

# Otterton Parish Council

Minutes							
Date & Time	6 <sup>th</sup> March 2023		Location	Otterton Village Hall			
Councillors Present	Initials			Also Present	Initials		
Mr T Wright	TW	Parish Councillor	Chair	Jess Bailey	JB		
MS Melanie Martin	MM	Parish Councillor		Members of the public	3		
Mr Richard Witherby	RW	Parish Councillor					
Mrs Julia Bove	JF	Parish Councillor					
Ms C Fitzgerald	CF	Parish Councillor					
Mr J Hiles	JH	Parish Councillor	V Chair				

Apologies	Initials	Reason for Absence	Absent without Apology	Initials	
John Lister	JL	Work Commitments			
Cllr Alan Dent	AD	Holiday Commitments			
Cllr Paul Jarvis	PJ	Personal Reasons			

In Attendance	Initials	Capacity	Minutes to
F Mills	FM	Clerk	Councillors, website, notice board

Ref	Main meeting agenda item, comment & decision	Action Owner & deadline
1	Welcome & Apologies received as above.	
2	Declarations of Interests: None	

## Otterton Parish Council

3 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February were signed as an accurate record of the meeting with the following amendments noted:

**22/1782/FUL-Land and Outbuilding at North Star Ottery Street Otterton:** During the public presentations the following comments were noted:

Change of use (from original application) to B2/B8 - some confusion in application. Current B1 use gives permission for motor trade/ Light industrial use which does not impact on residential areas. Change of classification disputed. CF stated that the change of use should be a B2 to 'Sui Generis'.

Gill Wilson seeks evidence that the premises were previously used, which was supported by Parish Council. Long standing residents had no knowledge of B1 use as stipulated in application. No evidence of change of use which was granted with conditions. No record of discharge of conditions therefore no evidence of change of use.

Increased noise levels and number of trips were a major concern to residents in Rydon Orchard. The noise report states that only if the EVC points are removed will the noise levels become below acceptable levels. However even with the EVC removal the report states that 4 homes will have significant noise impact levels.

It was universally agreed that the report from Highways was at best naive.

Steve Wilson offered that the flooding risk management report. 5.4. states concern re flooding. OPC requests that an Environmental Health assessment needs to be completed. Following a unanimous vote of the Otterton Parish Councillors it was agreed that an objection based on the following would be sent to EDDC:

Noise & pollution (Hydro carbons in river) recognised as a threat in Neighbourhood Plan. Lack of evidence of change of use permission granted in 2004 being discharged. Poor application & draft plans.

Proof sought of change of use to B8 B1 in 2004 having been lawfully discharged.

Consideration of points raised in neighbourhood plan.

CF Objected, JB Seconded, unanimous vote.

# Otterton Parish Council

<p><b>8 Emerging Local Plan.</b> Feedback following residents drop in session as sent to EDDC Planning Department.</p> <p>This jumps in mid-way through the feedback document as sent. The following could be inserted to fill in:</p> <p>Correspondence to the EDDC Planning Committee submitted 14 January 2023. From: Otterton Parish Council Working Party on EDDC Emerging Local Plan 2020-2040.</p> <p>"In response to the EDDC public consultation on the 2020-2040 Emerging Local Plan, Otterton Parish Council formed a working party in December 2022 to canvass the views of residents on plans for development in the village. A drop-in session was held on 4th December to provide information about the proposed sites. Attendees were asked to complete a survey on further development in the village in order to provide a response to the public consultation. Following this event, 42 survey forms were returned, either fully or partially completed. Below represents a summary of the quantitative survey results, elucidated by themes arising from drop-in session discussions, as well as discussions on the village Facebook group and other parish forums.</p> <p><b>Finding One</b> When asked if they supported further housing development in Otterton, 6/10 respondents were against further development.</p> <p><b>Finding Two</b> When asked to rank the Emerging Plan's five proposed Otterton sites in order of preference, most chose Otto_4 as their no. 1 preferred site. This site is currently listed as a new site not yet assessed and may be designated as employment land (There are some new documents on this planning application that contradict this). There is an ongoing planning application from August 2022 for change of use from B1 to B2 status, which was not supported by the Parish Council.</p> <p>§ Second preference: Otto_2</p> <p>§ Third preference: Otto_3a</p> <p>§ Fourth preference Otto_1</p> <p>§ Fifth preference Otto_3b (NB the site has been provisionally rejected by EDDC)</p> <p><b>Finding Three</b> Survey participants were asked what type of new housing they would prefer to see.</p>	
<p><b>Matters arising not featured on the agenda:</b></p> <p><b>Ownership of Violet Lane Otterton:</b> Whilst it was noted that ownership of this piece of land remains uncertain. It was unanimously agreed that parish council funds should not be used for maintenance of this land.</p> <p><b>Ongoing:</b></p> <p><b>Tap in the Green.</b> Application for work &amp; and quote for work made to SWW. Ref number: OttertonParishCouncil 20230306124104 Clerk to progress.</p> <p><b>Christine Channon:</b> Requested agreement on a petition to reduce the speed limit on Sleaf Hill which is also supported by East Budleigh Parish Council due to damage to fence and dangerous speed of traffic. It was agreed that a joint letter would be sent to Highways on behalf of Otterton &amp; East Budleigh Parish Councils.</p>	

# Otterton Parish Council

4	<p><b>The chair confirmed the arrangement for public discussion:</b>          All members of the public are welcome and comments on items on the agenda will be heard. If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please contact the clerk at least 7 days before the meeting. Public questions by email/letter or in person: No further questions from the public.</p> <p><b>Road sweeper.</b> A request was made for notice of visit of the road sweeper and for this to be communicated to residents to enable cars to be moved: Clerk to speak to Street Scene. A request was made for a convex mirror at Brick Cross. Clerk to speak Highways. Clarification was sought regarding sites for the Emerging Local Plan. (See minutes amendments above)</p> <p>Mrs Sally Burton stated concerns regarding the wellbeing of the pine trees in Monks Wall which is pertinent to the planning application at Monks Wall for a new tennis annex. Chair advised discussion with tree officer and for an objection to be loaded on planning portal.</p>	Clerk to action Clerk to action
5	<p><b>Correspondence:</b> A resident objects to placing of tables in front of pub as this has a detrimental effect on parking spaces available. Cllrs reported to meeting that they have been advised that tables are to be moved.</p>	
6	<p><b>Chair's report:</b> See letter in item 7.</p> <p>Regarding the long term aim of LORP a request was made for OPC to engage in conversation with OVA &amp; other users &amp; owners of land.</p>	

Draft until 31/03/2025

# Otterton Parish Council

**7 Footpath report & Erosion of bank of River Otter:**

The Chair reminded Cllrs of the **LORP Liaison Group meeting on 7.3.23 @ East Budleigh Village Hall at 10.00 to discuss this subject.**

The Chair asked for the following communication to be circulated to all Cllrs.

**From: Sam Bridgewater <Sam.Bridgewater@clintondevon.com>**

**Date: 3 March 2023 at 12:28:19 GMT**

**To: Cllr Geoff Jung <GJung@eastdevon.gov.uk>, Tom Wright <wright6pj@gmail.com>**

**Cc: Clare James <Clare.James@clintondevon.com> Subject: RE: Meeting next week**

Thanks Geoff. Hi Tom!

The repairs to the section of the footpath above clamour bridge has been hugely frustrating. On this issue I met with Clare yesterday, along with a contractor and we walked the section of footpath. We also spoke to Chris from Otterton Mill. We (the Estate) believe we have a fix to resolve the scour immediately above Clamour Bridge and also the 'cavernous hole' closer to Otterton! We believe we can enact this work in the coming weeks.

However, this will be only a temporary fix of the immediate and most pressing problem; all this work can easily be undone with a heavy flood.

The uncomfortable fact is that to fix this kilometre or so of river with a 'big hit of works' could cost many tens of thousands of pounds (probably nearer hundred thousands). This is doing naturalistic erosion control via chestnut stakes and willow spiling. Thereafter, ongoing maintenance might be in the order of £10K+/year (for just this stretch) and in any given year a hard flood could necessitate damage significant costs of additional tens of thousands of pounds. All work needs to be done in the winter months and needs permitting.

I understand that from a public perspective, and what LORP is doing elsewhere with work, this is difficult to accept, but the fact of the matter is that the maintenance of footpaths lies with DCC and for whatever reason they have not been able to progress with repair works in this instance. The Estate has offered every assistance. In terms of fixing the immediate concern of why the path is officially closed (although most people ignore the signs) the Estate will act independently on this occasion but we are very reluctant to take on all the management obligations of DCC going forward.

We will be speaking to DCC PRoW team to try and better understand what their long-term management intentions and budget availability are for this footpath; the Estate will continue to budget for and support management works, (just as we have in the past through the commissioning of repairs) but looking ahead we are unable to take on the full costs of what is required to give full certainty that this path is maintained in good order into the future.

So, in summary, we hope that the immediate work we have in mind will keep the footpath open for the spring/summer period, but looking ahead there needs to be a realistic conversation between ourselves, DCC and the community about the threats/costs of maintenance/responsibilities, etc. related to riverside footpaths, what is realistic re. management and funding and what the future holds.

Clare and I will be happy to meet with you to discuss various thoughts we have. Feel free to raise the footpath in AOB at the LORP liaison meeting, but I don't think the EA's position will change on this as footpath maintenance lies outside of their immediate (LORP) and wider project remit. Thanks. Best Wishes, **Sam**

## Otterton Parish Council

8	<p><b>Emerging Local Plan.</b> CF advised that the Government’s National Advisory Plan has put further development on hold for the time being until needs are assessed.</p>	
9	<p><b>Local planning: 23/0355/FUL</b> - Annexe Monks Wall Otterton Budleigh Salterton. Replacement of thatched roof with slate. Not visual deterrent, concern re trees in Jurassic conservation area. Devon Banks protected. Trees should be preserved. OPC agreed that there is NO objection to the scale or design of building however protection of trees and Devon bank must be assured. Report from arboreal expert key to protection of trees. Proposed TW, seconded JH</p>	
10	<p><b>Village events:</b> <b>23 February coffee morning.</b> Not so well attended as previous occasion but good feedback received together with request to continue this event on a regular basis. The Village Hall Committee agreed a reduced hire rate for this event. <b>Coronation celebration to be planned.</b> Sam Walker has offered his barn for an event with TV screen so the coronation can be watched &amp; an evening barn dance with hog roast for which tickets would be sold. MM has hosted a planning meeting to develop plans for the coronation celebration, seeking views from the village. Current thinking is for a fete type occasion with activities for all ages to be held at Stantyway Recreation field but very much a ‘work in progress’ a discussion took place regarding ways to raise funds for the celebration including a cheese and wine evening. JH Suggested that the costs of the event be underwritten by the parish council and refunded from income. <b>Following a discussion, it was agreed that £3500 would be made available to underwrite the event. The amount to be repaid immediately after the event and draw down minimised by upfront ticket sales for the Barn Dance &amp; Hog Roast. Unanimously agreed prop MM seconded JH</b> <b>The scheduled for the festivities is currently as follows:</b> <b>Saturday - Stantyway – Fete style event, including crafting/ races/ bucking bronco. Live streaming of coronation. Small fee for local stalls holders to take part.</b> <b>Saturday evening – Barn dance with hog roast.</b> <b>Centenary of the Village Hall</b> to be celebrated later in the year, possible cheese &amp; wine, &amp; meal. Thanks to MM for her work in organising village events so far.</p>	Clerk to action
11		
12	<p><b>Ladram Bay:</b> Not in attendance &amp; NTR.</p>	

## Otterton Parish Council

13	<b>Allocation of responsibilities &amp; reports from Councillors: Where there is nothing to report the following abbreviation will be used (NTR)</b> <b>Village Green &amp; Hall.</b> (See re tap in matters arising) <b>Community shop &amp; War Memorial:</b> NTR <b>Stantway recreation ground &amp; Football Club:</b> NTR <b>Raleigh Federation:</b> NTR <b>Jubilee Play Park:</b> SEE ongoing issues with 106 funding <b>Cemetery:</b> NTR <b>Contracts &amp; Finance:</b> NTR <b>Devon Air Ambulance (DAA):</b> NTR <b>Footpaths and Public Rights of Way:</b> See agenda item 7 above	Clerk to action
14	<b>Clr JESS BAILEY – DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL (OTTER VALLEY) APRIL 2022</b> <b>Concerns re footpath maintenance. Jess B wishes to be kept in the loop of all work on the river path. Adult social care consultation document to be filled in when possible</b>	
15	<b>Financial matters:</b> It was unanimously agreed that all payments listed on agenda 6.3.23 should be paid. See note regarding underwriting of Coronation event in agenda item 10	Clerk to action
16	<b>Further actions:</b> Nomination forms to stand as Councillor for Otterton Parish Council for next 4 year term of office to be requested from Clerk who will print & deliver. Return to Clerk by <b>27.3.23</b> to enable hand delivery to EDDC @ Blackmoor House Honiton	
17	<b>106 Funding: In the region of £8073.00 (Sport) £1683.00 (Recreation). Ongoing</b>	JB& Clerk to action
18	<b>Items for next agenda:</b>	
19	The next meeting will take place on <b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023@ 7.30.</b> An Annual Meeting will take place in early June.	Clerk to action

The meeting closed at 20.33

Proposed meeting dates 2023. 3rd April, 15th May, 5th June, 3rd July, 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December