

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019**  
**in the Parish Room, Gittisham**

**Present:**

**Gittisham Village Ward**  
Cllr R Hayman (Vice Chair)  
Cllr C Hall  
Cllr M Walker

**Gittisham Vale Ward**  
Cllr D Valentine  
Cllr R Pratt  
Cllr A Wilkins

**In attendance:** Cllr Susie Bond (EDDC), Cllr Phil Twiss (DCC), Fiona Clampin (clerk), one member of the public, James Trevett (Combe Garden Centre)

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr D Fallows (Chair), PCSO Darren England

Before the start of the meeting, manager James Trevett outlined plans for the restaurant / café at Combe Garden Centre which is subject to a planning application. He explained that no additional external buildings were required. Members expressed concern over the capacity of the car park, lack of signage in Gittisham village and absence of warning on the highway when leaving the centre. Cllr Twiss said the latter would require a Highways order. Mr Trevett said parking had been considered to be adequate in the application to accommodate the sometimes seasonal nature of the business. He agreed to look into measures to prevent customers parking in the waiting bay along the road.

One member of the public raised concerns over large potholes going up the hill towards Shermans Farm. Cllr Twiss said the road was due to be repaired this financial year.

**159/18 To accept and approve apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted.

**160/18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2018 were amended to reflect Cllr Walker's comments about item 146/18. The minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Vice-Chair.

**161/18 To receive the Beat Manager's Report**

- 1) Other crime, Devonshire Road in November.
- 2) Violence and sexual offence, Parsonage Lane in November

**162/18 To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in item 7, as he is a tenant of the landowner.

**163/18 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives**

Cllr Twiss apologised for not being able to attend the previous two meetings.

New bus stops

With both DCC and EDDC ward member responsibility for this topic, Cllr Twiss said the long-running issue of a new bus stop at the end of Devonshire Road where it meets Hayne Lane continues with discussion between the authorities as to a more practical approach with the provision of bus stops and shelters. Unfortunately the officer overseeing this is on long term leave of absence, with another officer filling in temporarily and having to prioritise issues. The clerk agreed to write to Cllr Twiss to request a bus stop for the new garden centre.

Highways

Cllr Twiss explained that a large part of his DCC workload involves trying to marry up the work of the various sections of DCC Highways in a way that makes sense. He reported that matters are not helped by

use of old software and hardware that does not work together in one platform across the operation. However, the situation is improving. Cllr Twiss said he had offered to be one of the BETA testers for the service when it goes live internally at DCC Highways.

Cllr Twiss added that DCC is expecting to present a balanced budget this year. He was pleased to report that the road to Tommy Wax is a priority for repair this financial year. Members discussed issues before Christmas with the Stagecoach school transport, and the clerk agreed to forward the correspondence with DCC to Cllr Twiss.

Cllr Twiss expressed concern that the collapsed drain near Clysthayes had not been properly attended to. Sandbags are now in place to prevent water flowing into the property, and further down the hill. It is 18in in diameter and designed to carry the (sometimes) significant volume of water that emerges from the field drain up stream. Members heard that the flood relief that it is designed to alleviate is no longer in place. Cllr Twiss said he would notify Cllrs Valentine and Hall when an engineer is due to visit the site, and would hope to do so himself. Cllr Bond reminded him of Devon County Council's Property Level Protection grants, where home owners can apply for up to £5,000 to carry out a survey of their property, identifying the required flood resilience measures, and to purchase the recommended measures. Any additional budget requirements will be at the expense of the property owner.

Cllr Bond said EDDC was beginning to charge developers for a suite of waste / recycling bins that up to now have been provided for free. If residents damage their own bins, they can be charged £30, she said. Cllr Bond added that the new EDDC headquarters would be open in February, with 27<sup>th</sup> February the first full council meeting.

Cllr Hayman left the meeting. Cllr Valentine took the Chair.

**164/18 To consider the following planning applications:**

- a) 18/1131/LBC - Rapshayes Farm Gittisham EX14 3AB - Re-slate roof on main farmhouse; construction of porch on east elevation; block up internal door (from dining room); block up internally window on ground floor side (south) elevation and remove partition walls in kitchen (amended plans)
- b) 18/2806/VAR - Land At Meadow View Nursery Honiton EX14 3PD - Variation of Conditions 2 (approved plans) and 3 (restriction on sale goods) of planning permission 17/1053/FUL (Proposed garden centre) to facilitate a restaurant/café use within the building

Members agreed to have no objection in principle to a) or b).  
Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

**165/18 To note the latest planning decision notices**

None.

**166/18 To consider the provision of superfast broadband for Gittisham village**

Cllr Twiss said there was nothing further to report since the meeting of 5th December, but he continued to pursue the interests of Gittisham in getting Superfast Broadband to those who want it in the parish. Cllr Hall added that Voneus had not yet produced a proposal, and she would contact them by the end of January for an update. Members discussed the possibility of subsidies for installation.

Cllr Twiss left the meeting.

**167/18 To consider measures to reduce traffic speeds in Gittisham village**

Cllr Wilkins said DCC's speed monitoring device had found mean speeds of 18.9mph westbound and 18.5mph eastbound. The 85th percentile figures, the speed at which 85% of users were travelling at or below was 25.9 and 24.7mph respectively. Members heard that in isolation this data is unlikely to trigger any further action, and they were by and large reassured that average speeds were relatively low.

However, Cllr Valentine said the 15 per cent travelling above 25mph were still of concern, and members agreed the siting of the post had perhaps pulled down the average speed. It was agreed to monitor the

situation locally through observation, and raise the issue with DCC again if the problem worsened.

**168/18 To receive an update on the defibrillator in Gittisham Vale**

Cllr Wilkins said the defibrillator had been received, and he had been in touch with an electrician to fix a date for its installation. He provided a letter outlining his consent for the defibrillator to be attached to his property, which the clerk will keep on file.

**169/18 To receive an update on the Hayne Lane development**

Cllr Wilkins said that 14 properties were now occupied, and that residents appeared to have received the information provided about the parish.

**170/18 To consider limited residential development in the parish**

Cllr Valentine reported that the public meeting had taken place on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to encourage the public to become actively involved and purchase shares in the Community Benefit Society. Applications to purchase shares are welcome, he said. Profits are not distributed among members, or external shareholders, but returned to the community.

**171/18 To consider plans for expenditure in the parish under the Community Infrastructure Levy**

Members agreed again that further clarity was needed over criteria from EDDC, before any plans could be made on how to spend the money. Members discussed whether improvements to the village hall's sporting facilities could be considered to fulfil the criteria, as it hosts exercise classes. Cllr Bond agreed to locate a questionnaire for Cllr Walker. It was agreed that a future edition of the Gittisham Gazette could feature a tear-off slip inviting suggestions. Cllr Hayman stressed the need to work with Honiton Town Council, and its plans for expenditure using money raised from development in Gittisham parish.

**172/18 To consider capital works on Gittisham Village Hall**

Cllr Hall said Luxton Chartered Surveyors had produced a schedule of works, which has revealed approximately £10,000 of work needed on the hall. Members were reassured that none of this work would be major. Cllr Bond agreed to ask Sulina Tallack at EDDC if there were any grants available for community buildings.

**173/18 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area, including fundraising and regular safety inspections**

The clerk said the spinner had been fixed.

**174/18 To consider work to be carried out by the lengthsman to maintain drains and ditches in the parish**

Cllr Wilkins said the bus shelter in the Vale needed some maintenance. Members agreed the purchase of a replacement head for the lengthsman's strimmer, and two litter grabbers for Cllr Valentine. [NB Since the meeting, the litter grabbers have been kindly donated by Combe Garden Centre.] Cllr Hayman will buy the strimer head and claim back the cost at a future meeting.

**175/18 To approve the January payments and to note the current bank balance**

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0923	F J Clampin	£161.55	Clerk's salary & expenses
0924	Playground Supplies Ltd	£606	Bearing and repair of spinner
0925	Community Heartbeat Trust	£162	Annual running costs of defibrillator
0926	Arthur J Gallagher Ins	£233.98	Public liability insurance, lengthsman
0927	Luxton Chartered Surveyors	£540	Schedule of works, village hall
0928	Len Abbott	£89.25	Lengthsman work, Nov 2018
0929	Len Abbott	£95.63	Lengthsman work, Dec 2018
DD	NEST	£11.19	Clerk's pension

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £21,030.15 (which includes the £7,000 in the business reserve account).

Cllr Bond left the meeting.

**176/18 To agree the budget for 2019-20**

The clerk outlined likely expenditure for the rest of the current tax year, and circulated a spreadsheet showing forecast expenditure for 2019-20. It was resolved to set budget expenditure at £13,905.00 which includes contingency and depreciation of play area items, and maintenance of the defibrillator. The forecast expenditure details are attached in a spreadsheet.

**177/18 To set the precept for 2019-20**

Councillors resolved to maintain the precept at its current level of £8,160.00 to help parishioners, the balance of the budget to be taken from reserves. Members felt that an increase in future years would be necessary, and agreed that by next year the contribution from the Hayne Lane development would be better understood.

Cllr Valentine left the meeting.

**178/18 To consider any late entry correspondence**

Members nominated Lilian Hayman, following a request from DALC for nominations for the Royal Garden Party on 29 May 2019.

**179/18 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC**

None.

**180/18 Matters for the forward agenda**

It was agreed to include village hall capital works, Vale defibrillator, Hayne Lane, limited residential development, broadband, lengthsman work, play area maintenance contract, and questionnaire for CIL / S106 expenditure on the next agenda.

**181/18 Clerk's Report**

None.

**182/18 Date of next two meetings. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019 and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm in the parish room.**

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

**Chairman.....**

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**