

PARISH COUNCIL – OCTOBER REPORT

Seven parish councillors met for the October meeting. Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC) and Cllr Claire Wright (DCC) were also present.

EDDC / DCC Report. Claire Wright told members changes to local health services were likely, in line with NHS policy to alter the way community hospitals operate. At Budleigh Salterton community hospital they are carrying out a pilot where beds will be removed and the hospital will function as a day centre. The stroke unit will move to Exeter. Claire Wright also reported that while it's not yet known how the significant budget cuts at Devon County Council will affect services, the focus is currently on how to make savings in youth services and libraries. The leader of DCC, Cllr John Hart, will be conducting another round of 'roadshows' throughout the county, consulting the public on the services they value most. Members agreed to attend the nearest en masse. Claire Wright said there are fears that the catchment area of Kings school may have to shrink in future (as a result of planning applications being approved), which would affect pupils living in the outlying villages such as Gittisham. Cllr Bond urged members to raise concerns with the planning inspectorate about the facilities at Feniton primary in the light of various planning applications that are going to a public enquiry. Members decided to present a statement at the future public enquiry.

Crime. The police did not provide a crime report this month.

Finance. Members noted the finances this month.

Planning applications:

- Barns At Nags Head Farm Gittisham EX14 3AW Change of use of barns B & C to a single live/work unit and alterations to doors and windows
- Hayne Farm Hayne Lane Gittisham EX14 3PD Extension to cattle building
- 4 Beaumonts Cottages Gittisham EX14 3AG Replacement bathroom window and rear door
- Park Labelling Ltd Park House Devonshire Road Heathpark Industrial Estate EX14 1SD (adjoining parish) Renewal of extant planning permission 10/1480/FUL for the construction of office and warehouse extensions and rearrangement of parking area
- Land At Sherman's Farm Gittisham EX14 3AU Construction of garage store and plant room
- Putts Corner Caravan Club Sidbury Hill EX10 0QQ Replacement toilet block; installation of 12 no. all weather pitches; relocation of play area and installation of entrance and exit barriers
- 9 Ferndale Close Honiton EX14 2YN Certificate of proposed lawfulness for conversion of loft space over garage to living accommodation including insertion of roof lights
- Blamphayne Sawmill Gittisham EX14 3AN Proposed workshop

Councillors had no objection to the above.

- Land South West Of Trafalgar Bridge Weston Change of use of land to a private gypsy & traveller caravan site consisting of 2 no. mobile homes (one of which is a twin unit), amenity block and associated works

Councillors had no objection to the above application, but expressed serious concerns over the flood risk, as this is an area which floods regularly.

Russell Hayman declared an interest in the Blamphayne Sawmill and Sherman's Farm applications; Edward Underdown declared an interest in the Barns at Nags Head Farm application.

Active Villages project. Members heard that the village hall committee was considering holding a table tennis tournament (with the new bats and balls provided by the project) to assess the level of interest in hiring the hall for games.

Meeting with Welbeck Strategic Land. Members suggested dates to meet the company, which is now ready to make a presentation to councillors before a public consultation regarding proposals to build an employment and residential development west of Hayne Lane. The consultations are planned for either w/c 14th Oct or 21st Oct, one in the village hall and the other possibly in East Devon Business Centre.

Nag's Head Road (old A30). Members decided installing two signs were not necessary, as the name now appears on online maps and with satnavs.

Stagecoach bus. Maggie Walker said the change of timetable had caused confusion among bus drivers; two parishioners were forced to walk from the Hayne Lane bridge on one occasion recently because the bus driver did not accept they were on a bus that served Gittisham village under the new timetable. David Fallows said the request stop under the bridge by the old A30 should be moved and placed nearer the Gittisham turning.

Next meeting. This will be on 6th November at 7.30pm.

Editor's note:

Regarding the Stagecoach incident reported above we can enlighten our readers a little further as to the plight of the two ladies in question. Fortunately, having walked a few hundred yards along the road towards the village, a 'white knight' came along in his trusty automobile on his way into Honiton. Seeing the two 'maidens' in distress (!) he turned his 'steed' around and very gallantly carried them the rest of the way, seeing them safely to their doorsteps.. Bravo...the days of chivalry are not dead!!

DAY HOSPICE FOR HONITON

We are delighted to announce an exciting plan to build a much-needed day hospice in East Devon. Hospiscare currently runs day hospices in Exeter, Tiverton and Seaton Hospital. Now East Devon is set to get its own day hospice in Honiton, thanks to a grant of £510,000 from NHS England and generous pledges from our sister charities and charitable trusts. Currently, patients in East Devon can travel long distances to benefit from day hospice services. Many people prefer to be cared for closer to their home and be supported by professionals that they know and trust. East Devon Community Nurse Angela Phillips has worked for Hospiscare for more than 21 years. She said: "I am thrilled by the plans; it will provide a central facility in East Devon offering our tried and tested day care model, as well as enabling us to have 'drop-in' clinics for patients and their carers". Day hospices offer a wide range of specialised therapies and activities as well as mutual support for patients and carers. Work is due to begin in January 2014, opening to patients by the summer. More than £250,000 is yet to be raised for the new day hospice. One of the fund raising events is detailed below...



SUPPER AND SONG!

On Saturday 9th November



Supper at 6.00pm in the Mackarness Hall—Concert at 7.30pm in St Paul's Church.

A scrumptious supper to excite your taste buds, followed by a concert to stir the memory and the heart. With Trevor Bolshaw, Jan Sutcliffe, Brian Rees, Mo Cuthbert, Jim Hawkins, Adam Owen-Jones and Maggie Campbell. Inclusive tickets £10 in advance from Mary Bolshaw, 01404 43196. All proceeds to fund the new Day Hospice to be built in Honiton. Due to open July 2014.

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT—Carol McCann

This month our services will be 6th Harvest Festival Family service, 13th Parish Eucharist. 20th Sung Matins, 27th lay-led Morning Worship – non Eucharist Sunday service.

Our Harvest cash (not blue/yellow envelopes) collection this year will go to Farm Africa all non perishable produce goes to the Honiton food bank and any perishables will be taken to St. Petros who feed the homeless in Exeter. Our last monthly coffee get-together this year will be on Saturday 19th from 10.30 – 12 noon, I expect it will be in church, and will be run by Helen and Russell Hayman. A forward notice that at the December family service we will be collecting Christmas gifts for local poor children, which will be taken to the Honiton children's centre. They would appreciate having them unwrapped so they can match up with right child. If you can provide the gift-wrap they will wrap on site. The 200 club has still got some spare numbers, the cost is £12 per year, if you would like to take a number, please let me know (01404 851113), as we are so far into our year, payment would be pro-rata this year up to March the draw is done at the family service on the first Sunday each month during the refreshments.

THE UDDER SIDE OF THE HEDGE by Carla Chaffey

Well, time certainly does fly. Kadence has now started school, and, came back after her first day most disheartened because they 'hadn't learnt anything about being a vet'. I didn't like to tell her she'd got another 20 years of school for that, and I'd better start saving up now! She's very much an early bird like me and will often be up at 5am to help me fetch the cows in out the field. A task which is rather hard to do with only a torch to hunt for cows with. One morning I walked up and down 2 fields where the cows 'should' have been, only to discover they'd been put in the wrong field. Monday is 'vet day' which involves doing a pregnancy scan on all cows which are 35-41 days since they were inseminated. Really we need to get about 9 cows in calf per week in order to maintain our herd number. There are numerous ways in which the herd success is monitored – days from calving to conception, which if you want a cow to calve every year needs to be less than 90 days. Number of services to conception, which on average is about 2.6ish – you'll get some cows pregnant with the first serve, whilst others will take longer. And there's your average days to calving, which ideally should be 365, but is often nearer to the 400 mark. One aid to help us spot bulling cows ready to inseminate them is our 'heattime' system. Cows have collars which monitor their movement. When they have an unusually high activity they flag up on the computer for us showing that they are more than likely bulling. However, I recently discovered that about 120ish of our collars weren't working which meant the rather tedious task of catching the cows, taking the collars off, removing the transmitter bit (not easy when covered in cow muck), then threading new ones on and putting back on cows. Not my idea of fun. Other than that, half of our maize crop is in and has been a really good crop, which was much needed after last year. The rest should be done next week. We also had another all clear tb test which is great as we won't need to retest for 6 months and it means we can sell the bull calves rather than have to house and feed them for the winter. All our kittens have been sold – the last two went to a family from Looe in Cornwall, and just when I thought we would have our kitchen back to normal we have a sick chicken with a poorly eye in there who seem to quite like it by the AGA – I guess that's normal for us!

Be nice to your kids... they will be choosing your Nursing Home!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Please contact one of the editorial team below if you have a happy event to report, or wish to voice a concern, or have an interesting tip or village memory to share.

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Jan Sutcliffe	851255
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GITTISHAM GAZETTE

A monthly Community Newsletter

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AUCTION OF PROMISES

Once again this proved to be a very popular evening with over 40 lots going under the most persuasive hammer of Nick Agg-Manning. Somehow he manages to get people to part with their money, almost without being aware they are bidding for something they never intended to buy! This night saw Nick at his best doing just that, yet again. This year, thanks to Helen Hayman and Jayne Bramley, there were really terrific items for which to bid...everything from 2 hours ironing to a VIP Day at the Races, trips out at sea in a dingy, a flat in central London for a weekend and many, many more. Peoples generosity, both those who donated lots and those who bought them, raised a magnificent total of £3141. We hope to be reporting on some of the events resulting from this wonderful night. So come on buyers...let us know about your experiences.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year we celebrated the completion of the harvest with the Harvest Supper before offering up our thanks at the Harvest Service the following day. This time of thanksgiving really gets us back in touch with rural community life; how better than by gathering in the Village Hall to share the results of people's labours and coming together in the Village Church to thank God for all that he provides—with the help of our hard-working farmers, of course. Those at the supper truly spanned the generations...we calculate at least 90 years separated the most senior citizens from the youngest! That evening proved to be a great success with 'cooks' from around the parish, an army of servers dishing up the delicious food and 'waiters' delivering the steaming plates to the tables. Thanks to the efforts of Sue Fallows and Jayne Bramley, and their wonderful team, everyone enjoyed the evening...scrumptious food (at £3 a head where else could one get such value for money?) lively conversation, a raffle and topped off with a quiz! The bells rang out the following morning, the traditional hymns were sung with great gusto, the children read and sang beautifully, coffee was served to round off the service and so passes another milestone. Amen. Shades of "Larkrise to Candleford" it seems.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

October 15th Team Skittles— at Feniton Bowling Club at 7.00. £6.50 including supper.

October 19th Coffee Get-Together 10.30-12.00 in the church. This will be hosted by Helen and Russell Hayman.

October 20th Table Tennis Tournament, Gittisham Village Hall from 2.00pm. Free entry. If there is enough interest in this event, other days will be available to play. Information from Carol McCann 851113,

October 31st Salsa Halloween Party Gittisham Village Hall. Week 1 of 6. Fancy dress with prize for best costume. Come and try this fun class. First timers come and register at 7.15pm £4 beginners £4.50 for improvers. Pay weekly. Refreshments provided.

200 CLUB

The winners this month were:

1st Prize	Mrs Edith Phillips
2nd Prize	Mr Alan Turner
3rd Prize	Mr Maurice Gray
4th Prize	Mr Richard Marker
5th Prize	Canon Saunders

November 9th Quiz Night— Gittisham Village Hall 7.00 for 7.30pm £6.50 per person to include Stew and Mash supper. Teams of up to 6. No bar.

AROUND THE PARISHES

October 19th Quiz Night— Mackarness Hall 6.30 for 7.00pm. Places to be booked in advance with the Parish Office 44035 or Honiton Churchwardens. £6.50 per person.

October 23rd Mission Community Council at St Paul's church 7.30 for 8.00. Martyn Goss speaking on green issues. Everyone welcome.

October 26th Big Night In Concert by Noel Harrison and 'Cajun' Phil Rossiter, Awliscombe Church 7.30pm. Tickets £7/£5 David Chippington 43480.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

A Christmas Fair will beheld on Saturday December 7th in the Village Hall from 2pm. Anyone who would like to have a stall should contact either Jayne Bramley (850084) or Sue Fallows (850922). All profits to go to the Playing Field.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

LAYLA THORN has started going to school in Ottery. She has settled in very well and is enjoying making new friends. We wish her lots of happy times.

HALLOWE'EN

We have been informed that something will be arranged for the children as usual this time of year. As yet no details are available so please look on the bus shelter later this month as a notice will be put there when plans have been finalised.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

on 10th November. As is customary, those attending the service will congregate outside the church by the Lych Gate at 10.50. This allows time for hanging the p9ppy wreaths before the 2 minutes silence when the church clock strikes 11.00am. The service in the church will follow.

HOLY DUSTERS (October)

Doreen and Ernie Wensley
Tom and Margaret Ballantyne