

Otterford Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 9 July 2024 at 1930 hrs in Otterford Parish Hall

Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham (Chairman), Lucy Montgomery, Simon MacCleod, and the Clerk.

Item	Detail	Action
	<u>Community Time</u>	
	Nothing was raised under community time.	
	<u>Reports from other organisations</u>	
	None.	
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Cllr Marsden (away from home), Cllr Field (away from home).	
2.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Cllrs Canham and Montgomery are OPC-nominated (Nominative) Trustees of the Otterford Charity, Cllr Canham is Chairman of Otterford Parish Hall Committee, Chairman of the BHPN and a member of the Steering Group, and a member of the Blackdown Hills Natural Landscapes (formerly AONB) Management Group.	
3.	<u>Meeting of June 2024</u>	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed.	
3.2	<u>Matters arising</u> Cllr Henley still to report back on the situation regarding the telecommunications mast. Section 106 grants – the Council had been displeased by SC's reaction to the application for funding of the picnic benches. It was agreed that OPC would fund the benches itself so that they would be available for the summer holidays; the other application was waiting for a comment from Peter Hoble of SC's Rights of Way team. The vacancy for a parish councillor had been advertised but there had been no interest so far. Work on the road improvements had not been scheduled yet.	Cllr Henley
4.	<u>Planning</u>	
4.1	No new, granted, or refused applications. There were several long-standing applications in the parish which had still not been considered.	

5. Other matters

5.1 Projects/activities/events – update.

An updated list was circulated and noted.

5.2 Climate & The Environment Project- Update on Project Action Plan

Report noted. Clerk had still not yet received a reply from Daniel Lazar about the thermal imaging pictures. Richard Smith was moving away and a new volunteer would have to be found for the thermal imaging camera next winter.

Clerk

5.3 Local Community Network (Chard and Blackdown)

The May meeting minutes had finally appeared and were noted. Nobody was available to attend the meeting on 22 July.

5.4 OPF annual safety inspection

The report showed minor issues only which could mostly be dealt with by the Wednesday volunteers. The new swing support post had some splinters – Clerk to ask Darren's Den to come and deal with those. Additionally there were some splits in timbers of the Playdale climbing frame – Clerk to check if it was still under guarantee.

Clerk

Clerk

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Financial matters

7.1 Quarterly financial review

Noted.

7.2 Monthly Financial summary – June.

Noted.

7.3 Cambridge and Counties 1 year bond

This was about to mature. It was agreed to reinvest the funds in a 2 year bond with a fixed interest rate of 4.7%.

Clerk

8. Other business.

Cllr MacCleod announced he would be leaving the Council before the end of the year. Clerk to ask the SC elections people if OPC can simply advertise both vacancies.

Cllr Canham suggested the Clerk's job should be advertised in September.

Clerk

9. The next meeting of the Council will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 August 2024, in the Wright Room, Otterford Parish Hall.

Penny Hart, Clerk, July 2024