

# OTTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 p.m. in the Committee Room of the Village Hall on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

Present	Cllr J. Edmonds (Chairman)	Cllr Mrs J Smith
	Cllr C. Cogger	Cllr T. Bennett
	Cllr R. Barlow	Cllr J Lister
In Attendance	6 members of the public	The Clerk

## Procedural Items.

<b>12.iii.1</b>	<b>To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on business items to be considered at the meeting.</b>
	There was none.
<b>12.iii.2</b>	<b>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> February, circulated to members and attached, be signed as a correct record.</b>
	There was a complaint that sets of electronically sent minutes were not consistent. The Clerk apologised and his suggestion that he presents the minutes in paper form to Councillors on the evening of the meeting having previously sent emails to them was accepted. The current minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
<b>12.iii.3</b>	<b>To receive apologies for absence from Councillors.</b>
	These were received from Cllr Simcock, County Councillor Mrs C. Channon and District Councillor Bloxham.
<b>12.iii.4</b>	<b>Chairman's formal announcements.</b>
	There was none.
<b>12.iii.5</b>	<b>Public questions and comments.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was reported that children were shining laser pens into people's property and traffic on Maunders Hill. This is a police matter and should be reported to them.</li> <li>• Children have been throwing stones at property in Maunders Hill. This is a police matter and should be reported to them.</li> <li>• It was reported that members of the public had contacted the necessary organisation in the hope of a faster broadband in the village. The more doing this the better.</li> <li>• The police had been informed of the accident on the river bridge on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> February. The Chairman had also spoken to County Councillor Channon about this, linking it to the necessity to move the 30 mph sign to the parish boundary.</li> <li>• The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee asked for help with his bid for funding for the Hall. He explained that the kitchen needed improving as Otterton was losing out to East Budleigh when decent catering facilities were needed and the roof need attention. He priced the kitchen at £10000, the complete roof at £45000 and roof tile replacing at considerably less. It was proposed by Cllr Cogger that this discussion be moved to Part B. This was agreed unanimously.</li> </ul>

## Business Items.

<b>12.iii.6</b>	<b>Items from the February meeting.</b> Source a supplier re Jubilee Playground dog signs (Cllr Cogger)
	Cllr Cogger will order 10 plastic signs at £1.32 each plus postage which can be attached to posts around the village to encourage dog owners to remove their canines' excrement.
<b>12.iii.7</b>	<b>Celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. (Minute 11.vii.14)</b> The Clerk will inform the Council of the current situation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fund raising events will take place before the week-end. On Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> March there will be a "Coffee Morning" in the Village Hall at 10.30 a.m. On Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 p.m. there will be the "Otterton Jubilee Fashion Show" with tickets at £5.00. Potential models men, women, boys and girls should contact Marion Cowlin at Ladram House.</li> <li>On Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. the "Diamond Jubilee Concert" will be held in the Village Hall. Performers should contact Brian Masurier in Lea Road.</li> <li>• The Barn Dance will be held in Home Farm, Bicton on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June between 7.00p.m. and 11.00 p.m. so as to allow children to be part of the celebrations. Ticket prices have been set at £2.50 in order to attract families. Prior to the day, volunteers will be need by Jeanette Pyne to decorate the Barn .</li> <li>• On the following day, the village will hold a lunch time party on the Green, when all are invited to bring their own picnic and join the celebrations. Again, volunteers will be needed to decorate the Green and help lay the tables etc.</li> <li>• Cllr Cogger has ordered 140 mugs with a suitable inscription to be presented at the picnic by a village elder statesman. He has also sourced 150 flags for children and adults alike.</li> <li>• Cllr Cogger informed the Council that money had been promised by Ladram Bay Holiday Park, The King's Arms, CSD Contractors and CCPlusIT. Further money has been received from Devon County Council and a donation from Clinton Devon Estates has to be applied for.</li> <li>• The Council has set up a sub-committee of Cllrs Mrs Smith, Cogger and Barlow to run a Jubilee Fund. They will control income and expenses.</li> <li>• After the Celebrations the Council will decide whether they have sufficient funds to provide a permanent reminder of the Jubilee.</li> </ul>
<b>12.iii.8</b>	<p><b>Traffic speeds through the Village. (Minute 11.ix.17)</b> The Chairman will report on progress.</p>
	<p>A plan had been received by the Chairman indicating proposed new positions for the 30 mph signs. In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the signs on the entrance to the village from Sleaf Hill should be placed nearer to the village sign so as to make the blind left-hand bend safer for pedestrians and horse-riders. It was pointed out by the Chairman that an objection would mean nothing would be changed until a completely new plan had been approved, which would take ages. Councillors felt an objection should be made anyway as they were not happy with the proposal as it stands.</p>
<b>12.iii.9</b>	<p><b>To draw attention to South West Water's tariffs.</b> Cllr Cogger to introduce.</p>
	<p>Cllr Cogger gave the following advice to households that do not have water meters: apply for one, if told one cannot be fitted, ask for an assessment of water usage for the household. This should provide a substantial reduction of the amount paid to the water board.</p>
<b>12.iii.10</b>	<p><b>Report from the Chairman.</b></p>
	<p>John Scott has not sent forms to the Clerk for those wishing to apply for Affordable Housing. Work on the railway bridge has begun and will last approximately 5 weeks. The weight restriction for the bridge under repair is 26 tonnes. Some heavily loaded lorries carrying soil are causing the contractors concern as</p>

	<p>the metal structure of the bridge is bowing when they pass over. Devon County Highways have been informed.</p> <p>The offered East Budleigh shop/container needs a home. The Village Hall committee turned down the suggestion that a shop could take over the Committee Room of the Hall. Discussion centred on various other ways that the Village Hall could accommodate a shop. All had been rejected by the Village Hall committee.</p> <p>The Parish Council thought that the concept of a Village shop was still worth pursuing.</p>
<b>12.iii.11</b>	<b>Correspondence received since last month requiring comment.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter had been received from a resident of Fore Street who was concerned that the old cottages in the village had not been built to a sufficiently high tolerance level to accommodate the very heavy loads that are currently passing through. The Chairman was supported by members when he stated that the development at Ladram Bay of the upper field had caused great concern to the Parish Council regarding the increased traffic flow but their objections had fallen on the deaf ears of East Devon District Council (EDDC) planners. whose only traffic concern had been that there would be no noticeable increase in car traffic. No thought had been given by them to the construction vehicles.</li> <li>• Clare Rodway at EDDC on ext 2218 at the Knowle can advise the Parish Council how to approach the Neighbourhood Plan. Is it necessary for us to go down the Neighbourhood Plan route? We could just update the Design Statement.</li> </ul> <p>If we are happy with the new Local Plan and consider a 5% increase in houses i.e. 20 for Otterton by 2026 and where the building line is, then EDDC would be considering any other proposed development very carefully. (Remembering that we may need to move the building line to encompass the 20 houses, thus not setting new precedents).</p> <p>EDDC are producing a 'template' which will give questions and tick-boxes for answers, then a 'toolbox' to help from there. We should consider this most carefully.</p>
<b>12.iii.12</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Bennett and his Committee (Green etc.)</b>
	Cllrs Bennett and Cogger will drive 4 angle irons down the side of the rotten post holding the Otter sign on the Green in order to support it.
<b>12.iii.13</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Lister and his Committee (Cemetery)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllrs Lister and Simcock will re-point a 15 foot section of the parish cemetery wall which is showing signs of wear.</li> <li>• Cllr Lister will buy and install 4 fence panels that are needed to replace those currently around the 'spoil heap' at the bottom of the cemetery.</li> <li>• Cllr Lister will spray and re-seed the area along the road side from which trees were removed.</li> </ul>
<b>12.iii.14</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Barlow and his Committee (Finance etc)</b>
	Nothing to report.
<b>12.iii.15</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Cogger and his Committee (Trees)</b>
	Nothing to report.
<b>12.iii.16</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Farrington and his Committee (Playground)</b>
	The first cut of the year is needed to improve appearance. The playground is in good order.
<b>12.iii.17</b>	<b>Report from Cllr Edmonds and his Committee (Footpaths etc)</b>
	The bank of the river path is being repaired. The finger posts in Colliver Lane are still in need of attention. They have

	been reported by Mrs Sharp.																								
<b>12.iii.18</b>	<b>Reports from members representing outside bodies.</b>																								
	<p>Cllr Mrs Smith reports that the Salterton Health Care Team are meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>The Governors of Otterton Church of England Primary and Drakes in East Budleigh have formal agreed to form a Federation. There has been a wide, far reaching consultation process and federation was confirmed on 27<sup>th</sup> February. This means the two schools will function under one Head Teacher but retain their own staff, who will work closely together, setting a common curriculum where appropriate. Both had been under threat in their current form. This federation will enable the two schools to co-exist in a more stable financial position.</p>																								
<b>12.iii.19</b>	<b>Report from the Police.</b>																								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theft of copper statue from a piece of land adjacent to Mill House.</li> <li>• Attempted theft from vehicle parked at White Bridge.</li> <li>• Theft of bowl containing 'tips' for the staff at Otterton Mill restaurant.</li> </ul> <p>Those who have offered help in monitoring vehicle speeds through the village will receive application forms through the post.</p> <p>Students at Bicton College have been given "Learn to Live" lectures which they found harrowing. This may improve driving habits.</p> <p>The time and number plates of suspected speeding vehicles should be noted.</p> <p>Advice given that scrap metal, domestic fuel and diesel in tanks "walks".</p>																								
<b>12.iii.20</b>	<b>Report from County Councillor Mrs Christine Channon.</b>																								
	Not present.																								
<b>12.iii.21</b>	<b>Report from District Councillor Mr Ray Bloxham.</b>																								
	Not present.																								
<b>12.iii.22</b>	<b>To consider Payments and Receipts.</b>																								
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<b>12.iii.23</b>	The next meeting of the Council will be on <b>Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> March.</b>																								

**Part B.**

The Council discussed in closed session the request for financial support for the refurbishment and repair of the Village Hall. It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council will make a donation of £500 to the Village Hall Committee subject to approval of grants from other sources. In the meantime, it will provide the VHC with a letter indicating as much to whom so ever it applies.

The meeting ended at 9.50 p.m.

D.G. Ottley.  
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