

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th January 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mark Brown, Chris Dack, Gill Fisher, Richard Gard (chairman), Brian Howell, Libby Turrell, Cathy Wetherden and Ruth Curtis (clerk); MDDCllr Coren

1. Apologies: DCCLr Nick Way; MDDCllr Penny
2. Declarations of interest – MDDCllr Coren declared an interest in 5.2
3. Minutes of the last meeting 20th November 2019 - were approved and signed as a correct record with following amendments: Apologies to include MDDCllr Penny; 4.1 Steve Tucker (not Steve Short)
4. Matters Arising
 - 4.1 Highways updates
 - The road from A30 to Tellams is now completed. DCCLr NW had emailed to say DCC are aware of a problem concerning water near Thorne Cross on the new road and dealing with it. They are also installing verge markers along some of the road where the level of the new surface is high.
 - Easton Cross to Spreyton Wood Water is in an unacceptable condition and residents and businesses are regularly suffering split and broken tyres as a result. Some potholes have been filled but the road is in a terrible state. Councillors are encouraged to keep reporting this road. There is no update as yet as to when it will be repaired.
 - 4.2 Highways meeting at County Hall – Cllr Gard reported on the meeting which had been useful. Planning conditions relate to specific planning applications often making it difficult to follow the detail. Cllr Fisher couldn't locate the S106 agreement schedule 8 Steve Tucker referred to in the notes of meeting for eg. Barnaby Grubb (BG) said that Highways had received no comments or complaints from members of the public regarding highways issues and Tellams which councillors found concerning. In future, we will contact BG direct with any issues that arise.
 - 4.3 Mid Devon Local Plan

Councillors acknowledged the main amendments in the Local Plan with potential direct impact on Hittisleigh parish are the proposed changes to the gypsy and traveller policies. Cllr Gard and the clerk had sought further clarification on the rationale behind the proposed changes but quite a few details are still unclear. Cllr Gard reported that the number of pitches is set by the Local Planning Authority but that he had been led to believe from discussions with MDDC that National Policy sets the figure. The Inspector commented that pitches in the open countryside should be allowed and the proposed wording is 'under certain circumstances' without qualifying what those circumstances are. Councillors agreed to review the proposed amendments and to give responses to clerk by 5th February so a final draft with comments can be circulated and submitted by the deadline.
 - 4.4 Hittisleigh Climate Emergency update – a well-attended public meeting was held on 7th Dec. A follow up workshop style meeting will held in March (Saturday 7th March TBC) looking at practical aspects and things people can do themselves. MDDCllr reported that Elizabeth Wainwright has been appointed to oversee climate change at MDDC.
 - 4.5 Caravans –Cllr Wetherden has submitted query to MDDC and is waiting reply. Cllr Howell to forward his notes to Cllr Wetherden.
5. Planning
 - 5.1 NEW application WD/2530/19 Development of new farm shop and ancillary cafe with supporting secondary areas consisting of storage, WCs, offices

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and kitchen space (resubmission of 2701/18/FUL) – Cllr Howell reported that the appeal has been quashed by Secretary of State.

- 5.2 19/01188/FULL Change of use of agricultural land to allow 1 pitch for the siting of 1 static caravan, 2 touring caravans and associated works for the use of gypsy and traveller family on land at NGR 276600 96594 (North of Shortacombe Farm), Shortacombe Lane, Yeoford (Crediton Hamlets) – **decision pending**
- 5.3 19/01473/FUL Siting of replacement caravan, The Orchard, Cheriton Bishop – **withdrawn**

6. Financial

It was resolved to make the following payments:

- Hittisleigh Village Hall – climate emergency meeting hall hire £15.20
- Clerk salary July-Dec 2019 £440
- HMRC PAYE July-Dec 2019 £88

7. Correspondence

7.1 For response

- MDDC Local Plan Review consultation on main modifications – 17th February – see item 4.3 above
- DALC Memorandum & Articles - no comments
- Request to support Local Electricity Bill – councillors agreed to support the bill and the clerk to follow up.

7.2 For information

- Devon Climate Emergency update – clerk to forward update to Chris Wood
- MDDC Town & Parish newsletter January – section 137 the clerk to clarify what this legislation covers.
- DALC comment on funding churches – clerk to check re: further info.
- DCC Highways update December 2019 – Cllr Brown has completed the snow warden forms and returned to DCC.

7.3 New correspondence – there was no new correspondence

- Cllr Brown to call SWW as water leaking again from pumping station
- Cllr Wetherden to follow up re: donation of 2 trees for each parish council

Next parish council meeting Weds 18th March 2020