

Ogwell Parish Council Meeting March 10th 2025

Present : Chair S Reynolds, Deputy Chair T Flower, Parish Councillors M Lant, P Wynter, K Farrell-Wright and T Carey. Also attending District Councillor P Parker together with 3 parishioners.

Apologies – Cllrs P Martin, S Harrison and R Daws

Declarations - Members to declare any interests in matters for discussion. None declared.

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

Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr. Paul Parker updated us on the proposed Cycleway between Ogwell and Newton Abbot which has been on the cards for many years but so far remains in the planning stage. However it seems that it is still the intention to complete this eventually. He also mentioned that the number of Councillors on the Planning Committee has been reduced from 17 to 12 and it seems to be the intention that as few planning applications as possible should go to the Planning Committee.

Planning – 25/00174/MAJ – Adjacent Parish – Parcel 2.1 East Wolborough, Wolborough Barton – Reserved matters for construction of 150 dwellings – Approval for appearance, layout, landscaping and scale Cllr. Parker advised that appeals have gone in challenging the designs and he continues to appeal on the grounds that Surveys which ought to have been completed have been carried out only to a very limited extent. Jackie Hook is working on the appeals and there is a deadline of March 25th to put in an appeal. Cllr. Wynter has offered to liaise with Jackie Hook to see if there is an area of concern that we ought to flag up.

Play Areas – To receive update on repairs to MUGA

Cllr. Farrell-Wright advised that she has been in touch with a representative of Green Spaces regarding MUGA repairs which will have to be paid for since AGI are no longer trading. The cost of repairs has not yet been quantified and we await further contact from Simon of Green Spaces who has been sent photos of the damage by Cllr. Farrell-Wright.

To consider updates from Ogwild and other working parties

Ogwild Cllr. Wynter advised that all the Bird and Bat Boxes have been handed out and that 130 parishioners attended the Wassailing event. A Harvest Mouse event is planned for Rectory field and a Bat Walk to be arranged for June. Ogwild is also talking to the Church about putting up swift boxes.

Rectory Field Agreement– A meeting arranged for April 1st to renew the Agreement.

Biodiversity Action Group – A meeting is being arranged with Cllr. Wynter and Bettina Winkler to meet Kier representatives and discuss what Kier can contribute.

To confirm renewal of Agreement with Woodland Trust

To receive confirmation of receipt of Grant for repairs to the Bus Shelter

The sum of £855.00 has been received from Devon County Council.

Cllr. Flower has paint available to touch up the Bus Shelter and will carry this out in due course.

To receive an update on possible re-positioning of 30mph Speed Limit on Ogwell/Rectory Road

Having carried out this exercise there is some doubt now as to whether we do meet the criteria to move the 30mph signs as originally envisaged. The matter is being progressed with Highways and no further progress this month.

To receive an update on the Jolly Sailor Planning Application

Unfortunately, there is no news on this matter which is still with Teignbridge District Council Planning Department. The Chairman has been speaking to Ryan Goldsmith of Heavitree who advises that the Involvement of Heritage is holding matters up and a decision has now been deferred to mid April.

To consider updates re the Toilet Block

John Turner continues to clean the Toilets and be paid for doing so. Cllrs. Flower and Farrell-Wright plan to get together and finalise the list of duties for agreement with John Turner.

To confirm a list has been drawn up and agreed

To consider any progress re acquiring Pond Meadow as a Community Asset

The owner has been written to with a request that he allow access to Pond Meadow with a view to ascertaining the extent of work to be done on the culvert. Research has thrown up the fact that Pond Meadow is listed as a Grade 1 Flood Plain – Grade 1 in this instance meaning the lowest level of Flood Plain for the time being we are not pursuing registering Pond \meadow as a Community Asset.

Paths and Highways – Update

– Cllr. Lant advised that he plans to contact Sarah Parker-Khan for help with the way forward as contact at DCC seems to have dried up for the time being – possibly awaiting re-organisation. With regard to the flooding in Rectory Road, Scott Riddell of DCC Highways has been made aware of the situation but claims to be inundated with urgent issues and our problem is on the back burner for now.

Communications – To receive updates on Communications systems

Parish Magazine – Next issue due beginning of April and the Clerk confirmed that there is some £3,500 in the Magazine funds.

To consider increased use of Parish Online and Website

So far no parishioners have come forward and the comment was made that people prefer to use Facebook.

Finance Report -BACS payments made and agreed since last Meeting

- Edward Wilkins £100.00 Tree work on the Green, Parish Online Website Service £432.00 – Website, M. Sessions £24.95 and £13.32 Ogwild Expenses, SW Water £35.65 Water at Toilet Block, B Winkler £33.00 Ogwild Expenses, P Chapman £51.00 Ogwild Expenses, Simon Jones £180.00 cutting back hedges and strimming, Direct Debits £76.98 - Pulse8 re 365 Backup system (Sharepoint) and Magazine.EDF £20.49 Electricity on the Green, British Gas £17.52 Electricity at Toilet Block. We have received £4.00 from Teignlottery for Ogwild, £855.00 from DCC for the Bus Shelter repairs and £350.00 from Ogwell Events Committee for Ogwild.

It was agreed that £1,000 should be granted to Ogwild for the coming year.

Urgent matters at the discretion of the Chairman

1. Planning Application 25/00127/FUL – Vida, Rectory Road Ogwell – Replace Roof – This application arrived too late for the Agenda and the Chairman confirmed it could be discussed under urgent matters – the application has arisen because the roof was leaking because of its low pitch. The application seeks to increase the pitch by 1.7 metres which will not impinge on neighbouring properties so we have no adverse comments to make.

2. Lights at Channings Wood – Complaints have been received regarding the brightness of the lights at Channings Wood put in place by Kier Construction for safety reasons and it was agreed that we should write to Kier asking that the lights be dimmed or shaded.

3. V.E.Day celebrations - The Events Committee representatives attended and confirmed that they would be dealing with logistics for this event and also advised that a Veterans Charity is to receive the money raised from the Bar and sale of food.

4. Fireworks for Bonfire Night – The Committee members advised that there is a lot of work involved clearing up after Fireworks, especially low-noise fireworks and they wished the Parish Council to make a decision as to whether we should go ahead with a Bonfire Night event this year. It was agreed that this item would be discussed at the April meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Monday April 14th 2025 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Chairman
14th April 2025