

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012**

**Present:**

**Gittisham Village Ward**

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr Ms Maggie Walker

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr E Underdown

**Gittisham Vale Ward**

Cllr D Valentine

Cllr M Edmonds

**In attendance;** Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk), Cllr Roger Giles, PC Clive Vickery, Barbara Mullett (Gittisham Gazette)

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr Ms S Trumper

**134/11 To receive and accept apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**135/11 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Members discussed the snow warden scheme in relation to December's minutes, and it appears that registering the council's involvement in the scheme with Devon CC is proving problematic. The Chair had asked DCC to respond to the council's proposals regarding the salting of Beech Walk. The Chair reported he had also been trying to make progress on getting the empty salt bins repaired and filled. Buying the salt is not necessary, as DCC will supply 5 tonnes. Cllr Giles reported that the demand for salt bins had been higher than expected. As regards the new salt bin for Old Elm Road, the clerk said she was waiting for confirmation from Sara Randall-Johnson. The request from Cllr Giles had been put through in August 2011.

The clerk said she was checking the employer's liability insurance for snow wardens with the council's provider, although the Chair said DCC would cover third party liability. Members also noted the need for a risk assessment of snow warden activities.

**136/11 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

There have been no crimes since the last meeting. PC Vickery reminded members of the new non-emergency number, which is 101.

PC Vickery left the meeting.

**137/11 To receive declarations of interest**

None.

**138/11 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

None.

**139/11 To approve the January payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

|      |             |         |                          |
|------|-------------|---------|--------------------------|
| 0506 | F J Clampin | £160.68 | Clerk's fee and expenses |
| 0507 | HMRC        | £31.20  | PAYE                     |

0508 Gittisham Village Hall £60.00 Hall hire for 2011

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £11,160.22. The clerk reported there had been no progress as regards processing new signatories with the bank. Cllr Edmonds said his documents and ID had been accepted.

**140/11 To agree the budget for 2012-13**

The clerk circulated a spreadsheet showing likely expenditure for the rest of the current tax year, and forecast expenditure for 2012-13. It was resolved to set the budget at £9,611.40, the details of which are attached. Members noted that some money may need to be set aside for any Diamond Jubilee activity.

**141/11 To set the precept for 2012-13**

It was resolved to set the precept at £7,000.00, the balance of the budget to be taken from reserves.

**142/11 To receive a report on the Local Plan meetings at EDDC to date and to consider future input**

The Chair encouraged all residents to comment on EDDC's local plan. Cllr Valentine explained to members that the plan is a consultation and has not yet reached the pre-submission stage to the Secretary of State. This means that any responses will be considered by the local plan panel, and then the final plan will be put to EDDC which will become the pre-submission statement. This too, will have to go out to consultation, and will then be viewed by local plan inspectors. An examination in public is therefore unlikely until March 2013, assuming there will be no changes in the meantime.

Cllrs Fallows and Valentine will be circulating the parish council's submission shortly, which consists of a tweaked version of the original submission to take account of the plan's current focus.

**143/11 To consider the formulation of a strategic plan to cover the period 2012-2015 including a village flood risk plan**

The Chair had added comments to Cllr Valentine's document, and reported that he had spoken to Carol Hall as regards flood planning. She has produced some documentation that may be helpful in formulating the plan. Cllr Valentine said that now the council had worked out a budget and forecast expenditure for next year, this would contribute to the longer term strategic plan – showing members where the council might be able to make savings or identify areas of spending over the next 4-5 years.

**144/11 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area including the lease, and to note the current play area finances**

Members noted that the legal fees had been paid, and Carol Hall had agreed a price of £7,000 inc VAT for a roundabout with the supplier. Cllr Underdown advised registering the tenancy with the Land Registry, at a cost of approximately £50, and this advice was accepted by members and will be actioned by the clerk. Members agreed that a working party would have to be formed to dismantle part of the wall to connect with the current play area. Cllr Valentine said the break in the wall would be indicated on the planning application.

The play area funds are now mostly spent, and any further developments would have to be financed through fundraising. The Chair offered to speak to Nick Agg-Manning as regards any involvement from Richard Marker. Members discussed insurance, and it was felt that the previous clerk had confirmed the equipment was covered. There is also an annual inspection of the area by the supplier.

**145/11 To consider the parish boundary signs**

Members agreed to leave money in the budget for boundary signs, although it's not clear whether these will be permitted. The clerk is awaiting clarification from EDDC Street Scene engineers.

Cllr Giles reported that the sign for Honiton Lane was in progress. Members discussed the colour scheme for the new sign, and voted for green. The clerk will respond to Devon CC.

**146/11 To consider the state of the village bus shelter roof**

The Chair reported that repair to the bus shelter roof was likely to begin mid-January, with new shingles.

**147/11 To consider distribution of the Gittisham Gazette**

The Chair has spoken to the man who distributes the Midweek Herald in the Vale, who has offered to

distribute the gazette to 200 properties for £12 / month. Members agreed to go ahead with this arrangement, although there was some discussion as to the location of the 200 properties. Barbara Mullett explained that the editorial team was currently preparing an edition marking 10 years of the gazette, and would like to mark the inclusion of the Vale in a special way. Members agreed this should be done in February, with a text to welcome Vale residents. The Chair will speak to Cllr Walker, Barbara Mullett and the clerk about this. It was decided to offer a voucher with the February edition for a free walking circuit session (gentle exercise) which was likely to appeal to Vale residents. Cllr Edmonds agreed to mention the offer to the Honiton Craft Club.

**148/11 To consider any late entry correspondence**

None.

**149/11 Matters to be reported to DCC/EDDC**

Members discussed the state of the roads with Cllr Giles, who explained that DCC's budget for highways had been drastically reduced although it was facing some of the highest maintenance costs ever after two cold winters. Cllr Hayman added flooding to the matters to be reported, given that it has an impact on roads.

**150/11 Items for the Forward Agenda**

It was agreed to include the play area (including renewal of the maintenance contract), EDDC Local Plan, parish signs, bus shelter, gazette, snow wardens and Strategy 2012-15 in the next agenda.

**151/11 Clerk's Report**

None.

**152/11 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 7.30pm.**

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

**Chairman.....**

**1 February 2012**