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|  | **Otterford Parish Council**  **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 8 December 2020 at 19.30 hrs in Otterford Parish Hall**  Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham (Chairman), Charlie Field (Vice Chairman), John Marsden, Lucy Montgomery, SCC Cllr John Thorne, and the Clerk. |  |
| Item | Detail | Action |
|  | **Community Time**  Cllr Thorne had submitted a written report on SCC matters, appended to these minutes. |  |
|  | Reports from other organisations None. |  |
| **1.** | **Apologies**  Cllr Wright - unwell |  |
| **2.** | Declarations of Interest  1. *Cllr Canham is a member of the Otterford Parish Hall Committee* 2. *Cllrs Canham and Montgomery are Trustees of the Otterford Charity* |  |
| **3.** | **Meeting of 10 November 2020** |  |
| 3.1 | The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed. |  |
| 3.2 | Matters arising: |  |
| 3.2.1 | The stile near Rooks House had been ‘chicken-wired’ to prevent an accident. |  |
| 3.2.2 | Cllr Field’s colleague had produced plans – including elevations and the barn – of the Holman Clavel. It was agreed to pay him £275 for this work. | **Clerk** |
| 3.2.3 | Otterford Playing Fields Lease - Cllr Montgomery had advised the Chairman of the Allotments Charity that the Council did not yet wish to negotiate a new lease. |  |
| 3.2.4 | Holman Clavel septic tank pumps – the tenants had fixed the problem. Cllr Marsden had spoken to them about the pub sign – they were planning to have it re-painted. The Clerk had a contact who might be interested in doing this and would send the details to Cllr Marsden to send on to the tenants. Clerk still to send them a copy of the draft inspection schedule. | **JM**  **Clerk** |
| **4.** | **Planning** |  |
| 4.1 | New applications*: 29/20/0021,* Installation of a 14.97m high monopole accommodating 1 No. trisector antenna within a GRO shroud and 2 No. transmission dishes, 2 No. ground based equipment cabinets and a 1.2m diameter pole mounted satellite dish within a compound surrounded by 1.2m timber post and rail stock proof fence with formation of stone access track with 6m wide access gate at entrance on land at Warren Farm, Otterford. This was discussed and it was agreed it represented an improvement on the previous application. The Council thus had no comment on the application. |  |
| 4.2 | Applications granted: [*29/20/0014/LB*](https://www2.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/asp/webpages/plan/PlAppDets.asp?casefullref=29/20/0014/LB)*,* Installation of window into the south west elevation of Otterford Mill, Whatley Road, Otterford. |  |
| 4.3 | Refused/withdrawn applications: none |  |
| **5.** | **Other matters** |  |
| 5.1 | Projects/activities/events – update.  An updated list was circulated and noted. |  |
| 5.2 | Community Broadband  Cllr Marsden had contacted BT 3 times but still had not had a reply. It was agreed to suggest to parishioners that they sign up for the 10 megabit statutory obligation minimum speed; Council to write to parishioners explaining, and providing a draft letter to help them apply individually. Cllr Thorne advised that ‘Zen’ internet were able to achieve reasonable internet speeds via copper network in Wellington. Cllr Canham still to check the internet situation at Church Barns with one of the residents. | **JM**  **Clerk**  **MC** |
| 5.6 | Climate & The Environment Project: Update on Project Action Plan. Twenty-seven residents had asked for a compost bin so far. Cllr Field offered to store the unclaimed bins. The Bird Boxes had been a great success and all had been delivered. The Council agreed to the Bee Bursary Scheme, to facilitating a Repair Café in the parish and to Dr Poland’s proposal for a parish biodiversity project (c£200 set up, plus £50 annually). | **MC** |
| **6.** | **Correspondence**  None |  |
| **7.** | **Financial matters** |  |
| 7.1 | Consideration of Precept for 2021/22.  The Council agreed not to raise a precept for 2021-22. |  |
| 7.2 | Monthly Financial summary. Noted. It was agreed to write to the new tenants at the Holman Clavel, explaining that in the present low interest climate it was impossible to put the rent deposit in an interest-bearing account. This would be kept under review. | **Clerk** |
| 7.3 | Payment of Invoices. No unexpected invoices. |  |
| **8.** | **Other business** |  |
|  | The Hemyock Repair Café had attempted to fix the Council’s shredder with no success. The Clerk would be ordering a new one. | **Clerk** |
|  | **The next meeting of the Council will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12 January 2021, in Otterford Parish Hall** |  |