

Otterton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Committee Room of the Village Hall on Monday 5 December 2016

Present: Cllr Ian Simpson (Chairman)

Cllr Tony Bennett

Cllr Andrew Davies

Cllr Tony Farrington

Cllr John Fudge

Cllr John Lister

Cllr Roy Young

In Attendance: Mr Mike Miller (Clerk)

and 6 members of the public

16/177. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sarah Whittingham, and from County Councillor Christine Channon and District Councillor Geoff Jung.

16/178. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of personal or pecuniary interest from councillors relating to items of business on the agenda.

16/179. Confidential Items of Business

The Council did not wish to consider any business in confidence.

16/180. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 7 November 2016, were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

16/181. Planning Applications 16/1957/FUL and 16/1958/FUL

Arising from M16/155, the Clerk reminded councillors of the message from EDDC Planning Department of 30 November 2016, which had been circulated on 2 December 2016. This made clear that the only issue to be dealt with now was whether the demolition of the barn was acceptable, regardless of the previous permission. See M16/186 below.

16/182. Village Working Party

Arising from M16/158, it was noted that the Village Working Party would be doing further work on Saturday 10 December 2016, not 3 December 2016, because of the Reindeer Run on that day.

16/183. Lower Otter Valley Restoration Project

Arising from M16/158, it was noted that the draft minutes of the Stakeholder Group meeting held on 19 October 2016 had been circulated to councillors on 15 November 2016. The next meeting is to be held on 1 February 2017.

16/184. Community Road Warden

Arising from M16/158, it was noted that the Chairman was to apply to become a Community Road Warden. This would enable some road maintenance, not regarded as high priority by Highways, to be carried out in the village.

16/185. NHS Future Care Consultation

Arising from M16/172, the Clerk reported that further public events were to be held on 16 December at Seaton Town Hall; on 19 December at All Saints Church Hall, Exmouth; on 20 December at Alphington Village Hall and on 21 December 2016 at Budleigh Salterton Town Hall.

16/186. Public Questions and Comments

Members of the public raised the following matters:

- (i) Traffic controls for road works and gulley clearance;
- (ii) Some work appeared to have been done to fill the potholes in Church Hill;
- (iii) Blue paint on the bridge; it was thought that this might relate to an inspection;
- (iv) Cycle warning signs, which were felt to be facing the wrong way;
- (v) The plans for the future of the Triangle; the Chairman responded that this was still under discussion; and
- (vi) Planning applications 16/1957/FUL and 16/1958/FUL. Mr Parkin stated that the barn referred to in M16/155 was not listed. The Council had thought that it was listed when these applications had been discussed at the last meeting; this inaccuracy in the minutes was noted. Mr Parkin informed the Council that the barn was derelict and that it was not feasible to include it in the proposed development. The Council, however, felt that the building was an important part of the Village's history and should be retained. It was **AGREED** that this view would be reported to EDDC.

16/187. Chairman's Business

The Chairman raised the following matters:

- (i) EDDC had consulted the Council about the provision of a road sign for the lane known informally as Lea Lane. The Council **AGREED** that the lane should continue to be named as Lea Lane.

- (ii) The night time closure of Ottery Street for resurfacing work was now being scheduled for 13 and 14 December 2016, not 15 and 17 December 2016, as previously notified.
- (iii) The Clerk had been contacted by Gulliford Try about the erection of a telecoms mast in the village. Gulliford Try had been made aware of the existing contacts with Shared Access to locate a mast at Stantyway Recreation Ground and also the proposal to use the church tower. Shared Access had recently been in touch with the Clerk (though it was not clear if this was related to the Gulliford Try enquiry) to report that the operators would be “nominating our site in the coming weeks.”
- (iv) The Reindeer Run on 3 December 2016 had been a great success.
- (v) Carols would be sung at the Mill on the evening of 23 December 2016.

16/188. Parishes Together Fund – Plant and Animal Signage

Cllr Davies reported that he was securing quotations and letters of support and would meet with the Clerk shortly to prepare the formal application.

16/189. Section 106 Funding for the Jubilee Children’s Playground

Cllr Davies reminded the Council that over £12k of Section 106 funding was available to support sports and play facilities in the parish.

It had previously been agreed that the sports component should be used to create a more robust and sustainable football pitch in the Jubilee Children’s Playground. Various options were possible, but on the basis of the information at present available the Council preferred to adopt the use of rubber framework matting, which would help to stabilise the ground and allow grass to grow through it, even if the full cost could not be met solely from S106 funds. This option would be followed up, and a specific proposal formulated.

With regard to the play component of the funding, Cllr Davies had spoken with a number of children using the playground, and their preferences would be for a new Wendy House or possibly a zip wire. It was not clear if further consultation with the children would be expected by EDDC this would be checked and then a submission would be developed.

16/190. Litter and Dog Bins

The Clerk reported on further consultations with EDDC since their proposals had last been discussed in October. The suggestion to remove 2 dog bins was not felt to be workable because of capacity and coverage throughout the village and, after discussion, it was **AGREED** to adopt the proposal put to the October meeting, as modified to locate a dog bin in Ladram Road close to its junction with Piscombe Lane. The success of this would be reviewed after a trial period.

16/191. Notice Board at Cross Trees

The Council considered further the proposal, originally put to the May meeting, that the notice board at Cross Trees should be replaced with a more robust, weather-proof notice board. This is not a Parish Council board, but is available for use by all residents. Iain Ure had offered to make a financial contribution to the cost of the board. Several councillors confirmed that the board was well-used. It was **AGREED** to go ahead and replace it.

16/192. Planning Applications

The Council considered planning application 16/2611/FUL in relation to the installation of outer doors to the porches of the church. The Council had no objections to the application.

There were no objections to planning application 16/2623/TEL, a proposal to install a telecoms cabinet and ancillary works at Ladram Bay Holiday Park.

The Council re-considered planning application 16/1709/FUL, the proposed construction of a new service yard and building at Ladram Bay Holiday Park, which had been amended in the light of comments on the earlier plan. Although the application had been revised to take account of earlier concerns about the visual impact of the building, and it had been clarified that the new security gate at the top of the hill would be used at night, and not at times of peak activity, the Council did not support it. There were continuing concerns about the visual impact and the spread of the park up the hill out of the bay area.

The Council did not have any objections to planning applications 16/2687/TCA or 16/2781/TCA, work on trees at Rolle Barton and Box Cottage, Fore Street.

It was reported that, following an enquiry from a resident, the Clerk had contacted the Planning Office to ask about the status of work being done to the rear of Oak Cottage, Behind Hayes. The matter had been investigated and the Council had been informed that the work related to the construction of a shed/workshop, which is deemed to be permitted development, not requiring planning permission. This was noted.

The Council had no comments to make on the draft EDDC Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document.

16/193. Neighbourhood Plan

The Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 23 November 2016, together with the Group's terms of reference (PC/16/16), which had been agreed at the meeting. These made it clear that the Group would report regularly to the Parish Council. The financial arrangements were also set out. At the Chairman's invitation, Ian Birch, the Chair of the Steering Group, drew particular attention to the officers elected by the Steering Group and to the work being done in preparation for the next meeting in January 2017.

16/194. Electoral Review of East Devon

The Council considered the boundaries review again, having received a proposal (PC/16/17) from some Budleigh Salterton councillors for a new 3-member ward comprising Colaton Raleigh, East Budleigh, Bicton, Budleigh Salterton and Otterton. Councillors had also received a message on this from District Cllr Jung. The Council again accepted the logic of this proposed grouping, which it was felt would be preferable to a more extended rural ward.

16/195. Budget and Precept for 2017-18

The Clerk presented an updated draft budget for 2017-18 (PC/16/18). It was proposed that the Council should apply for a precept in 2017-18 of £10,302, a 2% increase over 2016-17. This increase would almost match the expected loss of income from the expected reduction in the CTSG. This was **AGREED** by the Council.

16/196. Volunteer Footpath Warden

The Council considered a draft job description for the Volunteer Footpath Warden (PC/16/19). This was **AGREED**. It was noted that this would be used for a discussion with the resident who had expressed an interest in taking up the role.

16/197. Reports from Councillors with Specific Responsibilities

Councillors reported as follows:

- (i) The Village Green – the Chairman reported that another leaf clearance would be done soon.
- (ii) The War Memorial – Cllr Bennett reported that he had passed the Council's donation to the Royal British Legion.
- (iii) Stantyway Recreation Ground – it was noted that the hedge had been cut.
- (iv) The Jubilee Playground – nothing to report.
- (v) Cemetery – Cllr Lister reported a complaint of damage to a grave, which he thought may have been the result of strong winds.

16/198. Reports on Village Amenities and Bodies

Councillors reported as follows:

- (i) Trees – part of a fallen elm had been cleared from a footpath.
- (ii) Footpaths – Cllr Young reported that he had been in touch with Richard Spurway about the damage to footpaths arising from recent bad weather. He was pleased to add that much of the damage had been made good in time for the Reindeer Run. He had also carried out some temporary repairs to Park Lane.
- (iii) Contracts and Finance – nothing to report.
- (iv) Ladram Bay – the financial contribution towards the cost of maintaining village footpaths had not yet been received.
- (v) Football Club – Cllr Farrinton reported that the Club was planning to apply for grants to improve the Club House and shower facilities, and would make a report on this to the next meeting.
- (vi) Raleigh Federation – nothing to report.
- (vii) Twinning – nothing to report.
- (viii) Village Hall – Cllr Fudge reported on a number of improvements made to the Hall in the past year. The lighting was to be updated in the spring along with some external painting. New tables were also being bought.
- (ix) Community Shop – nothing to report

16/199. Police Report

No police report was available.

16/200. County Council Report

No report was available as County Cllr Channon could not be present.

16/201. District Council Report

District Councillor Jung had provided a comment on the boundary review (see M16/194) and had also reported to the Clerk that gravel extraction at Blackhill Quarry was to be ended soon and that the site was to be landscaped and used as an RSPB reserve.

16/202. Correspondence

The Council noted the correspondence received, as set out on the agenda.

16/203. Payments and Receipts for November 2016

The November payments and receipts, which had been set out in paper PC/16/20, were noted, as follows:

Payments	£
<i>South West Water d/d</i>	<i>5.00</i>
<i>Village Hall – Room Hire Sep and Oct Meetings, and NP meeting</i>	<i>38.00</i>
<i>Grant Thornton – Audit fee</i>	<i>120.00</i>
<i>EDDC – provision of bin for cemetery</i>	<i>63.82</i>
<i>Donation to Royal British Legion</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>SLCC Membership – monthly standing order</i>	<i>8.20</i>
Total	335.02
Receipts	
<i>Football Club contribution</i>	<i>150.00</i>
Total	150.00

16/204. Calendar of Meetings for 2017

The Council **AGREED** the calendar of meetings for 2017 (PC/16/21), noting that the March 2017 meeting would be held on 13th not 6th March 2017.

16/205. Date of Next Meeting

The Council **AGREED** that the next meeting would be held on Monday 9 January 2017.

16/206. Business for the January 2017 Meeting Agenda

It was **AGREED** that the following items of business should be on the next agenda:

- (i) The Football Club grant application;
- (ii) Section 106 Funding for the Jubilee Children's Playground; and
- (iii) The Parishes Together Fund Application

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Mike Miller

Clerk to the Parish Council

9 December 2016.