

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 6TH APRIL 2016**

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

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

Prior to the start of the meeting, Genevieve Evans exercised her right as parish resident to speak regarding speed restrictions in Gittisham village. She asked for an update on whether Cllr Wright had succeeded in securing a sign for the village. The clerk said she was aware that Cllr Wright had made enquiries but there was no further information at this stage.

Members observed a minute's silence in memory of Barbara Mullett and Richard Saunders.

175/15 To accept and approve apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

176/15 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2016

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

177/15 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

The police did not send a report this month.

178/15 To receive declarations of interest

The Chair declared an interest in item 180/15.

179/15 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Randall Johnson said she was taking part in a review of small schools across the county, small meaning fewer than 100 pupils. She explained that it was likely some small schools in Devon would close, as the system of funding pupils has changed. She also reported that the contract to run children's centres across Devon was now in the hands of district areas. The current contract has been extended for one year.

Cllr Bond confirmed that the recycling contract had been awarded to SITA, and the roll-out to parishes such as Gittisham would begin after December this year. Under the new contract, cardboard and cartons will be collected at the roadside.

Members expressed their concern about a road closure for resurfacing work in Gittisham village on Friday 8th April, as it coincided with the funeral of Richard Saunders. The clerk agreed to telephone SW Highways to ask if the roadworks could be postponed in the light of the high number of people expected to attend.

Cllr Randall Johnson and the Chair left the meeting.

Cllr Hayman took the Chair.

180/15 To approve the March / April payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0720	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE (Month 11)
0721	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE (Month 12)
0722	F J Clampin	£163.80	Clerk's salary and expenses
0723	F J Clampin	£163.80	Clerk's salary and expenses
0724	David Fallows	£69.40	Reimbursement for website annual domain hosting & name registration
0725	N W Adams	£71.70	Annual play area inspection
0726	DALC	£115.96	Annual subscription
0727	M Poll	£60	Grass cutting, March
0728	Len Abbott	£493.75	Lengthsman work in Feb & March 2016
0729	Len Abbott	£6.30	Reimbursement for replacement wheelbarrow wheel

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £13,518.00. The clerk reported that half of the annual precept and Council Tax Support Grant had been received.

The Chair returned to the meeting.

181/15 To consider the following planning applications:

- a) 16/0298/FUL - Combe House Hotel Gittisham EX14 3AD Installation of sash windows and doors to garden pavilion
- b) 16/0299/LBC - Combe House Hotel Gittisham Honiton EX14 3AD Installation of sash windows and doors to garden pavilion
- c) 16/0537/TEL – Masts (SWEB Tower) Putts Corner Honiton Replacement of x5 existing antennae with x6 proposed antennae, installation of x1 300mm diameter dish antenna, relocation of x1 existing 300mm diameter dish antenna plus minor ancillary apparatus
- d) 16/0481/TRE - 18 Cypress Close Honiton EX14 2YW T1, Oak; Reduce crown height and shape by 10 per cent via thinning, reducing branch lengths by up to 2m making natural target pruning cuts of up to 50mm diameter.

Members had no objections to the above applications.

182/15 To consider limited residential development in the parish

Cllr Valentine told members that the housing needs survey would be circulated next month. There will be publicity in the next edition of the Gittisham Gazette. He had succeeded in negotiating a reduced cost for dispatching these to £200, half of which will be paid by Combe Estate. Parishioners and interested parties outside the parish have four weeks to complete the survey and return it. Members agreed they would get in touch with contacts outside the parish who they thought would be interested in completing the survey.

183/15 To consider the Honiton Neighbourhood Plan

There was no update on this. Cllr Pratt informed members there had been an article in the Midweek Herald, explaining that a working group had been set up which was formulating questions for a public consultation.

184/15 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections

The clerk reported that the annual inspection of the play area had been completed. Cllr Hayman agreed to take a look at the swings and see if he could replace the bearing on the shackle. Members supported Cllr Walker's motion to hold a working party on 21st May to maintain the play area and fix any items that need attention as outlined in the inspection report. The clerk said that Michael Poll had returned his bid for the annual maintenance contract in writing and would therefore deliver the contract in 2016-17.

185/15 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish

Members agreed that the village in particular was looking much better as a result of the lengthsman's work, and as a consequence recent heavy rainfall had not resulted in the usual flooding with the exception of one

property due to a blocked drain which was not in the lengthsman's remit. The drain has been reported to the EA and DCC. The Chair asked Cllr Pratt if there was work that needed doing in the Vale, to which Cllr Pratt replied some work on maintaining roadside verges could be done once the wild flowers had seeded.

The Chair thanked the clerk for the successful application to the Parishes Together fund. The parish has therefore an additional £511.50 to spend on equipment and training for the lengthsman. The clerk agreed to check with EDDC to which tax year this funding refers and whether it can be backdated, as receipts have to be provided. Using money from the fund, members approved the purchase of a two-wheeled wheelbarrow by Cllr Hayman for Len Abbott to use, as well as some manhole keys to be used in Rufus Lyle's garden to reach a surface water drain. They also resolved to approve the removal of grass in the gully between the rookery lawn and the road. It was agreed that an application to DCC's emergency flood resilience grant was not necessary.

186/15 To consider maintenance of the bus shelter in Gittisham village

Cllr Walker agreed to speak to Len Abbott about carrying out this work.

Cllr Bond left the meeting.

187/15 To consider any late entry correspondence

None.

188/15 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Cllr Trumper said the road between Truances and Westgate was in a terrible condition and deteriorating. Members agreed to report such matters individually by visiting the DCC highways website.

189/15 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.

190/15 Clerk's Report

Members noted the parish & town awards and Devon's Best Kept Village. The clerk asked members to nominate a volunteer from the parish to attend EDDC's garden party on 12th June to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday. They chose Carol McCann as a way of thanking her for her contribution to the community.

191/15 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 4th May (annual public meeting) and Tuesday 14th June 2016 (tbc) at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100 hrs.

Chairman.....

4th May 2016