

MINUTES

Monday 8th June 2026 7:30 pm in Othery Village Hall

- 1 **Apologies:** Cllr Graham:
- 2 **Present:** Cllrs Tizzard: Jennings: Selway: Betty: Wright: Cllr Matt Martin and two members of the local community.
- 3 **Declarations of Interest:** These will always be declared at the agenda item when appropriate.
- 4 **Certifying the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026:** Agreed as a true record of the meeting.
- 5 **Public question time and Neighbourhood Watch/Crime report and an update from Cllr Matthew Martin: No updates:** Two members of the community were present to voice their concerns about the “birthday party” in Mr Davis’ field with is permission again this year from 29th to 31st May. The music was too loud and could be heard at the other end on the village. They had no consideration for the villagers and although they turned the music down when the police attended they soon turned it up again when they left. The questions asked were should the police have seized their equipment? Should they have a licence for such and event? Next year’s event would be from 28th to 30th May but having been approached Mr Davis said that he would not give permission again for such an event. The clerk suggested that the Parish Council write to Mr Davis to emphasise that such and event must never take place again on his land. This was agreed as a way forward. The police do not have the same powers as the local authority when it comes to noise issues but they do not work at weekends. The clerk will write to Somerset and ask if they have an out of hours officer for such issues. To hold such and event for outsiders their should have been a TEMS licence in place which unfortunately are quite easy to obtain. The clerk has raised this issue with the police and circulated the response from the PCSO supervisor.
- 6 **Matters Arising:** Noise and ASB at the top end of the village over the weekend: Dealt with under public question time.

Othery.org.uk mailbox: The clerk will contact Ed for more details about a way forward with this issue.

Councillor vacancy update: There is one possibility which Cllr Tizzard will deal with.
- 7 **Playing Field:** Update: Cllr Selway is still waiting for quotes but stated that the work already undertaken had already made the play equipment safer. Cllr Jennings had sought advice and that was do not use anything other than safety surface material and just replace the damaged areas. The clerk confirmed that he had not been given a new date for the inspection. Cllr Betty requested that the playing field be closed from the Thursday to the Monday to facilitate the Othery Street Fayre. This was unanimously agreed.
- 8 **Cemetery:** Update: The clerk reported that he had had a conversation with an undertaker from Weston super Mare about the internment of ashes as reported in the last month’s minutes. He had given them all the information and now waits to hear from them what is going to happen.
- 9 **Highways:** Update: The offending hedge has been cut back by the owners after Cllr Tizzard visited the owners and reminded them of their responsibility to keep the highway and footpath clear at all times. The new owners of what used to be the post office have been

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parking their vehicles behind the road closed signs which at time has made access to the road difficult and it will be interesting to see what happens once the signs are removed.

- 10 **Media Report:** Update: Cllr Graham sent this following report for the meeting. I have read the emails you circulated and picked out a couple of issues on roadworks and NHS inoculations for inclusion on the village Facebook page. I don't have any comments to add on the planning submissions made. My update on the parking by the school is that the school are trying to use the mobile signs proactively and many of the parents are responding by parking elsewhere. However the builders vans are still parked there. I will continue collecting photos and forwarding them to our PCSO.
- 11 **Community Speed Watch:** No actions with the resignation of Cllr Atherton. The clerk will email Mr Atherton for the speedwatch bits and pieces and details on gaining access to the data from the SIDS.
- 12 **Planning notice: Planning application number: 38/26/00004/JMS: Proposal:** Outline application with some Reserved Matters for the erection of 1No. detached dwelling requesting consideration of Access: **Location:** Land to the West of, Summerhedge Road, Othery, Bridgwater, TA7: The Parish Council have no issues with the proposal.
- 13 **Financial Matters:**
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| Expenditure: | Salary | £ 268.24 |
| | Salary administration | £ 15.00 |
| | Cancer Charity | £ 25.00 |
| | Property Services | £ 197.54 |
| | G Wagen James | £ 842.63 |
- Income:**
The financial matters were accepted by the meeting and the charity is Prostrate Cancer.
- 14 **Correspondence:** The clerk gave two posters to Cllr Tizzard from our MP to be displayed.
- 15 **Correspondence for Circulation:** Already circulated by email:
- 16 **Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman:** A member of the community has been sending multiple emails to the chair objecting to the piling which is taking place as part of the flood defence scheme to protect Othery. It lasted for three days and had to be done for the scheme.

The clerk agreed that the incident reported on Facebook regarding a male approaching a female asking to use her phone to get a taxi will now be actioned by the police as she has reported it and the clerk now has a log number. There is still concern as to who is living in what was The London Inn and also concern that Somerset enforcement were not able to gain access when they attended the property and a belief that there are Hinkley Point workers living there. It should be noted that some of the descriptive language used on Facebook is not appropriate and members of the community should be careful as this is a public forum. Since the meeting the clerk has circulated an update from the police about this incident to the Parish Council members.

Date and time of the next meeting: Monday 13th July 2026 7:30 Parish Council Meeting.