

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2016**

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (Chair)
Cllr R Hayman (Vice Chair)
Cllr M Walker
Cllr S Trumper

Gittisham Vale Ward

Cllr D Valentine
Cllr R Pratt

In attendance: Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC), Cllr Sara Randall Johnson (DCC), Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk)

Apologies for absence: Cllr E Underdown, Cllr Claire Wright (DCC), PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

85/16 To accept and approve apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

86/16 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2016

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

87/16 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

No crimes.

88/16 To receive declarations of interest

None.

89/16 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Randall Johnson drew councillors' attention to a public consultation on changes to inpatient facilities in East Devon hospitals. This includes proposals to move inpatient facilities at Honiton to Tiverton, Exmouth and Seaton.

Cllr Bond said that a decision on the proposal for a wedding and conference venue at Combe Higher Barn was due to be made in two weeks' time. She added that the Local Government Boundary Commission was looking at changing the number of councillors across the district. Members noted that there is a consultation underway on the layout of council-run gypsy and traveller pitches planned in East Devon.

Cllr Randall Johnson left the meeting.

90/16 To approve the October payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0764	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE (Month 6)
0765	F J Clampin	£164.35	Clerk's salary and expenses
0766	M Poll	£60	Grass cutting, (invoice ref. 370/16/10)
0767	Len Abbott	£150	Sept lengthsman work (12 hours, inc 4.5 on telephone box)
0768	Len Abbott	£17.99	Telephone box paint expenses
0769	Len Abbott	£15.95	Nylon line expenses

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £19,332.04 (which includes the £4,000 in the business reserve account). Members noted that the annual audit of the parish council's finances had been signed off by the external auditor.

91/16 To consider the following planning applications:

- a) 16/2176/AGR Land At Combe Estate Gittisham – creation of forestry tracks

Members had no objections.

92/16 To note the latest planning decision notices

Cllr Pratt informed members that the following applications had been approved:

- 16/1734/LBC | Internal modifications and demolition of conservatory | Curlditch House Gittisham Honiton EX14 3AE
- 16/1809/FUL | Installation of 1 no. 300mm diameter radio link dish | Masts Putts Corner Honiton

93/16 To complete the annual review of risk assessment

Members adopted the risk assessment, which now includes a section on the lengthsman work.

94/16 To consider and adopt standing orders and financial regulations

Members adopted the standing orders and financial regulations, subject to one amendment regarding two signatories for a cheque (not three).

95/16 To consider limited residential development in the parish

Cllr Valentine said the meeting with EDDC and Devon Communities Together on 26th Sept had gone well. He said he was encouraged to move forward to the next stage, and had been in contact with the Wessex Community Land Trust who would guide the steering group through the process. A site appraisal is required with EDDC, and Cllr Valentine has asked for a meeting with the Combe Estate. The clerk agreed to source a large scale map and put the final report from the results of the housing need survey on the Gittisham website.

Cllr Bond left the meeting.

96/16 To consider the Honiton Neighbourhood Plan

There was no update on this.

97/16 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections

The Chair said that Hamish Hall had drawn up a proposal for the first phase of developing the wild area with a tower and slide, with costs from Blamphayne. Costs for this first phase should be approximately £500, not including labour. Members agreed that the current funds allocated to the play area (£238.54 as of March 2016), combined with recent donations, should largely cover this work. Cllr Hayman observed that concrete should be used, not postcrete. The clerk agreed to contact the person who carries out the annual play area safety inspection for comment. Members discussed signs to deter people from letting dogs foul the play area; the clerk will contact Archer Safety to see if they can make some with the council's name marked on them.

98/16 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish

Concerns were raised over the state of the road and ditches between Goldcombe and the village. The clerk will find out if Parsonage Lane is due to be resurfaced; it was agreed that ditchwork there was more than a lengthsman could manage. Cllr Hayman added that ditches around Tommy Wax also need work.

99/16 To consider any late entry correspondence

Members noted the annual rate rise of the village hall hire, which will be £84.16 in Jan 2017 (collected in arrears). The Chair said that Buckereil now has a fibre-enabled green box, which will allow them to receive fast broadband. Cllr Wright is finding out if Gittisham could receive the same in phase 1 of Connecting Devon & Somerset.

100/16 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Cllr Bond agreed to investigate the situation with the pavement on Devonshire Way in connection with planning application 16/1099/FUL - Land At The West End Of Devonshire Road Heathpark Industrial Estate. Cllr Pratt said he also believed there to be a requirement for two bus stops there. Cllr Bond said she would also find out the status of the change of use application for the Old Estate Yard. Ditches and drains for DCC as per item 98/16 above.

101/16 Matters for the forward agenda

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

102/16 Clerk’s Report

Members noted the offer by the Citizens Advice Bureau to hold an energy advice session in the village hall, which would allow residents to find out more about getting the best energy deal for their home. The parish council is asked to pay for the hall hire, but the session is free. Anyone interested should mention this to a parish councillor or the clerk so they can gauge the level of interest.

Members noted DALC’s Annual Report 2015-16.

The clerk explained that a Government consultation paper has been issued which includes a proposal that referendum principles on council tax increases are to be introduced for town and parish councils. This would affect those whose Band D precept is higher than that of the lowest charging district council for 2016/17 (£75.46), and which have a total precept for 2016/17 of at least £500,000. If introduced, this may affect the parish in future years beyond 2017/18.

103/16 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 2nd November and Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2050 hrs.

Chairman.....

2nd November 2016