

Otterton Parish Council

Date & Time	1st July 2024		Location	Otterton Village Hall			
Councillors Present	Initials			Also Present	Initials		
MS Melanie Martin	MM	Parish Councillor		Members of the public	8		
Mr Jerry Fry	JF	Parish Councillor		Henry Riddell	HR	Arrived 20.00	
Mr Richard Witherby	RW	Parish Councillor		Charlotte Fitzgerald	CF	Arrived 20.00	
Roger Pellow	RP	Parish Councillor					
Ian Simpson	IS	Parish Councillor					
Ms Belinda Shoemaker	BS	Parish Councillor					
Peter Wells	PW	Parish Councillor					
Kevin Hill	KH	Parish Councillor					

Apologies	Initials	Reason for Absence	Absent without Apology	Initials	
Jess Bailey	JB	Conflicting committments			

In Attendance	Initials	Capacity	Minutes to
F Mills	FM	Clerk	Councillors, website, notice board

Ref	Main meeting agenda item, comment & decision	Action Owner & deadline
1	Welcome & Apologies received & accepted as above. None	
2	Declarations of Interests: None	
3	Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 3th June 24 were signed as an accurate record of the meeting. With following amendments. Cllr henry Riddell sent his apologies & Councillor Steve Culverhouse name is amended from Councillor. Matters arising not featured on the agenda: River Otter pathway- CDE this week to do temporary repair. Meeting between key parties to be arranged Brooke Clean 6.7.24 commencing 9.30 at The Kings Arms. Many thanks to Sam for his help in removing the debris from the Stream. Gate at Stantyway. Material now purchased to mend the gate. JF & IS to action asap. RoSPA Report – date awaited from Matt Lynch to fit the swings. Advanced Arborialist. – New quote for inspection £710.00. & clerk to seek 2 further quotes for insection..	
4	Public Questions: None received.	
5	Correspondence: None received.	

Meeting of the Otterton Parish Council minutes

Signed

Ottertton Parish Council

6	Chairman business: Poverty Working Panel I attended the Poverty Working Panel Monday 24th June, by zoom, and there were two key pieces of information I'd like to report back on. The first is a proposal to plan a Voluntary Sector Anti Poverty Event, hosted by EDDC and inviting local community groups to get together at a one day event with key note speakers. The event would be an opportunity for networking with local community groups, sharing information with our partners and raising awareness of the work we are doing to tackle poverty, plus EDDC's updated Poverty Strategy. The second notable item was an update on the deployment of the Household Support Fund. The Financial Resilience Team are a group who work with residents to help reduce outgoings and increase incomes, so that families can become resilient and have less need for emergency financial help. It was noted that with an election this week, the future of the fund after September is uncertain and may not continue. The group has however, done sterling work with the Household Support Fund and DCC's Economic Hardship Fund spending £706, 852 from April 2023 to end March 2024. Green Wedges The Local Plan app says that there have been 508 comments and 146 responses to comments on the Local Plan Consultation, across East Devon. I'm not sure these figures are correct and have asked for clarification. I have received over 130 comments and at least 20 emails of thanks for getting the message out to the residents of Budleigh, whether or not people oppose the erosion of our Green Wedges or not. While there has been General Election fever around us, I'd like to say that working with local residents and engaging with local businesses has been both enjoyable and worthwhile, and it's what I set out to do when I took on the job. The Planning Consultation date has now passed and we enter the next phase by meeting with the Local Plan Member Working Party which is scheduled for 26 July. Myself and Councillor Fitzgerald propose that we meet with representatives of Budleigh Town Council to prepare for this meeting which is about going through the housing allocations and possible sites in our area, it will be an important meeting. Seachange: Seachange hosted an afternoon tea for all Volunteers on Thursday 20 June. The event was well attended, the sun shone, the scones baked by Wesley's were the best I've ever tasted and the company was lovely.	
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Otterton Parish Council

7	Reports from District & County Councillors. JB: 1. I attach below the response that I submitted as the County Councillor to the Ladram planning application (24/0415/MFUL) 2. I have given my approval for the PC's grant application for £750 for the repairs and purchase of new equipment for the children's playpark, so I hope that the PC will be formally advised of this shortly. 3. Re footpath 1, I have continued to chase officers at DCC repeatedly for progress on the EA licence application as well as the timescale for the works. On Thursday in response to a previous email which I really felt didn't take me much further forward I wrote in robust terms about the lack of progress and that I needed to evidence tangible progress before tonight's meeting. I'm disappointed that I haven't received any update during the course of today. Please let me know if you would like me to arrange a meeting and invite the EA, DCC and the PC. I also plan to raise formal questions about the footpath at DCC's next cabinet meeting. Best wishes Cllr Jess Bailey Otter Valley Ward Response to Ladram planning application As the Devon County Councillor for Otterton I wish to comment on two specific issues that fall within the remit of Devon County Council. First, I am concerned about the detrimental visual impact of the proposed development on public footpaths, namely Otterton footpath 7 and the South West Coastal path. This is a unique and sensitive landscape and must be protected and preserved for users of public rights of way. The proposed development will be prominent and obtrusive and harm this special landscape by visibly extending the existing developed area and out of the naturalcombe. The development would interfere with the enjoyment of this special landscape by users of the public rights of way. Second, I note that DCC highways officers have not objected to the application. I disagree with the position taken. Otterton experiences major congestion as a result of Ladram both from lodges being delivered and also visitors coming and going to and from the site. The traffic issues are clearly articulated in the adopted Otterton neighbourhood plan. Whilst it may be the case that this application does not propose additional units, the units are nonetheless larger than current ones and yet there has been no transport assessment to evaluate the impact that this will have in traffic movements both in terms of delivery/removal of units or use by visitors. Regardless of the stance taken by DCC, Eddc cannot simply defer to DCC as highway authority and has its own distinct duty (its 'Tameside' duty) to evaluate the impacts highlighted by myself and a number of residents in their consultation responses. Therefore, I wish to object to this application because of my concerns about the proposed development impacting the enjoyment of public rights of way, and also because my concerns that the proposed development will exacerbate traffic issues.	
8	Chapter 8 Training. DCC support application to be progressed	
9	Local planning: 24/1037/LBC - Approved 14/1036/LBC - Approved 24/1210/TCA - Pruning of birch trees - approved 24/12/82/TCA - Approved	

Otterton Parish Council

10	Allocation of responsibilities & reports from Councillors: Where there is nothing to report the following abbreviation will be used (NTR) Village Green: Water on Green - appeal for 30m hose. Brian Major is thanked for his support. Hall (BS). BS/RW have joined the committee. Community shop: (KH) NTR War Memorial: (RP) NTR Stantyway recreation ground & Football Club: Football club has cleared the area around the clubhouse – thank the team for doing this. Otterton School: The meeting was joined by Anne Pelosi. The school is to join with the OPC in supporting St Michael's Church with the annual 'stalls on the Green' event. The OPC will organise a BBQ from which funds will be split equally between the School & Church. Jubilee Play Park: New gate fitted by IS. Installation of swings ongoing. New Fence may be needed & the hedge has been cut in part. Clerk to instruct Halcyon to trim hedges in Jubilee playground & Cemetery. Cemetery: Contact being made with owners of benches in need of refurbishment. Contracts & Finance: In light of the failure by Street Scene to deliver a new waste bin to the Otterton parish Cemetery the OPC has asked the clerk to write to EDDC to request a refund for emptying the bin. A black bin will be provided by the council and emptied periodically. Footpaths and Public Rights of Way: See agenda item 3 Speed watch: Early inspection. Others sites being considered. In July. Trees: Iain Ure has supplied a report on the trees in June which is attached to these minutes.	
11	Financial matters: It was unanimously agreed that all payments listed on agenda 1.7.24 would be paid. JB Locality Budget application for £750 has been approved. Funds are awaited.	Clerk to action
12	Further actions: BS reported that an Internet café is to be arranged for residents struggling with online business. This was seen as an excellent initiative & further details will be welcomed.	
14	106 Funding: In the region of £8073.00 (Sport) £1683.00 (Recreation). The clerk reminded the OPC of the funds currently being held at EDDC and how these could be used. A meeting will be arranged to interrogate the ROSPA report & plan next action	
15	Items for next agenda: Car park, website emails, Speed watch, AGAR, road warden scheme. Invitation to EA, Emergency Plan. Dates for 2024 meetings: September 2nd, October 7th, November 4th, December 2nd.	Clerk to action
15	The next meeting will take place on Monday 2nd September @ 7.30.	Clerk to action

The meeting closed at 20.05

Meeting of the Otterton Parish Council

minutes

Signed

Page 4 of 5

Dated.....

Otterton Parish Council

Draft until signed