

Otterford Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 February 2023 at 1930 hrs in the Wright Room, Otterford Parish Hall

Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham (Chairman), Charlie Field (Vice Chairman), John Marsden, and Lucy Montgomery
SWATDC Cllr Ross Henley, and the Clerk.

Item	Detail	Action
	<u>Community Time</u>	
	<u>Reports from other organisations</u>	
	Cllr Wakefield had submitted a written report. Cllr Henley discussed a few items and reported that Council Tax would be increasing by 4.99%.	
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Councillor MacLeod (work issues).	
2.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Cllrs Canham and Montgomery are OPC-nominated(nominative)Trustees of the Otterford Charity. Cllr Canham is Chairman of Otterford Parish Hall Committee. He represents OPC at the BHPN and is also a member of the Steering Group and a representative on the Blackdown Hills AONB Management Group.	
3.	<u>Meeting of 10 January</u>	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.	
3.2	<u>Matters arising</u> None not already on the agenda.	
4.	<u>Planning</u>	
4.1	<u>Planning Matters</u>	
4.2	New Applications: 29/23/0001 Replacement of conservatory with the erection of a single storey extension to the side and erection of a single storey extension to the rear of Beechcroft, Royston Road, Otterford. This was considered and <u>it was agreed to object</u> on the grounds that the building was being extended at the front and was clearly visible from the road, no reference to or account taken of the AONB planning guide (accepting that this is not a statutory requirement), no additional parking had been designated, and no comments received from traffic management regarding access.	

Withdrawn application: 29/22/0007 Application for Outline Planning with all matters reserved, except for access, appearance, layout and scale, for the conversion of barn into 1 No. dwelling at Littlefields Farm, Bodleys Lane, Bishopswood.

4.3 There were no granted or refused applications.

5. **Other matters**

5.1 Projects/activities/events – update.

An updated list was circulated and noted. The Wednesday volunteers would be replacing the arms on the fingerpost at the top of Corfe Hill tomorrow.

5.2 Climate & The Environment Project- Update on Project Action Plan

An updated list was circulated and noted.

5.3 Otterford Playing Fields

- Grass cutting 2023-2025. Cllr Montgomery had met on site with SSDC and they had agreed to send a quote for both cutting and mulching and cutting and taking away. No quote had yet been received – the Clerk would chase. **Clerk**
- Tree – a quote for £780 incl. VAT had been received. It was agreed to accept this. **Clerk**
- Play equipment – the grant application had been submitted. Subject to that going through successfully, the new equipment will hopefully be installed in March. In the meantime the Parish Handyman would install some drainage around the 'castle' equipment to deal with soggy ground.
- The mole traps had been removed from the upper field. **Clerk**
- the Wayleave agreement would expire this year; Miss Campbell had offered a 5-year Lease and this was being progressed.
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6. **Correspondence**

The Council, along with Churchstanton and Buckland St Mary Councils, had received a letter from a parishioner proposing that the CBO News could be continued if the 3 councils paid £1,000 each per year for someone to produce it. This was discussed. It was agreed that this was a lot of money for very few recipients (the latest print CBO circulation was 200 households across the 3 parishes) and the money could be better used elsewhere. Meanwhile the 3 parishes Facebook page was being used to good effect to advertise local events, road closures, planning applications etc. The Clerk will advise the other parish councils and agree who will reply to the letters received. **Clerk**

7. **Financial matters**

7.1 Monthly Financial summary –January.
Noted.

8. Other business.

The Parish Website was still off-line as work on the upgrade continues.

Coronation planning – A magician had been booked for the street party, letters had been written to parishioners who would be affected by the road closure and a road closure application to SC was being prepared, the celidh band had been booked and the hall committee had agreed to run a pay bar for the barn dance. It was agreed there could be another parish walk providing expenditure was kept to a minimum.

9. The next meeting of the Council will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14 March 2022, in the Wright Room, Otterford Parish Hall.

Penny Hart, Parish Clerk, February 2023