharf Road.
- f. General List – an email was received from a resident regarding speeding lorries on Wharf Road. Clerk to email the company noted as responsible. An email was received from a resident regarding trees damaging his rear wall on Wharf Road, enquiries are currently being made with our insurance company. A thank you card was received from B Hansford for her flowers received for her 100th birthday.

142/22 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd November 2022, 7.00pm at Otterhampton Village Hall.

The meeting finished at 9.25pm

Signed:

(Chair)

Date 3 NOVEMBER 2022