

**Minutes of the Meeting of Othery Parish Council**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 by 7:30 pm in Othery Village Hall**

- 1 **Apologies:** Cllr Tizzard: All other members were present.
- 2 **Declarations of Interest:** These will always be declared at the agenda item when appropriate.
- 3 **Certifying the minutes of the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021:** Agreed as a true record of the meetings.
- 4 **Public question time and Neighbourhood Watch/Crime report and an update from Cllr David Huxtable:** Updates emailed: The Clerk told the meeting that he had brought up with the new Chief Constable the unacceptable lack of contact with police in the rural settlements with PCSOs being moved on before they have got their feet under the table. She replied that she expects PCSOs to stay in that role for at least 3 years but on further questioning she could not say that it would be on the same beat but she would look into the issue. The clerk in the New Year has another meeting with the new PCC at which he will bring up the same issues.
- 5 **Matters Arising:**
  - Cemetery expansion:** Once we have a second quote for the fence we will inform Mr Davis of our intention and leave him to create another entrance to the field.
  - Highways Issues:** Thanks to Cllr Soutar the manhole problem has been resolved but there are no other updates from County Highways.
  - Community Speed Watch:** Cllr C Jones is still waiting for her clearance.
  - WebSite:** Ed has most of the information and is soon starting work on the project.
  - Village Hall Grant:** The clerk is waiting for orders to place for the Village Hall Committee to spend the money.
  - Queen's Platinum Jubilee:** There are volunteers in place and they need to meet to formalise the event which is a week before the Othery Street Fayre. One thought is a traditional barn dance.
- 6 **Highway matters:** One pothole to be reported which Cllr V Jones will do on line.
- 7 **Playing Field:** All in order other than the hedge needs cutting.
- 8 **Cemetery:** All in Order
- 9 **Planning notice:** **Planning application number:** 38/21/00026/EC **Proposal:** Erection of a two storey side (West) and single storey side (East) extension on site of existing (to be demolished), as well as the installation of a rear (North) dormer window and Juliet balcony. Also, the replacement and extension of existing rear (North) veranda. **Location:** Bedwell Cottage, Bedwell Lane, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0QJ: Cllr Betty left the room as a member of the Development Control committee and Cllr V Jones became a member of the public as it is her application and she has the right to listen to the debate but does not contribute. The application was debated but overall, it was felt that as it had no impact on any other properties it would be supported by the meeting on the proposition by Cllr C Jones seconded by Cllr E Jennings.

It was reported that Orchard Farm had removed a hedge without permission. The Clerk would inform SDC and ask that this matter be looked at quickly.

- 10 **Financial Matters:** Precept: The precept was set at £9,900.00. The financial matters below were accepted.

<b><u>Expenditure:</u></b>	Salary	£ 255.46
	G Wagen James	£ 147.00
	Slashdotdash	£ 264.00
	Sedgemoor	£ 74.08

**Income:**

- 11 **Correspondence:**

- 12 **Correspondence for Circulation:** Already circulated by email:

- 13 **Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman:** Members of the community have voiced concerns about the availability of the DeFib number as getting through to ambulance via 999 is taking too long. It was agreed to look at giving members of the community who were willing to assist the number. They would emphasise that an ambulance must be called before giving the number out.

- 14 **Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 7:30 Parish Council Meeting.**