

## Ogwell Parish Council Meeting February 12th 2024

**Present : Chair S Reynolds, Deputy Chair T Flower, Parish Councillors M Lant, P Wynter, P Martin and T Carey. Also attending District Councillor P Parker together with 2 Parishioners Susie Harrison has signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and will also complete a Notice of Registerable Interests. She was therefore co-opted as a Parish Councillor and welcomed by the Chairman.**

**Apologies** – Cllrs R Daws and K Farrell-Wright

**Declarations** - Members to declare any interests in matters for discussion

**Minutes** The Minutes of the January Parish Council Meeting approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Reports from County and District Councillors** – Cllr. Parker reported on a peer review at Teignbridge and it appears that officers of the Council need to improve on working together. He also mentioned the need to improve relationships with Town and Parish Councils which has prompted one exploratory meeting attended by the Clerk and 2 Councillors, to be followed up on March 12th with a further meeting at the Courtenay Centre in Newton Abbot. The backlog in responding to planning applications is being addressed by the use of an outside Agency.

**Planning** – 24/00036/HOU - Milton Farm Bungalow – Erection of Summerhouse and Decking Area (Retrospective). It was agreed that we are happy for the Summerhouse and decking to remain but would like to see the hedge/ barrier erected that was a condition of 22/01951/FUL granted by TDC.  
24/00124/HOU – Trench, Canada Hill – Rear extension and energy efficient improvements  
No adverse comments.

Clerk to pass comments to Teignbridge Planning Dept.

**Play Areas – To confirm minor repairs to the Play Area on the Green** Cllr. Tim Flower confirmed that he has replaced the damaged palings but pointed out that it is a recurring problem. The question as to whether we need a fence around the Play Area was discussed and as far as the Clerk can ascertain from the Playground Inspectors we use, there is no absolute obligation as long as the safety of the children is not compromised, which refers to Playgrounds adjoining roads or any hazard that requires fencing.

**To consider updates from Ogwild and other working parties**

Ogwild – Wassailing event at Dawes Close on February 3rd 2024.

This was pronounced a great success with 150 people attending. Cllr Martin advised that 2 talks are coming up in the Memorial Hall on Wildlife in Teignbridge and Dormice.

**Shop Project** – A diverse team with useful skills is building up and fundraising events are planned including a Mexican evening. A launch of shares is planned and other funding avenues being explored.

**Toilet Block – To receive update on work to replace Guttering and Barge boards**

Cllr. Flower is in the process of ordering materials to carry out the work when the weather improves.

**To further consider a Speed Indication Device for Ogwell** The Chairman advised that ant traffic calming measures must be within a 30mph Speed Limit area and Canada Hill was considered the most appropriate area although there have been very few traffic incidents recorded along this stretch of road. It was agreed that we would ask if a traffic calming measure could be installed and Cllr. Carey will progress this matter.

Cllr Carey to report back on progress at a future meeting.

**To consider a Biodiversity Policy for the Parish** A draft Biodiversity Plan has been produced by Cllr. Wynter and a copy circulated to everyone. If we are happy with the details we will adopt this at the next Meeting. It was pointed out that with the activities of Ogwild in particular we are doing our best with Biodiversity in the Parish.

**To consider installation of a new Broadband system for the Clerk** Various options put forward by Pulse8 to solve the intermittent state of the Clerk's Broadband were considered and it was agreed that £475 plus VAT could be spent to improve the connectivity. **Clerk to liaise with Pulse8.**

**To discuss safeguarding pedestrian access to the Memorial Hall**

Various suggestions were made and basically it was felt that a temporary barrier/cones could be used on the days when the Luncheon Club met, this would help with the problem. It was agreed we would make these suggestions to the Hall Committee.

**Paths and Highways – Update** –The annual inspection of Paths Report will be required in March this year and Cllr. Lant plans to walk the Footpaths as weather permits.

A signpost has gone missing at West Ogwell Cross, where incidentally a new Grit Bin has been installed, and it was agreed that this should be reported to DCC.

**Communications –To consider any feedback on move to 365 Backup System**

Copies of recent Minutes are now on the new system. The Clerk is still trying to access [Clerk@ogwell.org](mailto:Clerk@ogwell.org) Hopefully Pulse8 may be able to assist.

**Finance Report -BACS payments made and agreed since last Meeting** – J Turner £350.00 - Cleaning Toilet Block, Computare £246.00 Repairs to Hall internet, Wotton Printers £815.00 and £895.00 Printing Magazine for Dec/Jan and Feb/Mar, Simon Jones £715.00 Trimming trees on Green, cutting back hedges and brambles etc., SW Arb and Fencing £600.00 Pollarding trees on the Green, Bay & Moor £30.00 Ogwild, R Slater Lyons £150.00 and £375.00 re Wassailing event, Memorial Hall £51.00 Room hire, SW Water £28.32 Re Toilet Block, B Winkler £33.00 Ogwild,

Direct Debit £74.88 Pulse8 re 365 Backup system and Magazine.

Credit of £850.00 received from Fair Committee for Ogwild re the Wassailing event and other events through the year with Ogwild and the School.

We have received further payments for Adverts in the Parish Magazine – total now received £5,476.50 out of which payments totalling £1,710 have been made to Wotton Printers.

As agreed a Precept of £50,000 was requested from Teignbridge for 2024/2025. This was questioned and we responded pointing out the increased cost of Bin emptying to the Parish as part of our reason for increasing the Precept by £5,000.

**Urgent matters at the discretion of the Chairman**

**1. Plant Stall in Car Park at Jolly Sailor** It was agreed that this could move closer to the Toilet Block so that it does not interfere with future development.

**2. A steep bank on Croft Road** It was reported that this was becoming more dangerous in the continuing wet weather and is being used by children, but as it is on private land, advising the owner is the only step we can take.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday March 11th 2024 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

**Chairman**  
**11th March 2024**