

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 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 D Valentine

**In attendance:** Cllr Sara Randall-Johnson (DCC), Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk)

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr M Edmonds, Cllr Claire Wright (DCC), Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC), PCSO Phil Anning, PC Clive Vickery

**100/13 To receive and accept apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**101/13 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**102/13 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

The police were unable to attend, so they sent a crime report for the period since the last meeting they attended:

04/09/13 – 03/12/13

5<sup>th</sup> September: Male driver arrested for drink driving on A30.

10-11<sup>th</sup> September: Forced entry to shed and tools stolen.

10-11<sup>th</sup> September: Theft from a car on private driveway.

**103/13 To receive declarations of interest**

The Chairman declared an interest in planning application 13/2496/LBC Kings Cottage, as his property shares the boundary wall.

**104/13 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

Cllr Bond sent a report in her absence, as outlined below:

- 13/2430/MOUT. I have uploaded my objections to 13/2430/MOUT (adjacent ward) on the grounds of AONB and access from A375. The application will certainly go to DMC and it would be helpful if a member of the Parish Council could attend to make representation. Meanwhile, if residents are concerned about this application, it is important that they write to EDDC or put their representations on to the Planning Portal. (I was interested to see that DCC have not objected on education grounds as there is still capacity in the schools in Honiton.)
- Welbeck site. I haven't heard any more about the Welbeck site, but at their public consultation event their representatives stated that they intended to put in a planning application before Christmas.
- Feniton Super Enquiry. The Super Enquiry starts on 7 January 2014 at 10 o'clock in Feniton Bowling Club (beside the village hall, opposite Church Lane). It would be helpful if a member of the Parish Council could either attend and speak or send in a submission about concerns over the schools.

Cllr Randall-Johnson reminded members that as the Chancellor's autumn statement would be announced tomorrow, DCC's draft financial budget had not yet been published. The latter will be presented at a cabinet meeting next Wednesday. Cllr Randall-Johnson discussed with members proposals to dual the A30 / 303, and said that the region needed two good strategic routes, especially when the M5 had to close.

**105/13 To approve the December payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0607	Laps Lawns	£210	Play area maintenance
0608	HMRC	£31.20	PAYE
0609	F J Clampin	£159.60	Clerk's fee and expenses

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £9,684.94.

**106/13 To consider the following planning applications:**

- a) 13/2430/MOUT Land At Heathfield (Land East Of Hayne Lane) Residential development of up to 147 homes, new vehicular access from Sidmouth Road and Honeysuckle Drive and pedestrian, cycle and emergency access points, strategic landscaping and open space

The Chairman explained that he and Cllr Valentine had put together a draft response to the above application, on which they would welcome members' comments. It has also been sent to Cllr Bond (see her comments above). Members objected to the site encroaching on the AONB and potential issues in terms of highways. They felt that EDDC had not demonstrated exceptional need to build on an AONB and agreed that this application was contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework in that regard. Members discussed EDDC's draft Local Plan, which is due to come before the planning inspector in February 2014. As the plan period began in 2006, more than 200 homes have already been built or committed in Honiton, leaving only another 60 or so to meet the proposed number of dwellings allocated. Members therefore questioned the need to build so many houses, especially as they said more windfall sites would be coming forward. Cllr Valentine said with an application coming so close to the local plan enquiry, there was the potential for 'prematurity' as a reason for refusing this case.

Cllr Randall-Johnson and Cllr Valentine reminded members that this is an outline planning application, and therefore the final detailed design will not emerge until Gleeson gets outline consent (if this is granted). Cllr Randall-Johnson advised members to outline all their objections at this stage, rather than wait until the next planning application goes in. She also suggested members propose what they would like to see on the site, should EDDC be minded to approve the outline application, e.g. doctors' surgery.

Cllr Valentine said he had spoken to the clerk of Honiton Town Council about its discussion of this application at its meeting on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The main issues there were regarding the AONB and highways. Cllr Trumper's suggestion to amend the figure on traffic movements in the draft response was accepted, especially in the light of the Welbeck data.

Clls Valentine and Fallows agreed to circulate the revised response to members.

Cllr Randall-Johnson and the Chairman left the meeting.

Cllr Hayman took the Chair.

- b) 13/2496/LBC Kings Cottage Gittisham EX14 3AS Render repairs to external boundary wall  
Members resolved to approve the application, subject to the use of appropriate conservation materials.

Cllr Fallows returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

**107/13 To consider a range of residential developments proposed in the parish and in neighbouring parishes**

Members discussed the super enquiry at Feniton, which begins on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and lasts two weeks.

Cllr Valentine agreed to go to the first day, and also to attend when the Inspector would invite members of the public to make comments. The two main threats for Gittisham parish for the three Feniton applications under review are education and health. Gittisham is in the catchment area for the primary school, and some parish residents use the same medical care as Feniton residents. Cllr Valentine said a statement had been prepared which covered these issues. Feniton Parish Council has contracted a barrister to speak on its behalf for the three appeals, at a cost of £10,000. Members agreed in principle to offer Feniton £500 towards its legal costs, provided this was within the law. It may be possible to give Feniton a grant, which could be paid back interest-free. The clerk agreed to investigate.

Cllr Valentine said EDDC has a meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December, at which its councillors will be discussing a draft consultation document, the East Devon Village Development Plan. It relates to proposed development in smaller villages where there is a proven need for affordable housing. It is a consultation document which runs up to March 2014, and is a requirement of the Local Plan. Cllr Valentine said there would be plenty of opportunity to respond to it, and could be relevant in the context of small scale residential development for the parish.

**108/13 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including safety inspections**

Cllr Hayman said he had been carrying out the inspections as promised, and would do so for another month. He agreed to purchase around 50 hedging plants from Perrie Hale nursery. The Chairman said that Rufus Lyle had provided a quotation for repairing the wall, which would be £250 materials and £0.01 labour. Members thanked Mr Lyle for his generous gesture.

**109/13 To consider the provision of broadband in the parish.**

The Chair reported there had been no movement on this.

**110/13 To consider any late entry correspondence**

The clerk had received news that DCC was preparing a strategic review of flood issues within Devon. EDDC has asked for help in ensuring the details are up to date, so the Chairman agreed to find the previous data sent. The clerk will send this, along with details of two properties flooded in 2012 – Eveleigh's and Crabbs Cottage. She also agreed to get in touch with Richard Rainbow from DCC, who prepared the data last time.

The clerk had received a parish lengthsman's report from DCC, which she agreed to circulate to members. The lengthsman will return to the parish at the end of January. The Chair said he would identify the grid reference for a blocked gully near Willy's Wood for their use.

The Chair said he had delivered 11 bags of salt to residents of the Vale today.

**111/13 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC**

The clerk agreed to pass on details of blocked gullies to DCC's Mike Brown.

**112/13 Matters for the forward agenda**

It was agreed to include precept 2014-15, East Devon village development plan document, play area, broadband connection and residential development on the next agenda.

**113/13 Clerk's Report**

None. The Chairman wished all members a happy Christmas.

**114/13 Date of next two meetings. Tuesday 7th January 2014 and Wednesday 5th February 2014 at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2040 hrs.

**Chairman.....**

7<sup>th</sup> January 2014