

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**Present:**

**Gittisham Village Ward**

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)  
Cllr S Trumper  
Cllr R Hayman  
Cllr M Walker

**Gittisham Vale Ward**

Cllr D Valentine  
Cllr R Pratt

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

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr E Underdown, Cllr Sara Randall Johnson (DCC), PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

**137/15 To accept and approve apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**138/15 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**139/15 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

No crimes reported since the last meeting:

**140/15 To receive declarations of interest**

The Chair declared an interest in item 10 (minute ref. 146/15) as his wife volunteers for one of the organisations under discussion.

**141/15 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

Cllr Wright agreed to look into concerns about broadband speed in the parish. She told members that DCC is proposing to raise its precept by two per cent; the increase will be ringfenced for adult social care. The decision will be made at the end of February. Cllr Wright said she had entered a proposal to allow public speaking at DCC scrutiny committee meetings, and was confident of getting this passed.

Cllr Bond said the Local Plan was entering its final stages, and should be ready to use within the next few weeks. This means EDDC can make decisions based on a local plan, which will run until 2031. She said there was no update on the situation with the Hayne Lane development.

**142/15 To approve the January payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0712	HMRC	£40.95	PAYE
0713	F J Clampin	£199.86	Clerk's salary and expenses
0714	Village hall	£82	Village hall hire for 2015

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £11,241.24. Cllr Wright left the meeting.

**143/15 To consider the following planning applications:**

a) 15/2784/TCA The Old Rectory Gittisham EX14 3AB – T1 Yew, crown lift to 2m above ground level

Members had no objections to the above.

**144/15 To agree the budget for 2016-17**

The clerk outlined likely expenditure for the rest of the current tax year, and circulated a spreadsheet showing forecast expenditure for 2016-17. It was resolved to set budget expenditure at £12,608.00 which includes contingency and depreciation of play area items. The clerk agreed to bring the spreadsheet outlining play area finance to the next meeting. The forecast expenditure details are attached in a spreadsheet.

Members agreed to an additional line in the budget for an employee pension, although there is no obligation to pay this because of the lower earnings limit. The clerk said she would check with DALC how other parish councils were preparing for their pension obligations.

**145/15 To set the precept for 2016-17**

It was resolved to increase the precept by 4.6 per cent to £8,000.00, the balance of the budget to be taken from reserves.

**146/15 To consider s.137 donations and requests**

The Chair left the meeting.

Members agreed to consider any requests after the end of the current financial year. The clerk said she would put this on the agenda in May.

The Chair returned to the meeting.

**147/15 To consider 'opting out' of the Sector-Led Body procurement for annual auditing purposes**

Members resolved to 'opt in' to the new external auditing procedures. No action is required.

**148/15 To consider limited residential development in the parish**

Cllr Valentine said an article would be going in January's Gittisham Gazette to explain the process of a housing needs survey and to encourage residents to take part. Cllr Bond offered to help if required. Members welcomed the news that EDDC had agreed to fund the housing needs survey in its 2016-17 programme; however there remains a cost for postage and packaging of the survey as well as distribution, which Cllr Valentine estimated at around £300. Cllr Valentine agreed to approach Combe Estate to see if it would be interested in contributing; alternatively the money could be taken from the contingency fund.

Cllr Bond left the meeting.

**149/15 To consider the Honiton Neighbourhood Plan**

The clerk said the steering group had agreed to keep Gittisham PC informed of any further developments.

**150/15 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including regular safety inspections**

There was no update on this.

**151/15 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish**

Cllr Walker said the lengthsman had identified a large amount of leaf litter on Parsonage Lane, Honiton Lane and by Truances which will need additional manpower from DCC to clear. She added that the recent flood behind Church Mead had been tackled, and thanked those involved. The clerk agreed to revisit the Parishes Together correspondence regarding sharing lengthsman services.

**152/15 To consider any late entry correspondence**

None.

**153/15 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC**

Members expressed their dismay at the length of time it took for the news of the flood under the railway bridge to reach DCC Highways, considering this is a bus route between Honiton and Exeter. The road was blocked for five days over the Christmas period. The Chair thanked those who had cleared the mud, debris

and leaf litter and swept the road, which have now made the route passable. He said he would discuss the delay with Cllr Wright, as well as the possibility of clearing debris off the roads where there are no ditches. He agreed to send Cllr Wright an email with local potholes and their map references, including the large one on Beech Walk.

**154/15 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.

**155/15 Clerk's Report**

The clerk said she would request help from members with the Land Registry form.

**156/15 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 3rd February and Wednesday 2nd March 2016 at 7.30pm**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2115 hrs.

**Chairman.....**

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016