



Agency scheme. The situation at the turn to Otterhampton/Stear from the C182 was considered, some work to increase visibility has been done.

Councillor Caswell referred to comments about removal of hedges and trees and stated that only those with roots in brackish water will be and there is much new hedging and tree planting planned

(iii) Broadband

The Clerk had passed all available information to Dick Best. The Chairman said that High Speed Fibre Optic Broadband is already in Combwich, serving the school and the laboratory.

An enquiry has already been conducted with some residents with a suggestion to register an interest with Somerset County Council. Councillor Edney confirmed this and suggested that the Parish Council should publish and encourage registration.

(iv) Parish Plan Review

The Chairman spoke to the plan as tabled and dated 1<sup>st</sup> March, stating that it links with Sedgemoor District Council core strategy and that Sedgemoor District Council are happy with it, and it will be part of their core strategy.

Barry is pleased at the number of new activities that have been generated. The meeting APPROVED the plan.

(v) Joint Funding

The Clerk reported on the Somerset County Council meeting where it was confirmed that some functions will be cut or removed but they will retain enough officers to give advice and guidance to Parishes taking on functions.

Sedgemoor District Council have already passed some functions to Parishes, we pay for dog bins and emptying.

## 111/11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Current Balances	Current Account	£213.44	Pension Fund	£1101
	Business Call	£2054.76		
(b) Accounts for Payment	Otterhampton Village Hall	£ 36.00	Rent for Chat and Chill	
			January	
	Otterhampton Village Hall	£ 9.00	Rent OPC meeting	
	Purnells	£ 89.88	Type/Print - Dec/Jan	
	Keith Preston	£105.00	Gardening etc.	
	SALC	£204.76	Annual Sub	
	The above accounts were APPROVED for payment			
(c) Annual Accounts	Second instalment of Precept received £4000 (less £836.16 for dog bins)			
	Account books made available for inspection			

## 112/11 WARD MEMBERS REPORTS

- (i) Councillor Edney reported on the Somerset County Council budget meeting setting a zero increase in Council Tax. He stated that EDF are not being very cooperative and did not attend a meeting as requested.
- He referred to the issue of lorry movements generated by the Steart Project which were better controlled than by EDF.
- Councillor Caswell reported on the Sedgemoor District Council Budget meeting which set a zero increase in Council Tax and no increase in Councillors payments.

## 113/11 MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS/ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

- (i) Children's Playground – Repairs  
Application for RLT2 monies submitted
- (ii) Village Gardening/Tree Works  
Tree works completed as quotation. Mervyn Brown to talk to Mr Page re. Hedge/Copse
- (iii) Housing Needs Survey  
9 positive responses, to be considered by Parish Plan Group.
- (iv) Gardening Volunteers  
No current action  
The “flailing” work on The Track by Environment Agency considered excessive. The Clerk to write.
- (v) Road Closure – Crossways Farm  
The Clerk reported on this matter, including the Somerset County Highways response in that they would not object so long as work carried out to their requirement, likely to cost £600, no funds available. It was thought that a safety issue might arise as it is part of our only access/exit to the Village. Also the junction could be changed as part of Hinkley Point C traffic measures.  
To be put on hold. Clerk to write to Applicant.

## 114/11 CORRESPONDENCE

### A. **Requiring Council Decision.**

- (i) 1<sup>st</sup> February - Somerset Highways - Road Closure, Crossways Farm
- (ii) 14<sup>th</sup> February - SALC - Capping Council Tax, Parishes.  
Clerk to reply.

### B. **To be Noted:** All other correspondence considered by the Chairman and Clerk.

### C. **Received after Preparation of Agenda.**

- (i) 21<sup>st</sup> February - Local Government Boundary - Electoral review of  
Commission Somerset
- (ii) 23<sup>rd</sup> February - LARC - Last round of funding  
We don't qualify
- (iii) 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Mark Fiddes - Tree work contractor –  
Keep on file

*The Ward Councillors left the meeting*

## 115/11 PLANNING MATTERS

Application No

- 39/11/00006 Wetland Habitat, Steart – Dick Best may speak in support
- 39/11/00007 Retention of container used as toilet, Combwich ponds.  
Mervyn Brown reported following Committee Site Visit. Will go to Sedgemoor District Council Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Mervyn mentioned the recommendation from the Environment Health Officer, the impact of the 3 ton weight limit on the Wharf Road (the access for servicing)

The Clerk referred to the absence of written contact with objectors by Sedgemoor District Council, Agreed that Clerk should write concerning both above issues.

*The Parishioners left the meeting*

3/32/11/043 Intertidal Habitat, Steart – Support  
39/12/00002 Bungalow and access. 9 Church Hill, Combwich – to be considered by group

#### 116/11 REPORTS OF REPRESENTITIVES

- (a) Hinkley Liaison  
Mervyn Brown spoke to his report (on file). He suggested that we should register with Magnox to get our Parish Magazine printed for free.
- (b) Village Hall  
A meeting next month
- (c) Steart Ward  
No report
- (d) OPRA  
A Jubilee group has been set up. The website is “on course” with provision for contribution from Otterhampton Parish Council.
- (e) School  
No report

#### 117/11 MATTERS OF REPORT

- (i) Parish Cluster Group  
The Chairman reported that the main issues remain as A39 and Hinkley Point C. Presentations by Bristol Port Company and The Environment Agency on Steart. A new Chairman and Vice Chairman needed, also a new Clerk. Barry suggested a paid officer with a Levy on Member Councils. This Council AGREED.
- (ii) SALC  
Next meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> March

#### 118/11 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None recorded

#### NEXT MEETING

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7.30pm

Signed..... Chairman                      Date.....