

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2014**

**Present:**

**Gittisham Village Ward**

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr M Walker

Cllr S Trumper

**Gittisham Vale Ward**

Cllr E Underdown

Cllr D Valentine

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

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr M Edmonds

**117/14 To receive and accept apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**118/14 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**119/14 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

There were no reported crimes this month.

**120/14 To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in item 7/14 Land West of Hayne Lane, as he is a tenant of the landowner making the application.

**121/14 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

Cllr Bond reported on the police investigation into former councillor Graham Brown. Police have concluded there is insufficient evidence to charge him. The Chief Executive is suggesting that the Overview & Scrutiny set up a Task & Finish forum but must first decide the terms of reference.

Cllr Bond added that last week EDDC had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Exeter City Council and Teignbridge Council to explore ways of closer working. This sets up the Great Exeter Visioning Board which will be made up of the leaders, CEOs and portfolio holders responsible for development. How this will affect the Local Plan, and development generally in the district, we have yet to find out.

As regards the office relocation of EDDC, Cllr Bond said the council is looking at the main building being on Heathpark with a satellite office in Exmouth, where offices have been vacated by Devon County Council. Cabinet agreed this approach at their meeting on 3 December. The Skypark option is considered too expensive.

The traveller site at Trafalgar Bridge in Weston is now the subject of planning enforcement (ref. 14/F0117) following the planning inspector's decision to dismiss the appeal.

Cllr Wright said DCC's health scrutiny committee has opposed the plans for Ottery hospital proposed by the NEW Clinical Commissioning Group. It's not clear when a decision will be made on its future, although in principle it is due to come back to the committee on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

Cllr Wright said she had attended the joint meeting of EDDC and DCC with parish and town councils on 2<sup>nd</sup> December where John Hart outlined the county council's budget issues and the impact they could have. Cllr Hart had hinted that public transport, e.g. bus passes, could be in line for cuts.

Cllr Bond left the meeting.

**122/14 To approve the December payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0659	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE
0660	F J Clampin	£220.98	Clerk's fee and expenses, inc. transcript of PIC meeting
0661	Village hall	£17	Hall hire (telephone box meeting in Sept 2014)

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £13,115.19.

**123/14 To consider the review of the planning application 13/2744/MOUT land west of Hayne Lane**

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

The Chair thanked Cllrs Trumper and Valentine for their help in drafting the complaint to EDDC's monitoring officer (MO). He told members he did not feel EDDC had dealt with the complaint effectively. The Chair has asked the MO to quash the decision as it is believed to be unsound, or transfer it to somebody with greater authority. He has urged the MO to determine the validity of the complaint quickly, as any further delay could potentially prejudice the outcome.

It has emerged that there will be no S106 contribution to medical practice in Honiton, as it has been judged not to be required. However, £852,112.50 is being proposed for education in Honiton, and a contribution to Turk's Head is being negotiated with DCC.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

**124/14 To consider limited residential development in the parish**

The Chair said he had written to Combe Estate's Justin Lascelles, copying in an email of May 2013 in which it was agreed the estate would take the next steps. The clerk has invited Mr Lascelles to a future parish council meeting, although it is understood he is unable to make the January meeting.

**125/14 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections**

The Chair said Bill Griffiths is considering how to move forward in building a structure of some kind. The clerk said there was no update from the manufacturer of the seesaw.

**126/14 To consider the future uses of the telephone box in Gittisham village**

The Chair said there was no update on this.

**127/14 To consider contracting a lengthsperson for maintaining drains and ditches in the parish**

Members discussed contracting a lengthsperson as there seemed to be general agreement that the current situation is not as effective as it could be. Cllr Hayman said the gratings at Westgate had not been cleared, and he was surprised that the contents of various ditches had been dumped on the verge near Truances. Cllr Wright said she would set up a meeting between parish councillors and Mike Brown from DCC.

Cllr Trumper said the parish council had enough funds to cover the costs of a lengthsperson, which for two days a month at £12-15 / hour would total roughly £2,400 for the year. Cllr Wright said it may be necessary for the successful candidate to have DCC's Chapter 8 training. The clerk agreed to put a tender announcement in the next Gazette, starting with one day / month, and contact other neighbouring parishes to find out if they would be interested in clubbing together.

**128/14 To consider the recruitment of volunteer snow wardens**

The Chair said there was no update on this.

**129/14 To consider any late entry correspondence**

None.

**130/14 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC**

Cllr Underdown reported two potholes on Honiton Lane and one on Beech Walk. The Chair said he had been speaking to contractors Balfour Beatty about a leaking sewage cover near the village bus shelter, and had been told that the more people reported it, the more likely it was to be fixed. Cllr Wright noted Cllr Trumper's conversation with the bus company providing replacement school transport during SWW works, after the company failed to get pupils to King's School on time on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**131/14 Matters for the forward agenda**

It was agreed to include planning application 13/2744/MOUT Land west of Hayne Lane, budget 2015-16, boundary changes, Honiton Neighbourhood Plan, play area, telephone box, parish lengthsperson and snow warden recruitment on the next agenda. .

**132/14 Clerk's Report**

The clerk reported that a lady whose car had been damaged by the pothole at Westgate had successfully claimed compensation from DCC.

**133/14 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 7th January and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2045 hrs.

**Chairman.....**

7<sup>th</sup> January 2015