

OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Otterhampton Village Hall on Thursday 13th May 2010.

PRESENT: Mr. B. Leathwood (Chairman) Mr. P. Gripton
 Mrs E. Sidebotham Mr. J. Marriott
 Mr. J. Best

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllrs. Mr. K. Dyer, Mr. P. M. Shaw (Clerk)

1/10 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Chairman called for Nominations, Mrs. E. Sidebotham nominated Mr. B. Leathwood, this was seconded by Mr. J. Marriott, there being no other nominations as Mr. B. Leathwood was duly ELECTED. He thanked Members but said that he would not serve for more than 3 years in total.

2/10 APOLOGIES:

Mr. Mervyn Brown and Mr. Bob Birkenhead.

The Clerk requested that Apologies are sent by direct contact or letter and not by e-mail.

3/10 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 1st April were corrected at 116/09(ii) by deleting EDF and inserting Environment Agency, and were then Approved and signed by the Chairman.

4/10 CHAIRMANS REPORT:

The Chairman spoke about his written report (attached). He thanked Paul Gripton for his work on the Steart Peninsular Project. He referred to the new Planning Group which was working well. Two major issues of concern are the Steart Peninsular Project and Hinkley Point new build. The 'missing' buoy was referred to, still being repaired.

The Village Welcome Sign is more imminent.

He thanked John Marriott for the excellent Newsletter and suggested a new picture gallery of Members etc.

He thanked the Clerk for his unstinting work for the Parish Council.

He concluded by hoping that we will have an Election for Membership next year.

5/10 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Paul Gripton Nominated Mr. Mervyn Brown, seconded by Mrs. E. Sidebotham. It was confirmed that he was willing to stand and was duly ELECTED.

6/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Mr. J. Best and Cllr. Dyer declared Personal Interests in the Steart Peninsular Item (Min 7/10a).

7/10 MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Stearth Peninsular Project

It was reported by Dick Best that the Steart Residents Group had intended to make a joint response to the Scoping Document, however individual responses were made and a meeting was held with the Environment Agency representative.

The four options had been discussed and the Environment Agency's preferred option is to breach the

River Parrett Bank. The Groups main concern was the timing and likelihood of protection of the road for only 20 years. This would have a serious impact on property values, the Group asked that this period be extended but were told that the "pot" of money may be insufficient. A timetable for protection work was requested.

The issue of "Planning Gain" was touched on but not responded to by the Environment Agency. However the matter of need to create compensatory Wetland Habitat may be a tool to justify some gains.

Paul Gripton was concerned about this new information and its serious impact, he passed a copy of the Otterhampton Parish Council response to the Environment Agency to Cllr. Dyer.

Cllr. Dyer was concerned about protecting the low-lying properties and the access road. He commented on the serious changes that he had seen in the last 40 plus years Paul Gripton said that it is important to have our District and County Ward Councillors "on board".

In Conclusion it was Agreed to request a special meeting with the Environment Agency to include Ward Councillors and nearby Parish Councils. This is not to be an open public meeting. Paul Gripton offered to contact the Environment Agency to get dates available in the next two months.

(b) EDF. Hinkley C Development.

There had been no new issues; however concern was expressed about people representing EDF calling on properties in the Parish with questions and comments causing anxiety to several elderly residents. It was Agreed to write to EDF expressing concern and asking for reasons.

The involvement of the Community Council was referred to.

8/10 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

(a) Current Balances: Current a/c £ 42.88
 Business Call £5839.60
 Pension Fund £ 800.00

(b) Accounts for Payment:

AON Insurance	£720.95	Annual Premium (£541 in 2009)
Greenslades	£136.91	Grass Cutting
P. M. Shaw	£ 6.96	Quarry stone for Track Repair
Purnells	£ 59.46	Type/print. March/April
Greenslades	£267.64	Grass Cutting. April
Greenslades	£236.26	Wharf Road. April

These accounts were APPROVED for payment.

(c) Annual Accounts and Audit The Account books to 31st March 2010 were ADOPTED, and signed.
 The Annual Audit Return was presented APPROVED and signed by the Chairman and Clerk/RFO.

9/10 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

(a) Highways – Parking at Church Hill

The Clerk referred to the letter from the Parochial Church Council and stated that he is still trying to arrange a meeting and will reply to the PCC.

(b) Tree Works

The Clerk to contact our contractor regarding the dead Elms.

(c) Childrens Playground:

It was hoped that Greenslades will soon do their work.
A working party to undertake the other work before June.

(d) Village Gardening:

The Clerk presented the quotation from Greenslades to deal with the brambles at the Copse in the sum of £125.00, this was Accepted. Agreed to ask them to look at the Brambles at the Riverside/Track junction.

- (e) Bus Shelter Light:
As last meeting.
- (f) River-side Track:
The Clerk had filled pot-holes as far as Riverside Cottage, he was asked to continue to the gate, Members offered to help.
- (g) Benches – repair/replacement:
John Marriott and the Clerk to Action.
- (h) Welcome Feature -Approvals:
It was hoped that the Chairman and Clerk will soon visit the Manufacturer to approve the final design.
- (i) Ponds:
The Chairman reported on the latest situation regarding recreating public access, not very positive and it was likely that they will remain closed for the foreseeable future. He referred to the issues raised by parishioner Mrs. M. Layton at the Annual Assembly. It was Agreed to raise the planning issues with Sedgemoor DC by letter with a copy to the Angling Association.

10/10 CORRESPONDANCE

(A) Requiring Council Decision:

- | | | | | |
|-------|----------|-------------------------|---|---|
| (i) | April | SALC | - | Clerks Training Events – Agreed |
| (ii) | 6 April | Sedgemoor DC | - | Joint Funding Workshops – To be monitored |
| (iii) | 20 April | Somerset CC | - | Rights of Way – Barry Leathwood |
| (iv) | 23 April | Open Spaces Society | - | No action |
| (v) | 26 April | Parochial Church | - | Clerk to action. See 9/10(a) |
| (vi) | 30 April | Sedgemoor DC
Council | - | Parish Cluster Groups - Noted |

(B) To be Noted

All other correspondence considered by the Chairman and Clerk and is circulating.

(C) Received after Preparation of Agenda

- (i) 30th April Sedgemoor DC – Somerset CC Highways Environmental Maintenance – Grass Cutting – Noted.
- (ii) 4th May Rural Services Network – Newsletter – Noted.
- (iii) May SALC – next meeting. 17th June (corrected to 24th June) – Noted.
- (iv) 6th May EDF – Community Forum Meeting – 20th May – Noted.
- (v) 9th May Barry Leathwood – Noise Nuisance – No Action.
- (vi) 11th May Community Council – Request to attend our Annual Meeting to discuss Hinkley Point development – Not taken up.

(D) Outgoing

List available at meeting.

11/10 PLANNING MATTERS

Application No.

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 39/10/00003 | - | 3 Dwellings, 9 Church Hill, Combwich. |
| 39/10/00004 | - | Front porch. 41 Estuary Park – No objection. |

The Report on the Designation Scheme is awaited.

Following the resignation of Mrs. Jowett it was Agreed to ask Mr. Dick Best to join the Planning

Group, he Agreed.

12/10 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- (a) Hinkley Liaison: Mervyn Brown is to attend a meeting concerning waste.
- (b) Village Hall: Liz Sidebotham stated that a Grant of £1000 had been received – They are seeking quotations for the works.
- (c) Stear Ward: See 7/10 (a). There were no other issues.
- (d) OPRA: Nothing new to report.
- (e) School: No report.

13/10 MATTERS OF REPORT

- (i) Parish Cluster Group – Meetings.
Awaiting dates.
- (ii) SALC Meetings.
Next meeting 24th June, Edington.
- (iii) Risk Assessment & Audit Matters.
Clerk to present Final Report.
- (iv) Standing Orders & Financial Regulations.
Chairman and Clerk considering SALC draft.
- (v) Freedom of Information Act.
Clerk to present Final Report.
- (vi) Staffing Committee.
The Chairman and Clerk explained the need for this as recommended by SALC to deal with matters of Employment/Disputes. It was Agreed to establish a committee of three and John Marriott, Paul Gripton and Liz Sidebotham volunteered to join the Chairman to meet on and when required. This was AGREED.

14/10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (i) Parish Plan.
- (ii) Newsletter.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 3rd June 2010 at 7.30pm

Signed (Chairman) Date