

**Notes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at 7.30pm at Otterton Village Hall
15 August 2017**

Present: Roger Saunders (RS) Chairman, Bob Wiltshire (BW), Haylor Lass (HL), David Daniel (DD), David Hatch (DH), Jon Roseway (JR), Penny Kurowski (PK) Hon Sec, Pat Porter (PP), Geoff Porter (GP), Nicky Daniel (ND), Geoff Lake (GL), Clive Bowman (CB), Jacqui Baldwin

Apologies: George Maddaford (GM)

RS welcomed David Hatch who was replacing Patrick Hamilton as Natural Environment Committee (NEC) representative.

The Minutes of the EC meeting held on 27th June 2017 were confirmed and signed.

The EC discussed the following matters:

1. HL had attended a meeting of the LORP Stakeholder Committee where feedback from the consultation was discussed.
2. Natural Environment Committee (NEC):
 - a. David White is standing down and Geoff Porter is joining.
 - b. 80 of David White's photographs have been transferred to the Light Box at the Fairlynch and are proving popular.
 - c. Iain Ure will consult with John Wilding, Forestry Officer at Clinton Devon, about planting replacement trees on the hill east of the Otter
 - d. The Himalayan Balsam Project is going well and volunteer numbers have increased– it is hoped to produce a block from Tale Valley down to the coast in which all tributaries have been cleared.
 - e. The Risk Assessment document will be reviewed and distributed each season to volunteers. Some volunteers will attend the First Aid course on 23 October.
3. A suggestion that OVA consider “branding” to appear more noticeable and professional at events.
4. Planning for the Christmas Party to be held on 18th December at Woodbury Park Golf Club.
5. The FAB project has set contracts for archaeological surveys of the old quay/dock areas below the Granary Lane cliffs (Granary Dock and Kersbrook Quay).
6. Planning:
 - a. Otterton Mill planning application 17/1799. The EC agreed this was good use of space and sympathetically done and to respond that the OVA is in favour.
 - b. Planning application 17/1502 for a new build 2 storey house in a garden in Behind Hayes, Otterton. The EC agreed comments objecting to this application.
 - c. The final Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan is to go to the public vote in September.
7. The navigation course was successful, with 16 attendees. A Dartmoor follow up may be arranged.
8. The Treasurer's report:
 - a. Further gift aid funding has been received.
 - b. The donation to the Fairlynch has been paid, and assurance received that the OVA will be acknowledged at the Fairlynch.
 - c. The total paid for school transport this year is £570 with 5 schools benefitting.
9. Membership Secretary's report: CB is addressing distribution problems.
10. Publications from Sid Valley Association, Devon Wildlife Trust and CPRE were circulated..
11. RS reported the response from Sam Bridgewater regarding mowing grasslands around Stanytway Farm.
12. RS had attended the BUDFAS Youth presentation on the project “One of our Beavers is Missing”, . BW to attend the Mayor of Budleigh Salterton's Civic Service and reception on 24 September as OVA Rep.
13. Copies of the Wild Flower and River Walk leaflets to be taken to Otterton Mill for visitors to use.
14. GM had circulated the Budleigh Salterton Traffic Report.
15. The Newton Poppleford Neighbourhood Plan continues to progress very slowly.

16. East Budleigh:

- a.** The neighbourhood plan is now integrated into the East Devon Local Plan.
- b.** Planning is taking place for 2018 celebrations for the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 and 400 years since the death of Sir Walter Raleigh.
- c.** A proposal to fence the East Budleigh football pitch on the recreation ground has proved contentious.
- d.** Some work on the land behind the Sir Walter Raleigh pub-was stopped when the authorities were informed that there was a badger sett on the land.

17. Otterton:

- a.** A paddle-boarder had been seen on the Otter near the Mill. It is legal to be on the river where it is tidal, but craft are not allowed to land.
- b.** The Ladram Bay manager had attended the last Parish Council meeting and reassured members that there would be no expansion.
- c.** People visiting the Otter to view the beavers are causing path damage – GP will contact relevant authorities.