

## OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Otterhampton Village Hall on Thursday 4th March 2010.

**PRESENT:** Mr. B. Leathwood (Chairman)                      Mr. R. Birkenhead  
                 Mrs H. Jowett    Mr. P. Gripton  
                 Mrs E. Sidebotham    Mr. J. Marriott

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllrs. Mr. K. Dyer, Mr. J. Edney, Mr. Dick Best of Steart, Mr. P. M. Shaw (Clerk)

### 103/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Mr. Mervyn Brown.    Cllr. Mr. D. Joslin.

### 104/09 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February were APPROVED and signed by the Chairman.

### 105/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Chairman invited, there were none.

### 106/09 MATTERS ARISING:

- (i) Steart Peninsular/Shoreline Management Review.  
Paul Gripton advised the Meeting that the Environment Agency are proposing “No Active Intervention,” which means that any decay of defences would not be repaired at Steart Peninsular. Combwich defences would be maintained. Paul notified Members of the Public “Drop-in” meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March in the Village Hall.  
Cllr. Dyer reported that the Environment Agency are taking “purchase options” on land likely to be involved.  
Mr. Dick Best, potential new Member for Steart, was asked what was the general view of Steart residents, he considered that most people were aware of the likely outcome and were pragmatic.
- (ii) EDF. Hinkley C.  
Paul Gripton tabled the ‘Save Cannington Action Group’ proposals for an outer by-pass to cross the River Parrett North of Combwich. Paul considered that this proposal would seriously impact on the Parish and thought that, although it was only a pressure group proposal, it should be responded to as it was in the public domain. Cllr. Dyer was aware of the document. It was commented that EDF had stated that a by-pass from the M5 towards Hinkley was a “non-starter” and therefore the proposal would also be such. However, there is growing pressure for an “outer by-pass”.  
Paul proposed that we make EDF aware of our opposition to the suggestions, this was Agreed.
- (iii) Co-Option of New Member.  
It was Agreed that subject to there being no request for an Election and Mr. Dick Best being approved by the Steart residents group, that he be co-opted.

107/09 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- (a) Current Balances:      Current a/c    £ 253.74  
   Business a/c   £7839.60  
   Pension Fund   £ 800.00
- (b) Accounts for Payment:
- |                |         |  |
|----------------|---------|--|
| SALC           | £ 15.00 | Clerks course fee                                  |
| SALC           | £186.14 | Affiliation fee                                    |
| Sedgemoor DC   | £188.96 | Replace litter bin                                 |
| Sedgemoor DC   | £169.61 | New dog waste bin                                  |
| Sedgemoor DC   | £148.33 | Emptying new dog waste bin<br>12.10.09 to 31.03.10 |
| Mr. K. Preston | £ 80.00 | Gardening Work                                     |

These accounts were APPROVED for payment.

108/09 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

- (a) Highways – Parking at Church Hill  
Meeting to be arranged to be attended by involved parties with the Chairman, one Member and the Clerk.
- (b) Tree Works  
Leylandiis – awaiting update from Mervyn Brown.  
The Elms at the river-side track to be inspected next month.
- (c) Childrens Playground:  
Greenslades have inspected the works required and will give a price but excluding the chain items, but to include better surfacing at each entrance, Bob Birkenhead will inspect the chains etc.  
The Clerk suggested that improved drainage might qualify for RLT3 monies, this to be researched.
- (d) Village Gardening:  
The required “litter picker” now to come from Liz Sidebotham.
- (e) Bus Shelter Light:  
As last meeting.
- (f) River-side Track:  
As last meeting.
- (g) Benches:  
As last meeting.
- (h) Welcome feature:  
As last meeting.
- (i) Somerset Skills and Learning:  
To be a Newsletter item.

109/09 PLANNING MATTERS

Report on Delegation Scheme for SDC Officers – Mervyn Brown to report.

Application No. 39/10/00001	-	Advertisement Consent (Welcome Feature) Brookside Road
39/10/00002	-	Change of use, field to boat parking. Combwich Wharf. – Members
47/10/00001	-	Change to 2 dwellings. Washers Farm, Stockland Bristol. Oppose parking area and co-operative with Parish meeting.

#### 110/09 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- (a) Hinkley Liaison: Written Report on Stakeholders Group Annual Off-site meeting submitted. Well supported. Main items:-
- 1) Parking issues at B Station
  - 2) Use of Combwich Wharf
  - 3) Storage of intermediate level waste
  - 4) Solid waste treatment. Mervyn Brown to be involved
- (b) Village Hall: Liz Sidebotham reported further on cost problems. She asked if the Parish Council could assist in the short term by borrowing from the Public Loan Board to lend to the Village Hall. The Clerk to investigate.
- (c) Stear Ward: Nothing to Report.
- (d) OPRA: Written report submitted. Main items:-  
 Coffee mornings very successful  
 AGM – 26<sup>th</sup> March  
 Easter Events  
 Summer Ball  
 Fete – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
 Provision of a Youth Shelter –jointly with OPC
- (e) SCHOOL: The new Classroom officially opened. New Chair of Governors. Bob Birkenhead has CRB and is an Associate Governor.

#### 111/09 MATTERS OF REPORT

- (j) Litter Problems/Dog Fouling  
 Actioned. Invoices received for payment (see 107/09 (b))
- (ii) Parish Cluster Meeting.  
 Next meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> March in Village Hall. Tea and biscuits to be provided.
- (iii) SALC.  
 Next meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> March at Burnham-on-Sea. Chairman and Clerk to attend.
- (iv) Risk Assessment and Audit Matters.  
 As last meeting. Annual Audit awaited.
- (v) Clerks Contract of Employment.  
 To be passed to Chairman for signing.
- (vi) Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.  
 New draft Standing Orders being considered by SALC following workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> February.

(vii) Freedom of Information Act.  
Clerk collating information received.

(viii) Newsletter.  
Next edition hopefully May/June.

112/09 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

(i) Parish Emergency Plan.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman and Members passed their thanks to Helen Jowett for all her work on behalf of the Parish and in particular the Steart Ward.

Signed ..... (Chairman)      Date .....