

GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2019
in the Parish Room, Gittisham

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward
Cllr R Hayman (Chair)
Cllr C Hall (Vice Chair)
Cllr M Walker
Cllr D Valentine

Gittisham Vale Ward
Cllr A Wilkins

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

Apologies for absence: Cllr Phil Twiss (DCC), PCSO Darren England

29/19 To accept and approve apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

30/19 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 8th May 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

31/19 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

May 2019 5 crimes:

- 1) Public safety, 1
- 2) Transport, 4

32/19 To receive declarations of interest

None.

33/19 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Bond said that since the election in East Devon on 2 May 2019 and subsequent Annual Council meeting on 22 May, the Independent Group of 20 councillors has formed a minority administration, with Cllr Ben Ingham as Leader and Cllr Bond as Deputy Leader. Given that most of the councils within the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan group have changed their political make-up, she said, the GESp process has been 'paused' while consensus is achieved on the way forward.

34/19 To note the latest planning decision notices

19/0259/VAR The Barn Goldcombe Gittisham, EX14 3AB - Variation of conditions 5 and 6 of planning permission 84/P0792 to allow The Cider Barn to be occupied as an unrestricted dwelling and retain the other building as a holiday let. **Withdrawn.**

35/19 To consider the provision of superfast broadband for Gittisham village

Members heard there had been no communication from Voneus. The clerk agreed to ask Cllr Twiss if he had been in touch with the company. Cllr Wilkins said he had been approached by a resident with concerns that their property (and others along the same road) could fall outside the range of any new fibre cabinet. Members agreed to include them in any future survey of broadband capacity. Cllr Twiss had circulated an update on the general picture from Connecting Devon & Somerset prior to the meeting.

36/19 To consider capital works to Gittisham Village Hall

Cllr Hall said there was no progress on this.

37/19 To receive an update on the Hayne Lane development

Cllr Wilkins told members that there were no up to date figures available on occupancy levels. It has been confirmed that the development falls with Gittisham Village ward. The clerk said she would ask Graham

Hutton from Baker Estates if it was possible to erect a noticeboard for the parish on the side of the show home, of the type that can be dismantled and mounted elsewhere with ease. Cllr Wilkins added that he would maintain the dialogue with DCC Highways over the confusing traffic signs.

38/19 To consider limited residential development in the parish

Cllr Valentine said those present at the public meeting on 16th May had endorsed the choice of preferred site. He told members that at the board meeting on 11th June, there had been an interesting discussion about housing need, as three years had passed since the last survey. As it was observed that some have found the application to Devon Home Choice daunting, it was agreed at the board meeting to hold a drop-in session at the village hall in September. Representatives from Devon Communities Together and Wessex CLT would be available to answer any questions and help with filling in the application. Cllr Valentine said he would be writing publicity material for this event to add to the Gittisham Gazette. Cllr Bond said she would speak to Cllr Pook about this to see if he had any advice.

39/19 To consider plans for expenditure in the parish under the Community Infrastructure Levy & S106

Cllr Hall said she had received an email from EDDC's Sulina Tallack asking if the parish council had any proposals regarding how the CIL money recently received would be spent. Cllr Hall said she had replied to say that the parish council would be waiting for further monies from the CIL to arrive before making any purchases, as £2,000 would not cover much in terms of play or recreation equipment. The clerk agreed to check with DALC and EDDC whether or not any CIL, S106 or parish council reserves could be used to support the Gittisham Parochial Church Council.

40/19 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including fundraising and regular safety inspections

The clerk said that two new benches made from multi-coloured recycled plastic from VP Recycled Plastic were on order, as well as a new seat for the rookery from the same company. Estimated delivery is end of June 2019. Cllr Hall said that there was no update yet from the Big Lottery Fund, due to a delay at the parish council end. She reported that around £150 has been spent on plants which will line the hedge between the wild area and the adjoining field. This money will be taken from the AONB Sustainable Development Fund, with £100 remaining to purchase bird, bug and bee boxes. Cllr Hall appealed to members for help in planting more of the wild flowers. An oak tree has been planted. The Chair thanked Cllr Hall for her work.

41/19 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish

Cllr Walker said Len Abbott had estimated how much repairing the Vale bus shelter would be, at around £282 with red cedar shingles and ridge from Blamphayne. This was, she explained, the most reasonable quote. The clerk agreed to speak to the lengthsman about ordering the necessary items for this repair work.

Cllr Hall said some residents had expressed concern about weedkiller being used to clear ditches and leaching into the watercourse. Members heard that the lengthsman uses an approved product. Cllr Hall circulated a draft letter to members explaining the situation, which was approved. The clerk agreed to print and distribute to the relevant properties. The Chair suggested that the ivy in the rookery was in need of some attention; Cllr Valentine voiced the concerns of several residents that the lower branches of the tree there are getting too big. The clerk agreed to write to Justin Lascelles at Combe Estate to ask whether the safety of the tree had been assessed.

42/19 To consider co-opting councillors for Gittisham Vale ward:

Cllr Wilkins said he had put up some notices and posters in the area, and had been talking to Vale residents in the hope of drumming up interest. He asked that future PC reports in the Gittisham Gazette always include an item that affects the Vale, and added that the profile of residents is getting younger.

43/19 To sign an amended version of Section 2 Accounting Statements 2018/19 of the annual limited assurance review

Councillors resolved to approve the amended version of Section 2.

The clerk left the meeting.

44/19 To approve the clerk's job description and contract

It was resolved to approve the clerk's job description and contract, on pay scale SCP12 for 4.5 hours / week. Members agreed to pay 50% of the cost of Microsoft Office in future for the clerk.

The clerk returned to the meeting.

45/19 To consider a review of remuneration of the parish clerk and parish lengthsman

It was resolved to approve a pay rise for the parish clerk, in line with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) pay scales on SCP12, and to remunerate the clerk accordingly in the event of overtime. Members approved the clerk's back-payment for the NALC increase in 2018/19, as the pay rise had not been reflected in the clerk's salary for that financial year. The back payment for 2019/20 will be approved at the July meeting.

It was resolved to approve a pay rise for the parish lengthsman to £13.50 / hour with immediate effect.

46/19 To approve the June payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0955	No Butts Bins Ltd	£1, 266	2 picnic benches & seat
0956	F J Clampin	£74.88	Clerk's backdated payment 2018/19
0957	F J Clampin	£202.23	Clerk's salary & expenses
0958	Michael Poll	£240	Play area grass cutting, (inv refs. 545/19/3; 550/19/4; 551/19/5 & 556/19/6)
0959	Len Abbott	£256.50	19 hours lengthsman work, May 2019
0960	Len Abbott	£21.36	Lengthsman expenses, May 2019
0961	Alison Marshall	£116.20	Annual internal audit of accounts
DD	NEST	£16.58	Clerk's pension

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £22,514.72 (which includes the £7,000 in the business reserve account).

47/19 To consider any late entry correspondence

The clerk agreed to laminate 10 x A4 Devon & Cornwall police posters about off-roaders, following Justin Lascelles' approval for the parish council to put these up in the affected area.

Cllrs Hall & Valentine reported the difficulties with the new bus timetable, which is making it very difficult for Gittisham pupils attending King's School. They said that on occasion the pupils had missed the bus, because there was now no longer enough time for children to collect their belongings. The conditions of their bus passes do not allow them to catch later buses, and the next for which their pass is valid does not leave Ottery until after 18.30. The clerk agreed to write to DCC, and potentially Stagecoach.

The Chair said he had been in touch with Combe Estate regarding the bench around the tree in the rookery. The quote for the work is £550, and the Chair said he had applied to the Beaumont Trust for funding.

48/19 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Cllr Wilkins said the barrier constructed past the entrance to Bartletts Farm Shop to stop people falling into the ditch had now itself fallen into the ditch. He also reported that it's extremely difficult to open and close the emergency gate at the end of Old Elm Road, since it was knocked by something or someone. Cllr Wilkins said he had been in touch with SWH Traffic to ask if the company could revise its policy of using the public highway as a permanent parking space for their vehicles.

Cllr Wilkins explained that The Codfather catering outlet had applied for a licence again this year to trade on the Vale, but once again the parish council had not been consulted. Cllr Bond said she would pursue this with EDDC's licensing department.

49/19 Matters for the forward agenda

It was agreed to include superfast broadband, village hall capital works, Hayne Lane, limited residential development, broadband, lengthsman work, CIL / S106 expenditure, rookery seat, licensing and Vale councillors co-option on the next agenda.

50/19 Clerk's Report

None.

51/19 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 3rd July and August tbc at 7.30pm in the parish room.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2125 hrs.

Chairman.....

3rd July 2019