

## Otterton Parish Council

A **Meeting** of Otterton Parish Council will be held on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November** at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Otterton Village Hall. All members of Otterton Parish Council are summoned to attend the meeting, members of the public and the press are welcome to be present.

*Francesca Mills*

Clerk Otterton Parish Council

### AGENDA

<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	<i>To receive apologies from Cllrs.</i>	Clerk
<b>2</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	<i>To receive declarations of pecuniary interest on items on the agenda</i>	Chair
<b>3</b>	<b>Confidential Items.</b>	<i>To agree if any items need to be dealt with in confidence</i>	Chair
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes</b>	<i>To accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October and sign as a correct record of the meeting. To consider any matters arising from the minutes, not elsewhere on the agenda:</i>	Chair
<b>5</b>	<b>Public Questions/ Comments</b>	<i>Items for Discussion and Decision - 3 minutes per individual</i>	All
<b>6</b>	<b>Chairman's Business</b>	<i>To receive a report from the Chairman</i>	Chair
<b>7</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>	<i>Update on plans for spending of 106 funding for sports equipment - village meeting.</i>	Chair
<b>8</b>	<b>Planning Matters</b>	<b><i>Consider planning applications &amp; note objections. 19/2276/TCA</i></b>	<b>All</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Pathways and PROW</b>	<b><i>Consider report from Mr Iain Ure and approve if appropriate spending and actions within it.</i></b>	<b>All</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Ladram Bay</b>	<i>To update on enforcement order regarding decking on beach.</i>	Chair
<b>11</b>	<b>Dates for PC Meetings</b>	<b><i>To agree pattern, regularity and dates of meeting for 2020.</i></b>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Reports from Councillors with specific responsibilities &amp; reports on village amenities and Bodies</b>	<i>The Village Green &amp; Community Shop The War Memorial &amp; Raleigh Federation Stantyway Recreation Ground Football Club &amp; Jubilee Playground The Cemetery - Cllr Lister The Village hall - Cllr Young Trees - Mr Iain Ure Contracts &amp; Finance - Cllr Hiles Village Defibrillator</i>	VP JH SW TF JL SY IU CH VP
<b>13</b>	<b>County Council Report</b>	<i>To receive a report from County Councillor Claire Wright</i>	CW
<b>14</b>	<b>District Council Report</b>	<i>To receive a report from District Councillors Mr Paul Jarvis/Tom Wright/Alan Dent</i>	
<b>15</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	<i>To note content of correspondence as attached</i>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Financial matters</b>	<i>To agree payment of cheques as per schedule below. To Agree budget for expenditure for 2020</i>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Further Actions</b>	<i>To agree any actions and associated expenditure not previously considered on agenda</i>	

<b>18</b>	<b>Items for next Agenda</b>	<i>Consider items of business that need to be considered at next meeting.</i>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	<i>2nd December 2019</i>	

#### Payments & receipts

Opening Balance		£9487.97
<b>OutGoings</b>		9487.97
Otterton Cemetery	SWW charge Cemetery	£5.00
St Michael's PCC cheque from Ladram made out in error to PC		£200
Total		£9282.97
Incomings		
Cheque made out to PC in error		£200
Vat Refund		1886.19
	Working Balance	<b>£11369.94</b>

Fran Mills

Clerk to the Parish Council 28.10 19

#### Proposed meeting dates 2020

**3. Feb, 2 Mch, 6 Apr, 4 May, 1 Jun, 6 Jul, 7 Sep, 2 Nov, 7 Dec**

**Dates of Annual meeting and AGM to be agreed**

#### Correspondence:

- Letter re Newton Poppleford 7 Harpford NP
- Recycle Devon Thank You Awards 2020

#### ● **'Be bright, be seen' as the clocks go back**

- **The Devon Air Ambulance needs a community of volunteers to keep our 19 charity shops open and our emergency helicopters flying. Could you spare an hour or two to help your local shop? We have a host of tasks which need to be completed to make our shops a success. From customer service on the till, sorting through our generous donations, steaming, tagging and creating displays. You do not have to have any previous retail experience as we offer friendly support, training and encouragement. So why not give volunteering a go and arrange a trial session at one of our shops. This opportunity would suit anyone who would like to meet new people and help to save lives. Pop in and have a chat with our lovely Managers at**

**Church Street, Sidmouth (01395 514329) or 36 High Street, Budleigh Salterton (01395 442181) to find out more."**

Dear Parish Council, I would like to raise the concerns that I have and that other residents have voiced regarding the impact on the village and local environment from the recent maize harvesting.

Transport issues. For those of us living on Fore Street and Ottery Road there was a constant train of large tractors and trailers for some 4 days this month. Despite a road cleaner attempting to pick up the mud on the road, stones were left by the roadside and parked cars were splattered with dirt as were the walls of houses facing the road. In short, the village was left in a mess.

The danger of fast heavy machinery. Despite the atrocious weather conditions, tractors travelled at speed up and down the village for hours on end. Some residents who have blind or difficult exits from their driveways found it frightening and difficult to enter the road ,in their cars. Tractor drivers seemed to have little regard for local drivers or the risks created by wet slippery roads. As pedestrians also have to walk in the roadway at several narrow points in the village, the large speeding vehicles were frightening. This was particularly the case for older residents, parents with young children and dog walkers let alone visitors.

Damage to the environment. This has been two-fold. Firstly, the entrance to Checkenhole and Watering Lane. This entrance is normally difficult to enter by foot over winter months but the heavy machinery has made it almost impassable due to the deep ruts that quickly filled with water. Those who are responsible for this damage should be expected to repair it so that walkers can use the lanes. Secondly, the damage to the land is of great concern. Using heavy machinery in such wet weather compacts the land. The lower fields are also badly rutted. Once cut, the maize leaves bare topsoil that then gets washed away as a result of following wet weather leaving silt in the brooks and river. All this is very bad for the local environment. It appears that the current users of the land have no regard for the long term damage that they are causing for short term gain. Should the landlords not have concern for the damage being done to their land? All in the name of being environmental. Ironically, all this maize growth is being done in the name of being good for the environment despite all the resulting damage that is being done. Numerous fields of maize are being grown and harvested not as a food crop but to supposedly produce 'green' power. But at what cost to our local environment? Fields are sprayed to the detriment of plant, insect and bird life, the crop is then transported a considerable distance to the power plant by large agricultural machinery along totally unsuitable narrow country roads causing pollution and disruption. As already stated the cropped fields are then left vulnerable to erosion.

I would ask the Parish Council to raise these issues with the farmers concerned and their landlord. How can they justify all the negative impacts their activity is creating? More widely, this is after all an AONB and there should be a wider concern for the damage this is causing that environment.

As the village rep. for the OVA I have already voiced these concerns with the Executive Committee resulting in others voicing very similar concerns for their neighbouring communities. Whilst the direct impact is focused on Otterton other local parishes are experiencing the same negative impacts.

Yours sincerely, Geoff Porter, 34, Fore Street, Otterton.