

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 10TH JUNE 2014**

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr Maggie Walker

Cllr Sara Trumper

Gittisham Vale Ward

Cllr D Valentine

Cllr E Underdown

Cllr M Edmonds

In attendance: Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC), Cllr Claire Wright (DCC), Cllr Sara Randall Johnson (DCC), Genevieve Evans (member of the public), Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk)

Apologies for absence: PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

Prior to the start of the meeting, Genevieve Evans exercised her right as parish resident to speak regarding the planning application under discussion later in the meeting, 13/2744/MOUT - Land West Of Hayne Lane. She is opposed to the application, which has been approved by EDDC. Mrs Evans said she had written to the CPRE, and has also forwarded letters to them from parishioners who share her views on the development. The Chair suggested CPRE should lobby Natural England and the two AONB organisations which would be affected.

Genevieve Evans left the meeting.

17/14 To receive and accept apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

18/14 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

19/14 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

There has been one crime since 6th March: 1 man arrested for drink driving.

20/14 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in planning application 14/1288/FUL - 2 Westgate Cottage as he is the owner. He also declared an interest in application 14/0811/FUL - Blamphayne Sawmill as he is a client.

21/14 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Wright reminded members that a decision would be made at DCC's cabinet meeting on 11th June regarding the future of children's centres in the county. There had been some changes to the initial proposals for closure, and it would appear that eight out of 32 may stay open. Regarding libraries, Cllr Wright said Ottery library looked set to be closed in its current form and its funding withdrawn, but there is great enthusiasm for keeping the service somehow in the town. Cllr Wright reported on a document out for consultation from the NHS clinical commissioning group which provides a strategic overview on the future direction of community health services. There is little detail but the main argument would appear to be for more care at home, meaning fewer beds in hospitals.

Cllr Randall Johnson added to this, explaining how NHS trust budgets work and how they liaise with DCC

social care services.

Cllr Bond said her main contribution would be concerning the item on land west of Hayne Lane.

Cllr Randall Johnson left the meeting.

22/14 To approve the June payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0634	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE
0635	F J Clampin	£175.51	Clerk's fee and expenses

Members were informed that the annual external audit had been completed with no issues identified. The current bank balance stands at £12,246.41.

23/14 To complete the annual review of effectiveness of internal control

This will be discussed at the next meeting in July. In the meantime the clerk and Chair will meet to talk about the different levels of risk on the assessment document. Members noted the statement of internal control, the whistleblowing policy and the anti-fraud and corruption policy.

24/14 To consider the following planning applications:

- a) 14/1288/FUL - 2 Westgate Cottage Gittisham EX14 3AU Removal of existing single storey lean-to and construction of larger single storey lean-to extension.
- b) 14/0811/FUL - Blamphayne Sawmill Gittisham EX14 3AN Retrospective application for the installation of a 49kW roof mounted solar PV system

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

Members resolved to approve the applications.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

25/14 To consider a judicial review regarding the planning application (13/2744/MOUT land west of Hayne Lane)

Following a meeting between Cllrs Fallows, Valentine, Bond, EDDC's chief executive, senior solicitor and chief planner, there is to be a meeting in July of the Planning Inspections Committee to review its decision on this development. The discussion will focus mainly on the lack of reference in the officers' report to Policy EN1 of the saved Local Plan. When the date of the meeting is confirmed (possibly 11th July), EDDC will write to concerned people and may ask for further observations. The Chair said that as EDDC would be looking again at its own decision-making process, the idea of a judicial review would be put on hold for now.

Members discussed the possible next steps and points they wish the committee to consider. Cllr Valentine advised members there would need to be a carefully considered case to present to EDDC.

The Chair said he had written to Natural England, the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONBs regarding the development and the council's belief that this impacts on them. Following correspondence between the parish council and Neil Parish, the local MP has written to the Planning Minister asking him to look at the issue. Cllr Trumper put forward a proposal to instruct a planning expert to help construct the parish council's argument at this next meeting with EDDC, seconded by Cllr Walker. The Chair agreed to contact swiftly Charlie Hopkins who had successfully defended Feniton's appeal. Cllr Valentine said he would be happy to work alongside whoever is selected.

However Cllr Hayman raised concerns over funding for this. Members agreed to contact Honiton Town Council, and the parish councils of Feniton, Buckerell and Awliscombe to see whether they would consider making a contribution towards the costs (likely to be in the region of £2,000). The Chair said match-funding would be the best way forward, with the parish council contributing half and the rest from pledges and other parishes. The Clerk said two cheques for pledges from parishioners had already been received,

totaling £70. The Chair agreed that once he had received an idea of costs he would be back in touch with members again, and encouraged them at that point to canvass friends and neighbours with respect to pledges.

Cllr Wright reminded members that significant changes were going through regarding public speaking at planning meetings, limiting the number of speakers. This may affect the parish council's presentation at future meetings. It will also be necessary to register to speak three days in advance.

26/14 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections

Cllr Valentine agreed to carry out the next round of weekly inspections. The Chair said he would follow up with Rufus Lyle regarding work on the wall. The clerk agreed to contact the manufacturer of the bird's nest swing, as the mechanism is off true. She will also let the insurer know that the parish council no longer owns two goalposts, as listed in the fixed assets register. The clerk agreed to order two dumpy bags of sharp sand for the boules pitch and sandbags.

27/14 To consider contracting a lengthsperson for maintaining drains and ditches in the parish

Members discussed the effectiveness of DCC's maintenance workers, and provided Cllr Wright with a list of blocked gullies and ditches. The clerk will get in touch with three independent contractors to find out if they would be willing to work in the parish and under what terms, especially with respect to liability.

28/14 To consider the recruitment of volunteer snow wardens

Cllr Edmonds reported that Roy Bird from Cypress Close had agreed to be a volunteer. Cllr Edmonds will pass on his details to the Chair.

29/14 To consider any late entry correspondence

The Chair said he had tried unsuccessfully to purchase the telephone box in the village, but he would continue to pursue this. Several suggestions have been put forward for its future use, including a library, an oral history centre and home for a defibrillator. Members agreed to invite Jennifer Lawrence-Jones to the next meeting to explain about the latter.

30/14 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Members noted that a decision was imminent regarding the appeal for application 13/1661/FUL Land South West Of Trafalgar Bridge, Weston.

31/14 Matters for the forward agenda

It was agreed to include risk assessment, planning application 13/2744/MOUT Land west of Hayne Lane, play area, parish lengthsperson and snow warden recruitment on the next agenda.

32/14 Clerk's Report

None.

33/14 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 2nd July and Wednesday 6th August at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2055 hrs.

Chairman.....

2nd July 2014