

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 1ST MARCH 2017**

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (Chair)

Cllr M Walker

Gittisham Vale Ward

Cllr D Valentine

Cllr R Pratt

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

Apologies for absence: Cllr S Trumper, Cllr R Hayman (Vice Chair), Cllr E Underdown, Cllr PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

Prior to the start of the meeting, Owen Morgan exercised his rights as parish resident to speak regarding the lack of broadband and telephone in Gittisham village for the past two weeks. This is due to contractor damage to a cable. Cllr Wright said she would investigate with BT's regional manager.

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

181/16 To accept and approve apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

182/16 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2017 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

183/16 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

- 1) 23.01.17 burglary, entry gained to secure commercial premises, power tools, cash, stolen.

184/16 To receive declarations of interest

None.

185/16 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

The clerk agreed to contact Martin Hutchings at DCC to find out if the hotel had applied for a licence with respect to the bridge application.

Cllr Randall Johnson said the district and county councils would be increasing council tax for 2017/18, along with Devon & Somerset Fire Authority. Some of this increase will be spent on social care.

Cllr Wright reported that Devon & Cornwall police would be recruiting more officers, but largely in the area of cyber crime. Small towns and villages are likely to see cuts to the number of CPSOs, she said. Regarding the decision to remove inpatient beds at Honiton Hospital and elsewhere, Cllr Wright said DCC's health scrutiny committee would be reviewing this. Cllr Wright has started a petition to oppose the decision. This being Cllr Wright's last meeting as councillor because of boundary changes, David Fallows thanked her for all her work and said she would be missed.

Members noted the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan which was outlined by Cllr Bond. It will look at infrastructure and housing need.

Cllr Randall Johnson left the meeting.

186/16 To approve the March payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0789	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE (Month 10)
0790	F J Clampin	£173.79	Clerk's salary and expenses
0791	TRIP	£100	S137 Donation
0792	Devon Link-Up	£100	S137 Donation
0793	British Legion Honiton	£100	S137 Donation
0794	CAB East Devon	£100	S137 Donation

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £16,509.97 (which includes the £7,000 in the business reserve account for contingency & depreciation).

187/16 To consider the following planning applications:

- a) 17/0061/LBC & 17/0060/FUL Bakery Cottage Gittisham EX14 3AF - installation of a clay roll chimney pot and cowl on central stack chimney.

Members had no objections.

188/16 To note the latest planning decision notices

Cllr Bond said the residents at the Trafalgar Bridge site near the Otter Inn had been given a five-year temporary planning consent, following their appeal to EDDC. Members noted that Cameron Fuller had constructed a pavement on Devonshire Way. It was agreed that this should link up with the Baker Estates development.

189/16 To consider public Rights of Way

Members heard that a public meeting was held on 25th February and well attended. Respondents to the survey filled in at the meeting said they used all seven footpaths in the parish. Some paths were reported to be in poor condition, and others limited occasionally by livestock. The Chair said he had contacted walking groups for their views, and the clerk said she would investigate Cllr Valentine's suggestion of establishing a path along the westbound carriage way of the A30 between Dark Lane and the Iron Bridge. She will also feed back to DCC's RoW officer that residents would like all existing paths kept.

190/16 To consider limited residential development in the parish

Cllr Valentine said the steering group had met Wessex Community Land Trust and Combe Estate regarding the development of a limited number of homes in Gittisham village. The estate manager now needs to present options to the estate board, of which there are two with varying degrees of estate involvement. There may also be an element of market housing. The Estate Manager has agreed to circulate the draft board paper to members.

191/16 To consider the Honiton Neighbourhood Plan

No update.

192/16 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections

The Chair said he was continuing to search for a date to discuss the wild area with Hamish Hall and Bill Griffiths. Members noted to their surprise that the grass had been cut. They approved the clerk's appeal to arrange the annual inspection of the play area, which should take place towards the end of March.

193/16 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish

No areas were identified. The clerk agreed to get in touch with the Highways Agency regarding the broken barrier on the link road to Honiton.

194/16 To consider S137 grants

Members agreed to support the following charities in 2016/17 with a £100 donation:

- 1) Royal British Legion
- 2) TRIP
- 3) Devon Link-Up (safe places scheme for people with a learning disability)
- 4) Citizens Advice East Devon

The clerk said she would write a short piece for a future edition of the Gittisham Gazette to make residents and others aware of the S137 funding.

195/16 To consider any late entry correspondence

The Chair reported he and Cllr Wright had met BT and Combe Estate on Friday 3rd February to discuss the location of a fibre-enabled box. BT has argued that it needs to install 22 telegraph poles for this to be possible, and without these there will be no superfast broadband in Gittisham village. Cllr Bond said she would investigate whether this would need planning permission in an AONB and conservation area.

Regarding the defibrillator, the Chair said he would bring forward proposals to the parish council at a future meeting. There are several possible funding sources, he reported. The clerk agreed to fill out a locality budget form for a contribution from DCC and send to Cllr Wright.

196/16 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

None.

197/16 Matters for the forward agenda

It was agreed to include defibrillator, limited residential development, lengthsman work, play area, and Honiton Neighbourhood Plan on the next agenda.

198/16 Clerk's Report

The clerk said she would write a letter to all home owners reminding them of their responsibilities to sweep chimneys regularly and use appropriate firewood, following a recent fire in Gittisham village. Members noted that following the Electoral Review of East Devon, there would be no changes to the parish boundaries.

199/16 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 5th April and Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 7.30pm.

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

200/16 To consider excluding the public from the remainder of the meeting having regard to the nature of the business to be discussed.

Resolved. Councillors discussed the clerk's salary as part of an annual review.

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

Chairman.....

5th April 2017