

Otterford Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 8 January 2019 at 19.30 hrs.

Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham(Chairman), Rosie Viant (Vice Chairman), Phil Wright, Steve Campbell and Charlie Field, TDBC Councillor Ross Henley and the Clerk.

Item	Detail	Action
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Community Time

None

Reports from other organisations:

SCC Cllr John Thorne sent apologies and a written report [subsequently circulated to councillors] which unfortunately arrived too late for inclusion at the meeting.

Cllr Ross Henley (TDBC) apologised for his absence at the December meeting; he had had to attend a Full Council meeting of TDBC that evening. At the latter, Cllr Williams had again re-stated his intention to make the Otterford 'B' site a temporary transit site for travellers. Cllr Henley had reminded the meeting that Otterford already hosted the traveller site at Otterford 'A' and it would not be appropriate to have a second site in the parish (in line with the Parish Council policy adopted in 2011). This had fallen on deaf ears. The West Somerset/TDBC merger would take place on 1 April: the advertised savings expected from the merger were not in evidence and costs were instead likely to be in excess of £3m more than budgeted for, of which £54k had been spent on a new logo.

Avon & Somerset Constabulary – not present.

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

- 1. Cllr Canham is a member of the Otterford Parish Hall Committee*
- 2. Cllrs Canham and Viant are Trustees of the Otterford Charity*

There were no further Declarations of Interest in agenda items that accord with any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (s31 & 33 of the Localism Act 2011).

3. Meeting of 11 December

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.

3.2 Matters Arising:

3.2.1 Holman Clavel – Tree(s) in Paddock. There had only been one expression of interest, from Bosky Trees (costing £300). The Clerk had accordingly asked them to carry out the survey, which they had done on 7 January and had already submitted their report (detailed and not yet read but no imminent/serious problems identified). It was agreed this should be discussed at the next meeting.

**Clerk
B/F to
Februar
y**

- 3.2.2 Bridleway – no further news.
- 3.2.3 Parish Plan 2013-23 half term review – this had been distributed with the January CBO News, which was late due to the Editor’s computer difficulties.
- 3.2.4 Otterford Playing Fields – work had been placed with Parish Handyman (PH). Weather permitting, this will be carried out later this month.
- 3.2.5 Salting and gritting roads – still no response from SCC about costings for extending the grit run through Bishopswood. The gritting lorry appeared to go through the village every day after gritting the B3170, presumably on its way to the Eagle Tavern junction to grit to the top of Corfe Hill. The Council thus hoped it would be relatively easy to persuade SCC to grit as it would not involve extra mileage, just salt. The salt bins had not yet been re-filled. **Clerk/JT**
- 4. Planning**
- 4.1 There were no new, refused or withdrawn planning applications.
- 4.2 Applications granted - 29/18/0012 erection of general purpose agricultural building at Underdown Cottage, Bishopswood.
- 5. Other Matters –**
- 5.1 Village Green Lease – the present tenant had indicated he wanted to renew the Lease on the present terms. This was agreed. **Clerk**
- 5.2 Holman Clavel – Cllrs Campbell and Viant would conduct the January 6-monthly inspection. **RV/SC**
- 6. Correspondence**
 The Clerk had received a letter from TDBC & West Monkton PC about contributing to the Somerset Wood project, intended to commemorate WW1. The Council discussed but agreed not to participate.
 The Clerk had also received an invitation to submit the name of a long-standing Chairman/Member into the draw for a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. A Councillor was nominated. **Clerk**
- 7. Financial matters**
- 7.1 Deposit accounts – the Clerk had recently opened a 95 day notice account with the Nationwide, as previously agreed. She and Cllr Field were signatories. She would now arrange for the transfer of £10,000 to that account as agreed at the May 2018 meeting. **Clerk**
- 7.2 Three-quarter year Financial Review – year to date income and expenditure, and the current financial position/projection, were noted, **Clerk**
- 7.3 Monthly financial summary – noted. **Clerk**

7.4 Payment of invoices – none.

7.5 The Clerk had been looking into getting a Council credit card, and had sought advice from SALC. Most banks charge for a business credit card, although Barclays (with no charge) seemed a possibility. She was still looking at alternatives. **Clerk**

8. AOB

- 8.1 - Parish Council elections in May. Cllr Canham reminded everyone that Parish Council elections were due in May, and TDBC would soon be sending out the paperwork with general details and advertising for applications: and that, based on earlier advice, it was likely that a contested election would cost the Council in excess of £2000. **SC**
- Cllr Canham had now purchased another two litter picking signs as discussed in December. Cllr Campbell would store these with the others.
- The Council discussed the recent incident of fly tipping (tyres) in the goyle by Star Mobile Tyres, witnessed by a parishioner. This had been reported to the TDBC fly-tipping hotline. Clerk to check that they were taking action against the culprits, and add the Parish Council's support to the complaint. **Clerk**
- The fingerpost at the top of Blagdon Hill had been knocked by a car and was leaning. There was no damage except a scratch but the post needed righting. Clerk to report to SCC Highways: if they are unwilling to reinstate it was agreed the Parish Council would. **Clerk**
- _ Cllr Wright still to obtain a quote for repair of the Corfe Hill crossroads fingerpost post. **PW**
- Cllr Canham suggested that the Council's membership of online 'ancestry etc' websites be renewed for another year. More information about those Otterford men who fought in WW1 was being found as 'Otterford Remembered' had stimulated interest, and he felt it essential to capture this before relatives were no longer around to discuss it with. Cost of memberships totalled £300 - £400: this was agreed. **MC**
- it was agreed not to hold a summer event this year as last year's Duck Race had not been well attended.

9. **Date of next meeting:** 7.30pm, Tuesday February 12th 2019 in the Wright Room, Otterford Parish Hall.