

GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 11TH NOVEMBER 2014

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr M Walker

Gittisham Vale Ward

Cllr E Underdown

Cllr D Valentine

In attendance: Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC), Fiona Clampin (clerk)

Apologies for absence: Cllr M Edmonds, Cllr S Trumper, Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson (DCC), Cllr Claire Wright (DCC), PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

100/14 To receive and accept apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

101/14 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st October 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

102/14 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

The police were not able to attend this month but sent the following report:

1. Jan 2013-Oct 2014, adult male offender sexually assaulted juvenile female in the Vale at private location
2. 16th-17th October, theft overnight of building equipment left outside property in village.

103/14 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in item 8/14 Land West of Hayne Lane, as he is a tenant of the landowner making the application.

104/14 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Bond encouraged members to fill in the questionnaire regarding EDDC's recycling contract. She also reported that she had been to a meeting where the road warden scheme to be operated by parish councils had been outlined.

105/14 To approve the November payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0654	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE
0655	F J Clampin	£173.40	Clerk's fee and expenses
0656	PLandscape	£70.80	2 x grass cuts in September (maintenance of play area)
0657	PLandscape	£35.40	1 x grass cut in October (maintenance of play area)
0658	Charlie Hopkins	£450	½ day work regarding Hayne Lane planning application

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £13,394.12.

106/14 To consider the following planning applications:

- a) 14/2514/LBC The Stables Combe House Hotel Gittisham EX14 3AD reconstruction of 2 unstable chimney stacks on stable building

Members had no objections.

107/14 To consider the review of the planning application 13/2744/MOUT land west of Hayne Lane
Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

The Chair reported that he had received a letter from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), saying that the minister had decided not to call this application in. The letter also reported that there was no objection from Natural England. However Neil Parish MP met both the Chair and Cllr Bond after this letter was written, and he has asked the minister to look at the application again because Neil Parish has challenged this interpretation of Natural England's response.

Members discussed why there appeared to have been little progress on small-scale development in the village, as proposed in the past by Combe Estate and supported by the parish council. It was agreed to resume discussions about this and invite Richard Marker and Justin Lascelles to a meeting, after the Chair had corresponded with them.

The Chair reported that the complaint lodged with EDDC's monitoring officer had not resulted in a reply from the deputy chief executive within the appropriate timescale of 20 days. He would therefore be writing to point this out, and that he could subsequently take the complaint to the ombudsman.

The Chair agreed to go to a meeting on 1st December which Honiton Town Council is organising. The purpose of the meeting is to let neighbouring parishes know about the Honiton Neighbourhood Plan, to share information on issues and priorities for the wider area and to discuss ways in which neighbouring parishes can work together as appropriate on neighbourhood planning matters. Members agreed with Cllr Valentine that the town lacks the infrastructure to support the scale of growth proposed, and viability issues will be significant.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

108/14 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections

The Chair said he had spoken to Bill Griffiths who had expressed an interest in helping to build a structure of some kind. The clerk said there was no update from the manufacturer of the seesaw.

109/14 To consider the future uses of the telephone box in Gittisham village

Members agreed they would like to support the first aid training, although funding the defibrillator itself will present a challenge. The Chair said he would get in touch with Jennifer Lawrence-Jones to understand what needed to be done in the near future.

110/14 To consider contracting a lengthsperson for maintaining drains and ditches in the parish

The Chair reported that lengthsmen had been seen in the village, but did not appear to have done particularly effective work. This is becoming increasingly urgent as there are blocked ditches and drains which could potentially become dangerous. The clerk agreed to contact DCC's Mike Brown to explain this perception of the lengthsmen's visit.

111/14 To consider the recruitment of volunteer snow wardens

The Chair said he had received a letter from DCC to say snow wardens should be ready to respond, with winter approaching. He asked members to check the status of the grit bins in their area, and promised to contact snow wardens in the Vale to check also. Cllr Hayman offered to help lay salt with a vehicle.

112/14 To consider any late entry correspondence

The clerk said the application for a solar farm at Crowpits had been submitted.

113/14 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Cllr Hayman said the blocked drain at Westgate continued to pose a problem, and the clerk agreed to pass to Cllr Wright.

114/14 Matters for the forward agenda

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

115/14 Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England had formally commenced an electoral review of Devon County Council. Views are needed on future division boundaries for the council. Cllr Hayman said this could potentially have an effect as regards the Vale, and agreed to meet the clerk and Chair to put together a parish council response. The clerk said she would forward the email regarding the proposed changes to NHS services in the area, in case members would like to comment. Members noted the Parish & Town council meeting organised by EDDC on 2nd December, which includes DCC, but could not attend. The clerk will send apologies.

116/14 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 3rd December 2014 and Wednesday 7th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2030 hrs.

Chairman.....

3rd December 2014