

## OTTERHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Otterhampton Village Hall on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

**PRESENT:** Mr. B. Leathwood (Chairman)                      Mr. M. Brown  
Mrs E. Sidebotham    Mr. J. Marriott  
Mr. J. Best    Mr. R. Birkenhead  
Mr. Paul Gripton

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr. Mr. J. Edney, Cllr. Mr. K. Dyer, Mr. P. Shaw (Clerk)  
25 Interested Parishioners.

37/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:  
None.

38/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:  
All Members declared a Personal Interest in Agenda items relating to the effects of Hinkley Point C on the Parish.  
The Clerk to contact the Standards Officer at Sedgemoor DC regarding dispensations.

39/10 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CLERK.  
The Clerk explained the need for this appointment which would not involve the Council in additional expenditure. Following consultation with the Chairman he had approached Mr. Richard Young, an experienced Clerk who was willing to assist, initially for the month of September for the Hinkley C Stage 2 Consultations and submission. Members AGREED to Appoint Mr. Young as set out above.

40/10 REPORT ON THE PUBLIC MEETING OF 5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST ON THE SUBJECT OF HINKLEY POINT C.  
The Chairman reminded all of the key issues raised at the meeting which stemmed from new information and greater detail in Stage 2 Consultation, on issues effecting Combwich, which included the establishing of a large storage area adjacent to the Wharf Haul Road, the erection of large fabrication buildings, the use as a Bus depot, the vastly increased hours of use (from 4.30am to midnight). The monopolising of the Pill for EDF shipping both during upgrading of the Wharf and during the 7 year construction period.  
The Chairman referred to the size of the Stage 2 Consultation, nearly 9000 pages and the need for "readers".  
He asked for comments from the floor, there were none.

41/10 REPORT FROM THE CASUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS ON 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST.  
Paul Gripton explained the purpose of the meeting which was to identify the way forward and set out the thinking of the Council. It was agreed that the Council should not dominate or be dictatorial in future meetings on the subject of Hinkley C. It was agreed to invite Parishioners to participate. The idea of a Questionnaire together with an information sheet had been Agreed. Paul confirmed the need for "readers" with the 9000 page consultation, in the same way as other affected Councils. He stated that he had made a serious start and that Bob Birkenhead is looking at the Noise issues and John Marriott is looking at Transport matters. Paul stated that EDF have failed to comply with some key elements of the Government Code for Consultations which EDF have apparently adopted.  
John Marriott informed the meeting that EDF have considered the increased traffic on the C 182 Hinkley Road which could be 650 extra vehicles each way each day passing the Combwich and Otterhampton junctions.  
Cllr. Dyer suggested obtaining traffic flow statistics from the time of Hinkley B construction.

Several points were made from the floor including:

- Can we press EDF to extract Key Village issues from the 9000 pages.
- Noise monitoring needs to be continued due to local changes.
- Not opposed to Hinkley C, but deeply concerned at the likely effects on Combwich and surroundings.

It was considered whether we should liaise with the “Save Cannington Group” who were represented.

The Chairman explained the constraints on a Working Party, no power to act or speak independently but to report and recommend actions to the Parish Council. If parishioners want an independent Action Group then this must be separate. He hoped that the meeting will vote for a Working Party. He also stressed the importance of individual independent responses. There was a complaint from the floor that many villagers still are not aware of all the EDF proposals.

It was stated that the Questionnaire will be accompanied by an Information Leaflet.

The meeting was reminded of an important meeting on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall in the form of a “drop-in” organised by the Community Council for Somerset to be attended by representatives of Sedgemoor DC and West Somerset Council.

There is also a meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall where EDF will explain their investigatory works which are imminent.

#### 42/10 TO SET UP A WORKING PARTY.

The Chairman proposed that a Working Party, to include two Parish Councillors but mainly made up of interested parishioners to carry forward issues regarding the effects of Hinkley Point C on the Parish and to provide guidance to the Clerk and Chairman in drawing up a formal Response to EDF. This was duly seconded and AGREED.

It was Agreed that Parish Councillors Paul Gripton and John Marriott be on the Working Party. The Working Party to appoint a Chairman. All other Parish Councillors can attend on an “as and when basis”.

The Meeting closed at approximately 8.30pm.

#### THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.30pm.

It is hoped that Ian Liddell-Grainger MP will attend.

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