

Otterton Parish Council

A meeting of Otterton Parish Council was held on **Monday 8th January 2018** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Otterton Village Hall.

All members of Otterton Parish Council were summoned to attend the meeting
Members of the public and the press were made welcome.

AGENDA

Formal Business

1. Apologies for Absence No apologies for absence received.

Parish Councillors in attendance: Cllr Fudge in the chair, Cllr Hiles, deputy chair, Cllr Pride, Cllr Simpson, Cllr Young, Cllr Lister, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Farrington also DCllr Geoff Young and Francesca Mills as Clerk.

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of personal and pecuniary interests from Councillors relating to items of business on the agenda.

3. Confidential Items of Business

It was agreed that one issue would be dealt with in confidence.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2017 were signed as a correct record of the meeting & all matters arising from the minutes, were considered as agenda items.

5. Public Questions and Comments - *Items for Discussion and Decision*

Observers 11

Melanie Martin – *Britain in Bloom*. *Melanie stated that she is keen to get a group of residents together to enter the Britain in Bloom competition to be held this summer (4th July 2018). Judges for the competition look for improvements to the planning and groups working together entries must be made by (4th March) The Pennant award includes 3 core areas:- horticultural, environment & community involvement. Those that have done well in the past have had an outstanding area. Cllr Fudge advised Ms Martin to talk to the Gardening Club to see if they would support the initiative.*

John Edmonds suggested that **CCTV** should be considered as a deterrent against crime in the village and youth, supported by shop & village hall. It was agreed that Mr.Edmonds would obtain quotations to extend the coverage of the CCTV to include the main street and area around the hall. It was agreed that the PC would support the cost of the initiative up to £450.00.

Mr & Mrs Price raised their objection to the planning proposals at Hawkern House. The plans would mean a significant change of use at Hawkern House, and a separate curtilage which would set a precedent for other houses on this road. It was agreed that the plans would be further discussed in section.

6. Chairman's Business

To receive a report from the Chairman

Parishes Together meeting/ Resilience training a report will be coming from DCllr Geoff Jung.

CCTV request for support from £450.00 (third of the price)£140 for each additional camera. To be positioned around the village hall. Access on mobile phone. Suggestion that additional cameras could covered the street, this may need signs and permissions. Pub has seen a saving due to the deterrent. PC agreed to support to the project to extent of £450.00

Britain in Bloom. Needs public buy in from the village and advertising to raise awareness. Fundraising would be needed to fund the buying of plants

Correspondence has been received from Mrs Briony Sharp stating several areas of concern.

Planning: Comments made by the PC are not currently showing on the EDDC planning portal. It was confirmed to Mrs Sharp that comments are made to all proposals and returned to EDDC by email or in the post.

Broken glass in phone box:- Quotes are being obtained by Cllr Fudge to replace glass or to possibly replace by Perspex to avoid further damage.

Income and expenditure:- Mrs Sharp stated that in the past a list of Income and expenditure was an agenda item and that currently the word 'attached' replaced this list but nothing was attached. At the invitation of Cllr Fudge the Clerk explained that an audit requirement (May 2017) was that income and expenditure was reconciled on a monthly basis to the bank balances. This is shown in a separate spreadsheet which is 'attached' to the agenda when it is sent by email. The clerk accepted that this term is misleading and will now use the phrase 'separate file' when referring to the Income and Expenditure spread sheet.

Notice board: Mrs Sharp sought clarification for the use of the new notice board in the bus shelter i.e. whether it was for public use or for the use of the Parish Council. It was agreed that there is sufficient room on the notice board for all users. But that the situation would be reviewed.

Mrs Sharp asked if the ring fenced money for maintenance of the **Pathways and PROW** could be used to repair damage caused by contractors from Clinton Devon. It was agreed that repairs caused by the CD estate should be paid for by them and Cllr Fudge agreed to have a dialogue with John Varley on this matter.

Material for 'Pot hole filling' can be obtained free of charge from Highways. Cllr Hiles agreed to deal with this as he has the requisite training. (Chapter 8 training)

A sleeper on the road on the corner of Bell street needs to be removed Cllr Simpson agreed to do this.

7. Consider the 'Traffic/ footpath change proposal'

Iain Ure is a retired Highways Engineer living in Bell St.

He has approached Cllr Fudge with a traffic scheme which would go some way in relieving the traffic problems in Otterton.

It is based on 3 main alterations to current procedures;

1. provide continuous pedestrian access along Fore St and Ottery St
2. introduce traffic calming in Fore St by way of pinch points
3. provide alternative parking for the loss of parking in Fore St. Suggested area is The Triangle.

Like any such scheme there are drawbacks! The main one must be the loss of some private parking in Fore St which will not go down well with those who currently enjoy this facility.

However, I feel the scheme is an ingenious one and worth our consideration.

It was agreed by the Parish Council that the Clerk would send the details of this proposal to Highways to gauge their reaction.

8. Items from Previous Meetings

- (i) To receive a progress report on the proposal to the Parishes Together Fund for plant and animal signage; This item has been parked until the Britain in bloom initiative has been explored with the garden club
- (ii) To consider further the use of Section 106 funding for the Jubilee Children's Playground/Skateboard Park. It was agreed that a further quote needed to be obtained before EDDC will release the funds. The Clerk was tasked with obtaining this quote and contacting EDDC on receipt.

9. Planning Matters

To consider any planning applications

17/2976/Ful:- Hawkern House Ladram Road change of use of self contained holiday cottage to separate residence within it's own curtilage.

History. Initial proposal to build a detached garage, conversion of garage to holiday accommodation. This proposal was agreed with the condition that the holiday cottage remained part of the same property and that users could not remain in the cottage for more than 4 weeks at a time.

Agreement to 17/2976/FUL would set a precedent for other properties on road.

Possibility of future sale of land as a building plot.

Section 55, states no development allocated to village.

The position at the top of a road with steep hill means that access will mainly be by car therefore increasing the traffic in an unsustainable village.

Heritage site condition was turned down 4 years ago. Development in this instance is the change of use to a separate dwelling.

Unanimous vote to object to planning application.

17/2984/LBC Houstern Farmhouse

Removal of a lean-to at rear of property, with upgraded replacement. This application is subject to Listed Building consent.

Footprint will be slightly increased. Unanimously agreed as long as it is completed as per agreement of Listed Buildings officers.

10. Pathways and PROW

Damage to signposts

The top of Radway Lane. Cllr Fudge to approach Clinton to fund repairs

Middle Section of Lea Lane. A Cllr Fudge to approach Clinton to fund repairs

Sewage Farm, Permissive Path A. Clerk to approach South West Water to fund repair of damage to post.

Flooding of Lanes (Large puddles)

Piscombe Lane and Lea Lane (level section) have substantial areas of water which are forcing walkers to divert to the fields Cllr Young agreed to contact Richard Spurway in the regard. It was agreed that the cost of installing adequate drainage to these areas would be substantial and therefore other solutions would need to be sought.

11. Ladram Bay

To consider the public meeting to be held on 9th January 2018:- Cllr Fudge confirmed that the meeting will be hosted by Cllr Claire Wright and DCllr Geoff Jung and that the members of the Parish meeting should go individually if they so wished.

12. Budget and Precept for 2018-19

To agree the 2018-19 budget and precept:- It was agreed that the precept would cover the annual outgoings of the Parish Council with little surplus. Given the current bank balances this was thought to be justified.

To agree detail for grass cutting contracts for 2018: The reviewed wording of the contract was agreed with a requirement of 15 cuts to the areas within the village. 5 requests have been made to the clerk for details of the grass cutting contract and details will be sent with a return date of 31st January so an appointment can be made in good time for the commencement of the contract at the start of April 2018.

13. Reports from Councillors with Specific Responsibilities

- (i) The Village Green – Cllr Simpson. Nothing to report.
- (ii) The War Memorial – Cllr Bennett, Mess from Church continues around the memorial but as work is coming an end on the Church it is expected this will improve.
- (iii) Stantyway Recreation Ground – Cllr Simpson, Tyre marks on field. Cllr Fudge agreed to request North Start Engineering to quote for the construction of heavy duty metal gates. Possibility of planting more trees in copse area. Cllr Simpson agreed to find out about grants for tree planting.
- (iv) The Jubilee Playground – Cllr Fudge, see note 8/1/18 (ii)
- (v) The Cemetery – Cllr Lister. Grass, see note 12/1/18

14. Reports on Village Amenities and Bodies

- (i) Trees – Cllrs Simpson
- (ii) Footpaths – Cllr Young. Park Lane has trees down which Cllr Young has agreed cut down.
- (iii) Contracts and Finance – Cllr Fudge see note 12/1/18
- (iv) Ladram Bay – Cllr Simpson - Re-allocate responsibility for this to Parish Council.
- (v) Football Club – Cllr Farrington
- (vi) Raleigh Federation – Cllr Hiles Returned from Summer holiday
- (vii) Twinning – Cllr Bennett
- (viii) Village Hall – Cllr Fudge
- (ix) Community Shop – Cllr Pride see note 5/1/18

15. Police Report: No Police report was available

16. County Council Report: To receive a report from County Councillor Claire Wright. Cllr Wright confirmed details for tomorrow's meeting which will consider issues raised by the village.

17. District Council Report: To receive a report from District Councillor Mr Geoff Jung
Resilience Forum – No need for snow, flood committee. H&S training for highways wardens is available..
Linksman reactive, warden needs to monitor work. Ditches land owner and tenants to work together to clear waterways.

18. Correspondence

To deal with any correspondence received:

- ii). Letters from residents of Stantyway court regarding entry onto road:- Due to inconsiderate parking on yellow chevrons the exit from Stantyway court is causing concern and is dangerous. This was discussed with one solution being yellow lines which would stop some residents from parking outside their homes. It was agreed that Cllr Wright would convene a meeting of residents to seek solutions to the problem.
- iii). Road Warden agreement update. It was agreed that Cllr Hiles would read and sign agreement for return to EDDC.
- iiii). Flooding in Bell Street:- Response from Highways. An order was issued to inspect and jet this pipe on 20th December so it was already on the list for clearing. I assume the gully tanker attended on 27th December because it was causing ice on a primary salting route as that would not otherwise be in accordance with our policy unless a house was being flooded endangering life. We do not have any routine programme for cleaning manholes which are only done on a reactive basis.

iv).Consider petition "Protecting Rural UK Healthcare". It was confirmed that the email circulated to members of the PC was to be completed as individuals if they so desired. 17th December.

19. Financial Matters

To receive a note of payments and receipts for November & December 2018 - Duly signed.

20. Items for the Next Agenda

Britain in bloom, Broken posts /Clinton/SWWA

Puddles on PROW

Parking at Stantway Court

Potholes

Traffic & chevrons.

Trees

CCTV

21. Agree dates for meetings in 2018

- 8th Jan, 5th Feb, 5th March, 4th April (Wednesday), 2nd May (Wednesday), 4th June, 2nd July, 6th Aug, 10th Sep, 1st October, 5th Nov, 3rd Dec.

Annual Meeting 16th May (Wednesday)

22. Date of Next Meeting:- To agree that the next meeting will be held on Monday 5th February 2018

Fran Mills - Clerk to the Parish Council, 15th January 2018.