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|  | **Otterford Parish Council**  **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 8 October 2024 at 1930 hrs in Otterford Parish Hall**  Present: OPC Councillors Mike Canham (Chairman), Lucy Montgomery and Emma Lupton, SC Councillor Sarah Wakefield, a parishioner, a visitor and the Clerk. |  |
| Item | Detail | Action |
|  | **Community Time**  Cllr Wakefield reported that Somerset Council would be circulating a periodic finance report to parish and town councils. Updates from the parish clerk meetings would also be circulated for the benefit of those who do not attend. She outlined what was happening with the NPPF consultation; the timelines for actual houses being built were lengthy at about 4 years.  She also reported that SC had not overspent in financial year 2023-24. SC were now selling assets to prevent an overspend this year.  She agreed to look into the S106 difficulties that OPC were experiencing. | **Clerk**  **SW** |
|  | Reports from other organisations |  |
| **1.** | **Apologies**  Cllr Field (holiday) and Cllr MacLeod (unwell). |  |
| **2.** | Declarations of Interest 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.** | **Meeting of September 2024** |  |
| 3.1 | The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed. |  |
| 3.2 | Matters arising  (3.2) Awaiting reply from EE  (5.1) OPF statutory safety inspection:   * Playdale now have photos of the splintering and splitting and are considering. * replacement bolt head covers to be fitted when the rain stops. * Darren’s Den are coming to have a look at the posts but have not appeared yet [post-meeting note: he has been and inspected the posts and rubbed them down, but says it is in the nature of wood to age. He did not charge us for this work.]   (5.3) The Parish Handyman, and all four of the Wednesday Volunteers were interested in SC’s volunteer training. Further details were awaited. | **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **MC**  **Clerk** |
| **4.** | **Planning** |  |
| 4.1 | Application *29/24/0002/T,* application to fell one beech tree at Meetings, Holman Clavel Road, had been withdrawn.No other new, granted or refused applications. |  |
| **5.** | **Other matters** |  |
| 5.1 | Projects/activities/events – update.  There had been no further information about the ‘go live’ date from Openreach.  Improvement works to the footpath below Griggs Farm - Still waiting for a reply from Pete Hobley (manager, SC ROW):  Highways projects: Culmhead crossroads had now been completed, Bishopswood 20 and Whatley Road drainage still had no definite start dates. |  |
| 5.2 | Climate & The Environment Project- Update on Project Action Plan  Report noted. The Clerk had still not yet received a reply from Daniel Lazar about the thermal imaging photos (see above). Cllr Canham would be seeing him at a meeting shortly and would speak to him. The Clerk had not yet seen the person who she thought might take on the thermal imaging camera. | **MC**  **Clerk** |
| 5.3 | Chard and Blackdown LCN  The next meeting was on 14 October. Agenda was noted with nothing specific to raise. Cllr Lupton agree to attend. | **EL** |
| 5.4 | Parish Clerk Recruitment  There had been one applicant. Interview to take place on 22 October. |  |
| **6.** | **Correspondence**  None. |  |
| **7.** | **Financial matters** |  |
| 7.1 | Budget monitoring – 2nd Quarter  Report noted. |  |
| 7.2 | Monthly Financial summary – September.  Noted. |  |
| **8.** | **Other business**  None. |  |
| **9.** | **The next meeting of the Council will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12 November 2024, in the Wright Room, Otterford Parish Hall.** |  |
|  | Penny Hart, October 2024 |  |