**Minutes of the Extra Planning Meeting of**

**Othery Parish Council** **Monday 11th August 2025 at 7:30 pm**

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Jennings: Graham:

1. **Present:** Cllrs Tizzard; Selway: Atherton: Betty: Wright: 20 members of the public.

1. **Declarations of Interest:** These will always be declared at the agenda item when appropriate.
2. **Public Comments:** Members felt that the poor consultation on line did not take in the effect on residents in Othery or the need for such a development. The first proposal was opposed by all and there is little change with this application. Issues like extra traffic on a busy and dangerous road, Noise pollution, Light pollution, Access very poor and unlikely to achieve the visibility splay necessary, The idea of a shop on the site is a red herring as no-one from the village would use it because of the dangers of getting to the site on foot.
3. **Planning notice:**

**Planning application number:** 38/25/00001/POA: **Proposal:** Outline application for the erection of 1no. Self-build Dwellinghouse: **Location:** Land to the East of Kingston Farm Lane, Othery, Bridgwater, TA7. On the day of the meeting the clerk received this email: Good-Morning. We have a planning application been discussed tonight at your meeting ref Planning application 38/25/00001 - Kingston Farm Lane, Othery. We are withdrawing our planning permission so please can you remove this from tonight agenda? Members of the public looking to speak against the application mainly because of the errors and lack of information were surprised but concerned. The Parish Council reserves the right to respond if this information is incorrect.

**Planning application number:** 38/25/00008/PKR. **Proposal:** Erect a 10x8 x

2.5m high standard wooden shed in front of property **Location:** Peppards Cottage, High Street, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0QD. The Parish Council supports this application as in their opinion it makes little difference to the street scene and wishes all in a similar position would seek approval from the Council.

**Planning application number:** 38/25/00003/LNE **Proposal:** Outline application with some matters reserved, for the erection of up to 38 dwellings, erection of 71sqm flexible commercial floor space (Class E), public open space, drainage and associated works. **Location:** Land North of the A372 and East of New Road, Othery, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7. The councillors agree with the comments of the public present with all of the public present against this speculative application. The Parish Council are against this speculative application for the following reasons: The access is poor and is not mitigated by the consultants comments and we wait for the Councils Highways comments. The LAP section again needs more detail regarding who will develop it and maintain it so again very speculative. There are many houses for sale in the village and the idea of 50% affordable housing will never materialise with many developments missing the 30% objective one the builders get involved. The idea of Othery needing 4 bedroom houses without any understanding of the needs for the village not a sensible proposal. The limited information provided is very conflicting. Overall the paper work is poor and the design not fit for purpose.

1. **Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman:** Cllr Atherton updated the meeting regarding the Community Speed Watch which had to be suspended because of the new 20 mph scheme in the centre of the village. Cllr Atherton will get data from the two SIDS and if the results show that the new 20 mph limit is having little effect the Parish Council will have reason to have a speed watch within the new speed limit area as in general the 20 mph areas across the country are called self regulating areas. The impression from the members of the public present is that the speed increases in the evening. The Speed watch now has a new site to work from as it has to be approved by Avon and Somerset Police but Cllr Atherton would still like more members to help manage the speed watch.

Members of Othery present have concerns because they never see any police walking around in the village and when the police are challenged it is because Othery is a low crime area and yet they pay the same police aspect of the Council Tax.

1. **Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 8th September 2025 7:30 Parish Council Meeting.**

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