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|  | **Otterford Parish Council**  **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 September 2021 at 1930 hrs in Otterford Parish Hall**  Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham (Chairman), Charlie Field (Vice Chairman), Lucy Montgomery and Phil Wright, SCC Councillor John Thorne and the Clerk. |  |
| Item | Detail | Action |
|  | **Community Time**   * SCC Cllr Thorne had submitted a written report prior to the meeting which was noted. He had been lobbying hard to improve safety at the crossroads at Chillander Cross (at the top of Corfe Hill) and succeeded in persuading SCC officers that the accident statistics support intervention. The plan is to upgrade signs and markings, lay a high-friction road surface and install new kerbs, as well as clearing vegetation. SCC is also considering extending the 40mph speed limit up the B3170 from Corfe to just beyond the junction. |  |
|  | Reports from other organisations None. |  |
| **1.** | **Apologies**  Cllr Marsden (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 August 2021** |  |
| 3.1 | The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed. |  |
| 3.2 | Matters arising: (5.4) Otterford Playing Fields: The reinforced legs for the play equipment were on order. (5.6) Otterhead Estate Trust Friends scheme – a payment of £25 had been made. (5.7) Dog waste bins – the new bin-emptying service was starting this week. The Clerk would write thanking the volunteers on behalf of the Council. | **Clerk** |
| **4.** | **Planning** |  |
| 4.1 | Granted applications:[*29/21/0006/AGN*](https://www3.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/asp/webpages/plan/PlAppDets.asp?casefullref=29/21/0006/AGN&QC=rnVC1)*,* Application for prior notification for the erection of a general purpose agricultural storage building on land at Otterford. |  |
| 4.2 | New/refused applications: none |  |
| **5.** | **Other matters** |  |
| 5.1 | Projects/activities/events – update.  An updated list was circulated and noted. |  |
| 5.2 | Community Broadband  There was no significant progress to report. A parishioner is currently visiting households in Bishopswood to gauge interest in community broadband, and the Parish Council has contacted Gigaclear regarding its current privately- funded work to expand the network in the Blackdown Hills. |  |
| 5.3 | Climate & The Environment Project- Update on Project Action Plan  A report was noted. Otterford’s first Repair Café had gone well and the next would be on 9 January. | **MC** |
| 5.4 | Otterford Playing Fields  The Charity were meeting shortly and it was hoped the new lease would be progressed after that meeting. |  |
| 5.5 | Platinum Jubilee 2022  The Council discussed a first draft programme for the Jubilee: this would now be worked up in more detail. | **MC** |
| 5.6 | Next Parish Council Elections  SALC had written on behalf of the new Somerset Council seeking Parish and Town Councils’ views on timing of elections. It was agreed to support the proposal that PC elections should be coterminous with those of the new Council. Clerk to reply accordingly. | **Clerk** |
| 5.7 | A ‘Blackdown Way’  The AONB are proposing to have a way-marked trail from Axminster to Staple Hill, using existing footpaths and minor roads. Part of the route will run through Buckland St Mary and Otterford. |  |
| **6.** | **Correspondence**  None. |  |
| **7.** | **Financial matters** |  |
| 7.1 | Monthly Financial summary.  The Clerk circulated a summary, which was noted. |  |
| **8.** | **Other business.**  One of the parish milestones was missing. Clerk to check with the Highways Supervisor that they hadn’t retrieved it. | **Clerk** |
|  | **The next meeting of the Council will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14 September, in Otterford Parish Hall.** |  |
|  | Penny Hart, Parish Clerk, September 2021 |  |