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| **ODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31 OCTOBER 2013** |

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| Present: Cllr S Watkin – Chairman  Cllr A Betts  Cllr A Cox  Cllr M Green  Cllr R Lewis |
| Apologies: Cllrs Every and Sawyer and CDC Cllrs Penman and Phillips |

33. **Minutes of the last Meeting** held on 13 September 2013 copies of which had been previously circulated where agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

34. **Matters arising from the Minutes.** The Clerk reported that two stonemasons would be quoting to clean and refurbish the War memorial

35. **Declarations of Interest**. There were none.

36. **Adjournment for public to raise issues**. Three residents were present. One raised concerns about two properties in Home Close and it was agreed that the Clerk should take these up with the housing association. Another resident asked if the trees to be felled at Oddington House would be replaced with new ones. The third spoke of the loss of trees and hedges being contrary to the conservation statement for the village and of flooding outside his cottage. The Clerk was asked to contact the CDC Planners and Highways.

37. **Financial Issues**.

Council RESOLVED to pay the following accounts:

Cheque 108 J Eustace for web site £11.99

Cheque 109 OVH £10

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| Cheque 110 Mark Penfold £200 |

38**. Events for 2014**

The Chairman reported that a group comprising the Parish Council, the church, the Village Hall Committee and the WI to discuss a fete for June 2014 and a special event to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of WW. The group would meet again in late November to feed back from the organisations. Councillors were supportive of the plans so far and looked forward to hearing more details in December. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to theme the fete and any thoughts on this should be passed to the Chairman.

39. **The web site.**

The Clerk reported that this was now nearing completion and gave a brief outline of the content. The Council RESOLVED that local business should be allowed to advertise on the web site at a cost of £10 pa. This would help off set the cost of hosting the web site. Cllr Betts said that he could advise on search engine optimisation.

40. **Village Amenities and Facilities**

A quote had been received for the tree work that a resident had asked to have done by 17 Home Close. It was noted that the ownership of these trees was not clear and some Councillors felt that work need only be undertaken if overhead cables were threatened. After discussion, it was agreed that Councillors would meet the following Sunday to look at the trees in question.

41**. Reports from Councillors**

There were no CDC Councillors present.

42. **Planning.**

**TPO 13/00023 Severn House**. The Council was grateful to CDC for imposing a temporary TPO on the garden of Severn House. There would be a consultation to decide if this should become permanent. It was felt that some of the trees on the site were of considerable importance to the visual amenity of the village whilst others were of little value and would benefit from some thinning. The Clerk suggested that the detailed decisions about individual trees could be left to the Tree Officer. Councillors agreed to visit the site on Sunday and to let the Clerk have details of any trees they felt should be included in the TPO.

**Felling Licence Oddington House.** Councillors commented that the paper work was hard to follow. One tree was said to be in poor condition but there was no reason given for felling others. There was no information on any replanting and appeared that one group of trees had already been felled in advance of the application being submitted. The Clerk was asked to make these points to the Forestry Commission.

44. **Date of next meeting.** 12 December 2013. It was agreed that there should be no meetings in January and that the first meeting in the New Year would be towards the end of February.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm

12 December 2013 ………………………………………..

Chairman