

# OTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011

**Present:**

Clerk: Mr Treloar  
Chairman: Mr Smith  
Councillors: Mr Jay, Mr R Ling, Mr A Ling, Mr Moss, Mr Childs & Mrs Vaughan

**1. Apologies -** Mrs Lincoln, Mr Cant, Mr Bellfield & PC Dave Burrell.

**2. Minutes of meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010 -** Approved and signed.

**3. Matters arising- Highways** – Roundels on the Crettingham Road have been requested and Highways will advise the cost and timings in due course. Highways are also to review the situation with regard to parking outside the Village stores. **A.O.B** – Response awaited from Flagship Housing with regard to affordable housing. Mr Moss to chase.

**4. Finance -**

Community Account	£ 438.22
Instant Saver Account	£ 7,860.13

Payments requested:- Clerks salary – September - December	£225.18
Printer cartridge	£ 14.97
Gipping Press	£ 94.65

Both payments proposed by Mr R Ling and seconded by Mr Jay.

The Finance Committee have reviewed the budget for the coming year and it is proposed that the Precept remains at its present level of £4,000. The Clerk is to confirm to SCDC. The reserve at the year end is projected at £8,000 but with the uncertainty over future funding particularly footpath cutting and with elections in May, it is considered prudent to leave the Precept at its existing level. Mr Smith asked for suggestions for projects and Mr A Ling mentioned the renewal of the Village sign. The replacement and possible costings were discussed last year.

**5. Planning Applications -**  
**Applications –**

➤ Moat Farm – Alterations to barn

**Approvals –**

➤ 1 Rosemary Cottage – Ashbocking - Extension

Mr Smith drew attention to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment which has been published on the SCDC website. This follows on from the revised village envelope restrictions which were received in November. Reassuringly all the plots which the Parish Council objected to have been declared as unsuitable for development largely as a result of them being considered poorly related to the existing settlement. The existing Hubbard's brownfield site has been earmarked for the potential development of up to 32 houses within 6 to 15 years. Development of the land behind the Church has also been refused on the basis of it being proposed as an area to be protected from development. (An AP28 was lodged last year). SCDC have produced a questionnaire "How many new homes should we have?" to increase awareness of the current LDF consultations. These should have been sent to every home in the district for completion by 23<sup>rd</sup> January, but distribution has been somewhat patchy so copies have been left in the Village Stores for people who are interested, to complete.

(Following the meeting, notification was received that the planning appeal in respect of Burcote has been declined. The appeal found that the proposal would harm the character and appearance of the area).

**6. Highways** Mrs Vaughan reported a kerbstone outside her property had been dislodged. Clerk to advise SCC. Mr R Ling complained that nothing had still been done about the hedge outside Pear Tree Farm (Gibraltar Road). This property has changed hands and the new owners will be asked to deal with it once they are known.

**7. Rights of Way** – The footpath map “Walks around Otley” has been produced and will hopefully be on sale in the Village Stores. The team were thanked for their efforts. Mrs Vaughan mentioned that the broken sleeper bridge on F/path 54 was very slippery and asked if a warning sign could be displayed. These bridges are the responsibility of SCC and any works required should be undertaken by them. Confirmation has been received that the contractor has the repair on their schedule.

**8. District & County Councillor’s report** – There was no report Mr Bellfield having tendered his apologies.

**9. Police Report** - PC Dave Burrell was unable to attend but submitted his report. There have been six offences recorded since the last report. These are a burglary (ongoing investigation), driving excess of alcohol (detected), disqualified driving (detected), interference with motor vehicle x 2 (ongoing investigation and other undetected) and theft from insecure motor vehicle (ongoing investigation).

Speed checks were held in Otley 23<sup>rd</sup> November – 51 vehicles checked – 2 cautions given and 13<sup>th</sup> December – 21 vehicles checked.

A Community Panel Meeting was held at the College in October and one of the subjects discussed was the reduction of speeding and other traffic related issues around Otley College and Charity Lane. The next meeting will be held at the Shire Hall, Woodbridge on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, and we are asked to advise the Police beforehand, if there are any community issues that we would like raised.

The Mobile Police Station will visit Otley (Village Hall Car Park) on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January, between 1.30pm and 3pm.

**10. Community Council Report** – There was no report Mr Cant having tendered his apologies.

**11. Budget Cuts – The Big Society** – Mr Smith referred to SCC’s “New Strategic Direction” and the schedule of proposed service cuts. These signal cuts in services totalling £42million. Many of them such as School Crossing Patrols and Youth Clubs have been well publicised but there are a number of others which if introduced, will directly affect us. To headline a number. Reduction in care costs £3¼m. Removal of subsidy for breakfast clubs in secondary schools (Farlingaye) £½m. Reduction in highway grass cutting to once per year £75k. Divestment of Rights of Way service (footpath maintenance) £100k. Cease checking of HGV’s (overloading) £39k. Removal of bus route subsidies £2¼m – possible reduction/cancellation of 118 service. The proposals come before the full council for a decision in February but specifically the Parish Council have already agreed that if the P3 (footpath) grant is withdrawn they will fund the twice yearly cuts. The Clerk is to write to SCC regarding removal or reduction of the 118 service. Gemini travel report that in November they carried 5,109 passengers and in December 3,790 on this route. Clearly the cessation of this service would be quite unacceptable.

Mr Jay submitted a paper on the outsourcing of services to the private sector and a copy is held with the minutes. His main concern is that there is insufficient capacity, will and funding within the voluntary sector to fill the gap.

**12. Correspondence** – There was none.

**13. Any other business** – Further correspondence has been received from BT regarding the adoption of the Phone Box. They are keen to lose this responsibility and were asking us to formally adopt the box. Having spoken with SALC the Clerk was told that difficulties remain with the cost of the power supply to the boxes. EDF energy is seeking to charge commercial rates for the power supply and BT are currently trying to negotiate more favourable terms. Penny Sunaway has spoken to BT in the past and received their confirmation that the facility, which was converted to card use, will not be removed. However, in the long term this is an issue the Parish Council will have to decide on. Would we wish to adopt responsibility for the box and if so what would it be used for? Councillors’ were of the mind to put this to the Village at the Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**15. Date of next meeting** – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011.