

Otterton Parish Council

Date & Time	4 th March 2024		Location	Otterton Village Hall			
Councillors Present	Initials			Also Present	Initials		
MS Melanie Martin	MM	Parish Councillor		Members of the public	4		
Mr Jerry Fry	JF	Parish Councillor					
Mr Richard Witherby	RW	Parish Councillor					
Roger Pellow	RP	Parish Councillor					
Ian Simpson	IS	Parish Councillor					
Peter Wells	PW	Parish Councillor					

Apologies	Initials	Reason for Absence	Absent without Apology	Initials	
Charlotte Fitzgerald	CF	Maternity leave			
Ms Belinda Shoemaker	BS	Holiday			
Steve Culverhouse	SC	Unwell			
Jess Bailey	JB	Personal reasons			

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.	
2	Declarations of Interests: None	
3	<p>Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 24 were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Matters arising not featured on the agenda:</p> <p>Speed Watch update: Final training has now taken place. First watch will take place on 22nd March, 3 sites in the village can be used at various times. Offensive behaviour towards the speed watchers will not be tolerated. Thanks to Roger & team noted.</p> <p>Topple Testing: PW & FM met with the Vince Orchard of Orchard memorials to assess well-being of memorial stones in the Cemetery. It is recommended that stones are tested 5 yearly to ensure stability. On this occasion all stones were firmly placed although some displayed a slight lean.</p> <p>FM to speak to Old Vicarage to seek a contribution to cost of Defibrillator.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the appeal for a contribution of £115.00 towards the Voluntary Community Bus. Agreement to support Community bus proposed by Roger Pellow & seconded by Jerry Fry and unanimously agreed. Clerk to action</p>	Clerk to action
4	<p>The chair confirmed the arrangement for public discussion:</p> <p>All members of the public are welcome and comments on items on the agenda will be heard. If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please contact the clerk at least 7 days before the meeting. Public questions by email/letter or in person:</p> <p>Ongoing: Tuesday 12th March 2024 the first meeting of the new camera club will take place in the Kings Arms.</p> <p>Query regarding additional bid for £1.4 million for the prevention of flooding by the Environment Agency and the effect this will have on the village. It was suggested that queries are directed to the MP as this is not a matter the Parish Council can control.</p> <p>A query was made regarding mud on the road and whether it has reached dangerous levels. Queries need to be directed to Highways at DCC</p>	
5	Correspondence: None	

Meeting of the Otterton Parish Council minutes Signed

Page 1 of 4 Dated.....

Otterton Parish Council

6	<p>Chairman business: The Chair has spoken to Ro Smith regarding a possibility of updating the parish Council page on the village website. The Councillors all agreed that a new design would benefit the page together with an updated content.</p> <p>Ro has kindly donated his time free of charge with the Domain name continuing to be the only charge.</p> <p>New email addresses also to be available for Parish Councillors.</p>	MM & all
7	<p>District & County Reports. Insert JB's report.</p> <p>MM & HR Reported that Ice tankers have been used to clear gullies.</p> <p>Motion of no confidence in SWW - HR had first speech at East Devon. Conflict between the need for new homes and the lack of infrastructure for SWW.</p> <p>Concern regarding anti-social behaviour in Lime Kiln Car park to be addressed by Police.</p> <p>Celebration of opening of national Nature Reserve. Otter Estuary named to celebrate the coronation of King Charles.</p> <p>Green wedges review, separating Knowle and B/S: the methodology used seems to be flawed & scheme to be revisited. Local representation through DCs.</p> <p>Temporary toilets to be installed at Lime Kiln.</p> <p>Youth Group disco to be hosted at B/S on 6th July possibly Y6 – Y9.</p> <p>Cllr Jess Bailey, Devon County Councillor (Otter Valley)</p> <p>Devon County Council met to discuss and approve the 2024-5 budget on 15 February 2024. My independent and green group at DCC put forward formal budget amendments. I believe that these would have made a significant improvement to the residents of Devon. They are included in full at Appendix 1. But particularly worth noting is our following proposals: That the capital expenditure for footpaths be increased by £250k to £1m; An increase in the number of public rights of way wardens by 4; An increase of £100k to £250K for 20mph zones to improve the pace of roll out of the zones which are very oversubscribed; We called for the council to write to MPs asking why they voted for a settlement that disadvantages Devon's children – Devon's school children are 114 out of 151 in the funding table across the country. Devons school children receive £213 less per year than the average child in the country – meaning Devon County Council is shortchanged by £20m. The high needs block funding from government is underfunded against the national average by £96 per head. With 9,401 children within this group DCC have a shortfall of £868k a year against the average council. Our budget amendments were however unfortunately voted down by the Conservative led County Council.</p>	
8	<p>Chapter 8 Training: Highways will fund 3 places for Chapter 8 Training which needs to be Pre-actioned by an online Safety Awareness Course which is available through DCC.</p>	
9	<p>Local Planning Applications - None</p>	

Otterton Parish Council

13	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.	
14	Items for next agenda: Open day, website emails, Speed watch. Dates for 2024 meetings: April 8 th , May 13 th , June 3 rd , July 1 st , September 2 nd , October 7 th , November 4 th , December 2 nd .	Clerk to action
15	The next meeting will take place on Monday 8th April @ 7.30.	Clerk to action

The meeting closed at 20.45

Draft until signed