

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

**Present:**

**Gittisham Village Ward**

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr Ms S Trumper

Cllr Ms Maggie Walker

Cllr E Underdown

**Gittisham Vale Ward**

Cllr M Edmonds

Cllr D Valentine

**In attendance:** Susie Bond (EDDC), Claire Wright (DCC), Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk)

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson (DCC)

**67/13 To receive and accept apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**68/13 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**69/13 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

The police did not provide a report this month.

**70/13 To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in item 73/13 planning applications 13/1956/FUL and 13/2146/FUL. Cllr Underdown declared an interest in planning application 13/1692/FUL.

**71/13 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

Cllr 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. The Transforming Community Hospitals document will be published later this year which provides background to this.

Cllr 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. Cllr Valentine asked if capital projects would also form part of the planned review of the council's budget. Cllr Wright thought this unlikely in the context of central Government policy to support large schemes that it believes will kick start the economy.

Cllr Wright relayed the concerns of the headteacher of King's School, now that planning applications in Ottery have been approved. There are fears that the catchment area of the school may have to shrink in future, which would affect pupils living in the outlying villages such as Gittisham. Cllr Wright said she is making strong representations to Government that the National Planning Policy Framework is making matters worse and a line should be drawn when approving planning applications.

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. Cllr Bond agreed to send Cllr Valentine a letter concerning the public enquiry when she receives it.

**72/13 To approve the October payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

|      |             |         |                          |
|------|-------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 0601 | HMRC        | £31.20  | PAYE                     |
| 0602 | Laps Lawns  | £40     | Play area maintenance    |
| 0603 | F J Clampin | £169.24 | Clerk's fee and expenses |

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £10,282.73

The Chair agreed to purchase the telephone box on behalf of the parish council for £1, to be reimbursed at the next meeting.

**73/13 To consider the following planning applications:**

- a. 13/1692/FUL 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

Cllr Underdown left the meeting.

Members had no objections.

Cllr Underdown returned to the meeting.

- b. 13/1661/FUL 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

Cllrs Fallows, Hayman and Underdown carried out a site visit w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept and had met the applicant, who owns the land. Cllr Valentine advised members that district councils considered planning permission for permanent traveller sites according to a range of criteria, including:

- Site should not be situated within an AONB or conservation area
- Applicant has a satisfactory relationship with other neighbouring land users
- Site has acceptable vehicular access
- Site contains satisfactory proposals for screening and landscaping
- Site has no adverse impact on landscape or occupiers of neighbouring properties
- Need has been proven and cannot be met elsewhere
- Permanent site should be conveniently located.

Members had no objections in principle but expressed serious concerns about flooding (especially for health and safety, as the site regularly floods) and drainage. It was noted that the applicants had themselves drawn attention to the flood risk.

- c. 13/1949/FUL Hayne Farm Hayne Lane Gittisham EX14 3PD Extension to cattle building
- d. 13/1944/LBC 4 Beaumonts Cottages Gittisham EX14 3AG Replacement bathroom window and rear door
- e. 13/1897/FUL 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

Members had no objections to c, d, or e.

- f. 13/1956/FUL Land At Shermans Farm Gittisham EX14 3AU Construction of garage store and plant room

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

Members had no objections, although they agreed the proposal seemed out of keeping with the herdsman's residence which has now been approved, and should perhaps have formed part of the original dwelling  
Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

g. 13/2048/FUL 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

h. 13/2039/CPL 9 Ferndale Close Honiton EX14 2YN Certificate of proposed lawfulness for conversion of loft space over garage to living accommodation including insertion of rooflights

Members had no objections to g or h.

i. 13/2146/FUL Blamphayne Sawmill Gittisham EX14 3AN Proposed workshop

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

Members had no objections.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

#### **74/13 To consider parish involvement in the Active Villages project**

Cllr Trumper reported 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.

#### **75/13 To consider limited residential development in the parish**

The Chair reported there had been no movement on this. On a separate matter, Mr Bramwell from Welbeck Strategic Land had contacted the clerk once again to set up a meeting with his client and parish councilors before the public consultations. These 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. Members suggested early evening of Weds 9<sup>th</sup> October or Sun 13th at 3pm, in the village hall. The clerk will ask Honiton Town Council if one of their members can attend and also if HTC is organising its own meeting with Welbeck.

#### **76/13 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including safety inspections**

Selected members had been carrying out the weekly inspections. Cllr Valentine had found a loose screw on the seesaw, and the loose concrete cap on the drain still needs attention. Also, the wall that was exposed needs some repair work. The Chair agreed to ask Rufus Lyle for a quote for pointing it up.

#### **77/13 To consider the provision of broadband in the parish.**

Cllr Bond had received a map with the location of green boxes that indicated areas that would receive an upgrade. Feniton's exchange (and by extension Gittisham) would therefore be part of this upgrade early next year, although members heard the timetable may be subject to change.

#### **78/13 To consider support for the latest round of Parishes Together fund.**

The clerk had circulated notes from a meeting Ottery Town Council had held with various parishes to discuss the fund, although Gittisham was unable to attend. Ottery may support the Citizens Advice Bureau and the local food bank. Honiton TC has not met other parishes yet, but is considering using its fund towards suitable equipment for the community to enjoy live theatre or concerts, as well as a new set of Christmas lights. After much discussion, members decided the money would be better spent elsewhere on the type of services on which DCC was potentially cutting back, and therefore agreed it was a matter of principle to take Gittisham's contribution to the fund no further.

#### **79/13 To consider any late entry correspondence**

The clerk had been informed by EDDC that the cost for two signs to mark the start and end of Nag's Head Road (old A30) would cost the parish council around £150. Members decided signs were not necessary, as the name now appears on online maps and with satnavs.

**80/13 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC**

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

**81/13 Matters for the forward agenda**

It was agreed to include Active Villages, play area, broadband connection and residential development on the next agenda.

**82/13 Clerk's Report**

None.

**83/13 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 6th November and Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2110 hrs.

**Chairman.....**

6<sup>th</sup> November 2013