

**Minutes of the Extra Planning Meeting of Othery Parish Council  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 7:30 pm**

1 **Apologies:** Cllr Selway:

2 **Present:** Cllrs Tizzard: Jennings: V Jones: Atherton: Betty: Wright: and ten members of the community:

3 **Declarations of Interest:** These will always be declared at the agenda item when appropriate.

3 **Planning notice:** **Planning application number:** 38/23/00011/AGE

**Proposal:** Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of use from agricultural buildings, to flexible commercial use (Class E)

**Location:** Agricultural Buildings, at Load Pool Farm, Load Pool, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7

Nicola Watkins spoke about the application asking about working hours and parking and she was backed up by Martha Manning and Chris. They were assured by the owners who were present that there was enough room for at least 12 cars also the working hours would not be extended past the normal working day and that the buildings were suitable to be converted. Cllr Tizzard explained that under the legislation these buildings could be converted but not pulled down and replaced and as offices could bring work to the village. No Cllrs had any objections to the proposal.

**Planning application number:** 38/23/00012/AGE

**Proposal:** Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to No.2 Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and associated building operations.

**Location:** Agricultural Buildings, at Load Pool Farm, Load Pool, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7.

Cllr Tizzard reminded the meeting that as a class 3 application the building cannot exceed 450 sq mtrs and again it must use the existing buildings as again they cannot be pulled down and rebuilt. Nicola is concerned that with so much glass in the aspect looking directly at her property it would be an invasion of her privacy and that safety getting in and out of the site should be a priority as the speed along the road is concerning. Simon said that he had the same concerns. They were both advised to personally send in their concerns to the Council. Simon felt that some form of screening possibly in the form of trees should be put in place to respect their privacy. He also hopes that the builders will respect the need for quiet times when he exercises his horses. The Cllrs had concerns regarding the privacy issues the increase in traffic and the need for the designs to be in line with the Village Design Statemen but felt that the application was appropriate.

4 **Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman:** The Cllrs were all concerned that the main road is not to be repaired this year and that no matter how many times we have asked for damaged or missing signs to be replaced nothing has been done. Cllr Atherton explained the data that had been downloaded from the SID and it was agreed that this should be sent to Cllr M Martin. The members of the community were also advised that Othery had applied for

a 20 mph limit through the village. Also that there was now an active community speed watch which is still looking for volunteers. They were active when the M5 was shut and there were no vehicles speeding but the second time they registered 4 vehicles speeding. It was also noted that there had been three accidents recently at the first bends along Load Pool which was a concern with the police attending each time.

- 5 Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 7:30 Parish Council Meeting.**