

**GITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2012**

Present:

Gittisham Village Ward

Cllr D Fallows (chairman)

Cllr R Hayman

Cllr Ms Maggie Walker

Cllr E Underdown

Gittisham Vale Ward

Cllr M Edmonds

In attendance; Ms Fiona Clampin (clerk), Cllr Roger Giles

Apologies for absence: Cllr Ms S Trumper, Cllr D Valentine, PC Clive Vickery, PCSO Phil Anning

174/11 To receive and accept apologies

Apologies were received and accepted.

175/11 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2012 and the extraordinary meeting held on 22nd February were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

176/11 To receive the Beat Manager's Report

No crimes reported in the parish this month.

177/11 To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Hayman declared an interest in item 8, planning application, and item 10, the de-listing of Gittisham Farm. Cllr Fallows declared an interest in item 6 (as he is due to be reimbursed by the council) and item 11, creation of parish website.

178/11 Reports from County Council and District Council representatives

Cllr Giles explained that the county council had set its budget and agreed no council tax increases in 2012/13. He said two roads in the parish that had already been patched were due to be surface-dressed: Catshayes and the road past the forge. He also explained that the need for a passing loop on the railway line near Whimple was 'on the radar' of local MP Hugo Swire, following a meeting on 2nd March between DCC representatives and the MP. Cllr Giles said he would be investigating what 'on the radar' meant in practical terms, and the chair encouraged him to continue lobbying for the loop which would enable a half-hourly service between Axminster and Exeter. Cllr Giles revealed that community hospitals are the subject of a review and that rather than looking to close them, the study will recommend how they can be better used than at present. Members noted it costs twice as much to keep a patient in a bed at the RD&E than it does at Ottery or Honiton hospitals.

179/11 To approve the March payments and to note the current bank balance

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

0512	F J Clampin	£167.05	Clerk's fee and expenses
0513	HMRC	£31.20	PAYE

Cllr Fallows left the meeting and Cllr Hayman took the Chair.

0514	David Fallows	£299.17	Reimbursed for bus shelter materials
0515	David Fallows	£35	Reimbursed for walking fitness instructor fee

Cllr Fallows resumed the Chair.

0516	EDDC	£160.99	Recovery of 2011 election costs
0517	Honiton PCC	£20	Printing of Gittisham Gazette
0518	Lieutenancy Fund	£10	Two tickets to Diamond Jubilee garden party
0519	Laps Lawns	£20	Maintenance of playing fields (Nov 2011)
0520	Laps Lawns	£100	Bus shelter materials & labour

Members were informed that the current bank balance stands at £10,109.08.

180/11 To consider planning applications: 12/0320/FUL – construction of agricultural building, Gittisham Farm Gittisham Honiton EX14 3AX

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

Members had no objections.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

181/11 To consider the formulation of a strategic plan to cover the period 2012-2015 including a village flood risk plan

Cllr Hayman has marked on a map appropriate flood points and where drainage is needed. Cllr Edmonds agreed to look at the Hayne Lane section. The map will be passed to other members in due course.

182/11 To consider progress on the modernisation of the play area including renewal of the maintenance contract, annual inspection and to note the current play area finances

Members heard that the clerk now has a signed copy of the lease. The clerk explained she had been in touch with Nick Adams to arrange the annual play equipment safety inspection, and that this would take place over the next month.

As regards the tendering of the annual maintenance contract, the clerk said Grounds Maintenance SW had been back to see the full extent of the play area and re-submitted a quote for £930. Members resolved to award the contract to Laps Lawns

Members noted that the roundabout had been installed, although Cllr Walker expressed concern that it did not appear to be spinning as it should. The clerk agreed to speak to Carol Hall and draft a letter to the company asking it to investigate. Members resolved to pay for the equipment once the company had been to look at the roundabout again to adjust the spin.

Cllrs Hayman and Fallows agreed to meet to discuss timing for putting topsoil in the play area.

183/11 To consider the de-listing of Gittisham Farm

Cllr Hayman left the meeting.

Members noted the complex situation with regard to delisting and planning applications. The decision has to go to an advisory panel, followed by a board at English Heritage. English Heritage is aware of tenants' and council's concerns. Given the procedures to follow, members agreed they must let the process run its course.

Cllr Hayman returned to the meeting.

184/11 To consider the creation of a parish website

Cllr Fallows left the meeting and Cllr Hayman took the Chair.

Members reviewed the website proposal from Websites Ahoy and agreed that setting up a website was highly desirable, which can serve the needs of different sections of the parish such as the village hall committee and church. Members agreed to talk to interested parties to assess how they will use the site. It will also serve as an online repository for parish council documents such as minutes and agendas. Five users will be able to upload content and edit, with a parish council nominee as editor in chief. Cllr Hayman asked how easy the updating would be, and warned that the site had to be maintained regularly for it to be credible.

The clerk explained that she had received a quote from another company, which was comparable in price to Websites Ahoy. Members resolved to accept the proposal from Websites Ahoy and the clerk agreed to get in touch with the company director. She will discuss whether the site can feature local business adverts and will ask for the domain name www.gittisham.org.uk which is currently available. Members said they would seek out parishioners who would be interested in volunteering to edit the website.

Cllr Fallows resumed the Chair.

185/11 To consider the parish boundary signs

Cllr Giles said the Honiton Lane sign had been paid for some time ago, so he would check progress with highways. Honiton Town Council had told the clerk that the noticeboard erected on Old Elm Road had needed a licence, but a parish boundary sign was a different matter. The clerk agreed to respond to Mr Joy in the Vale to say a parish boundary sign would not be possible.

186/11 To consider distribution of the Gittisham Gazette and council subsidy for printing costs

The clerk agreed to check with Barbara Mullett whether the £20 members resolved to pay for the February issue of the gazette covers the additional copies to the Vale, or the whole distribution list. Members noted in previous minutes that there had been no agreement regarding meeting the full cost of the gazette printing, and in future it was agreed to fund $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cost. Members resolved to pay Mr Sellick for the Vale distribution. He charges £10 / month and will invoice quarterly in arrears.

187/11 To consider the responsibilities of snow wardens, the replacement of salt bins and to note insurance

Members agreed to preserve the current situation as regards insurance of snow wardens. The new salt bin for Old Elm Road has not yet appeared.

189/11 To consider parish activity for the Diamond Jubilee

Members resolved to start the ball rolling as regards an event to mark the diamond jubilee in June, so a working party will be formed. Given the need to link the two parts of the play area and also construct a barbecue, members agreed that these activities could be combined with the parish jubilee celebrations.

190/11 To consider any late entry correspondence

The clerk had received correspondence from the NALC asking for views on whether in principle parish councils should receive a share of business rates in their locality. Members agreed to respond in support of receiving a share, as long as it didn't lead to higher business rates.

Members noted correspondence regarding neighbourhood plans under the Localism Act.

191/11 Matters to be reported to DCC / EDDC

Cllr Giles agreed to investigate with DCC highways department the situation on the link road from the forge to Honiton, where old tree guards have been blowing onto the tarmac. He also promised to raise the issue of confusing signs for Gittisham at the bottom of the iron bridge (A30 slip road).

192/11 Matters for the forward agenda

It was agreed to include the play area, gazette, website, Strategy 2012-15 and diamond jubilee in the next agenda.

193/11 Clerk's Report

The clerk agreed to write the submission bid for EDDC's Town and Parish Council Awards, entering the play area project in the Community and Youth categories respectively.

194/11 Date of next two meetings. Wednesday 4th April and Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2105 hrs.

Chairman.....

4 April 2012