Report of Services Committee Meeting held 27.5.14.

1. Present.
Mrs J Lawrey (Chairman), H Leicester, J Verrall, Mrs Ward

2. In attendance.
Assistant Clerk, Stan Willis (First responder)

3. Apologies.
Nil

4. Approval of minutes of last meeting.
Minutes were approved with no amendments.

5. School House.
SS confirmed that emergency lighting checks were carried out and logged.
The School House chimney would now be taken down in the summer holidays.
Cllr. J Verrall will supervise. The quote for new guttering from D Boulind had been
accepted. Norman Catt had removed hedge and shrubs in front garden. Cllr. Mrs
Ward had devised a plan for replanting. Work to be carried out on paviors and
fence as soon as possible.

6. Dog Fouling.
A report had been received concerning dogs jumping up at a child frightening him.
After discussion it was decided to keep monitoring and having flagging days as
there is no easy solution and the policing of dogs on leads would prove
problematical. New notices would be put up.

8. Litter.
Railtrack land near station still not cleared. Clerk to contact Railtrack again. A new
bin is needed by the Recreation ground gate, possibly ask the fete committee and
the bin on the patio and by the cricket nets Cllr Mrs Lawrey would look at to see if
the bins on the patio and by the cricket nets can be repaired.

None to report

Norman Catt to complete as soon as possible. Cllr. J Verrall to follow up

Cllr. J Edwards-Winser, Cllr. Mrs Ward and Cliff Ward will mow orbits when they
can. Solar System leaflets had been reprinted by the print room at Sevenoaks
District Council in time for the village fete.
12. Defibrillators.
The defibrillators were now in place and awaiting for electrics to be connected. Another box has been installed on the up platform at Otford Station. All boxes are checked by Stan the first responder every morning. No problems to report.

The coach trip for children and adults to Hardelot in July has been cancelled. A car sharing trip in June would take place.

15. Newsletters.
Village of the Year 2002 had been removed from first page and replaced by Twinned with Neuchatel-Hardelot. In the next edition ask residents if they require it in alternative formats also to contain requested pull out from the Otford Society.

16. Health Related Issues
Cllr. J Verrall stated that a heavy duty hearing loop needed to be purchased for the Club room of the Village Hall. He will speak to the Hall manager. Stan the first responder now has a boat to be used in flooding situations and he was looking at the purchase of flood suits to wear. First responders are not allowed to use blue lights and although they are a front line service they cannot get to an incident quickly if there are traffic delays. Consider writing to KKC Cllr Nick Chard and Michael Fallon MP re this situation.

17. Risk Assessments.
The only outstanding risk assessment is for the allotments. Recreation committee is dealing with this.

18. War Memorial and commemorative events
The performances of Otford Remembered - 1914 involving the Otford Players and the Community Choir in the Methodist Church were a great success. DVD’s are now available at £5. An email had been received concerning turning the ‘Lights Out’ between 10pm and 11pm on 4th August and lighting a candle to reflect on the start of WWI. A note would be put in the next newsletter to encourage people to take part and St Bart’s office would be contacted.

19. Otford Cemetery
Cllr. J Verrall is dealing with Brian Thomas. Problem with lack of grass cutting and a stonemason who is not qualified.

20. New Bus Timetables
Complaints received re lack of service now and Go Coach drivers being abusive to customers and speeding.

21. Other Matters
The Committee discussed health and safety concerns and contractors working for the Council after points raised by Cllr. J Verrall.
The Committee recommends that every contractor when working for the Council wears Hi-viz clothing at all times when working around the village.

22. Dates of 2014 Meetings.
7th July 2014.
1st September 2014.
17th November 2014.