

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th February 2019 at
7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mark Brown, Bernard Curtis, Brian Howell, Gill Fisher, Richard Gard (chairman), Libby Turrell (vice chair), and Ruth Curtis (clerk); MDDCllr Derek Coren and one member of the public

1. **Apologies:** MDDC Peter Heal; DCCLr Nick Way; Cllr Cathy Wetherden
2. **Declarations of interest:** MDDCllr Coren declared an interest in 4.1 Highways matters
3. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 27th November 2018** were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - 4.1 Highways
 - Flooding at West Studham (Colebrook parish) – The parish council thanked Cllr Coren for his work to help mitigate the flooding at West Studham. An invoice is presented for the materials and it was greatly appreciated that digger, diesel and labour costs have been generously donated. The water now clears away on the non-house hand side through the pipe in the hedge and down the length of the field. Many parishioners have commented on the great job and councillors asked the clerk to write a letter of thanks to the landowner. As anticipated however, to complete the job fully, work is also needed on the house side of the road. MDDCllr Coren has discussed this with Steve Tucker (ST) who has confirmed Highways will undertake the remaining work.
 - Metre drop along the road from Coltsfoot - the additional pipe invoiced by J Coren & Sons is for the drainage work required here which the road warden is organising.
 - Serious fall away on the road past Easterbook towards Spreyton. DCCLr Way will discuss with Steve Tucker (ST) as a priority. It needs Highways input.
 - Southcombe Hill (Cheriton Bishop) – clerk ask DCCLr Way cc ST re: state of the bridge and priority for work. This affects Hittisleigh residents more than Cheriton Bishop.
 - Road between Pitton and Hittisleigh Cross – Cllr Brown had a reply to say that ST has inspected the drains, they are not collapsed or damaged but just blocked. Clerk to update DCCLr Way – we understood ST waiting on additional funds to order jetter.
 - Ditch and drain above the Hittisleigh village sign towards Whiddon Down – Cllr Brown to follow up with Gerald Downs re: his offer to clear the ditch. Two volunteers to help with the road.
 - Pitton Cross to Tellams Yard (Cheriton Bishop) – road surfacing has been completed to a very high standard at a cost - it is believed - of £183K from a budget held by DCCLr Way. Cllrs felt that if this was the case, that funds could have been better prioritised and for greater benefit. The road from Hittisleigh Cross through Hittisleigh Mill to Pitton is in poor repair and serves more residents. Also the Pitton to Thorne Cross (Cheriton Bishop) road is in a very bad state. Cllr Fisher had reported 20 pot holes on this road and 14 were repaired. Other recent resurfacing in the parish was already showing signs of wear and tear suggesting quality of work/materials may be an issue. In addition, the road from Swallow Tree to Davylands is in a terrible state, had previously been marked up for resurfacing but never done. Cllrs agreed to write to DCC Highways, attn: Meg Booth (DCC Chief Officer for Highways) cc ST, DCCLr Way and Cllr Gard.

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- 4.2 Bonfires – since January MDDC are clamping down on the burning of plastics in particular and are offering collection of bulky waste and household waste materials (for a fee). MDDC distinguish between different types of bonfires and between nuisance and environmental impact. Bonfires which give off dark smoke are regulated under the 1993 Clean Air Act. You can also be prosecuted for having a bonfire which gives off noxious or irritant smoke since this may potentially damage the health of children and those with conditions such as asthma and bronchitis. Cllr Gard encouraged councillors to look on the MDDC website for information and MDDCllrs will pass on any relevant information for distribution to parishioners.
- 4.3 Parish Council meetings – change of day. It was agreed to leave the next meeting as planned (Tues 26th March) and for the clerk to consult with DCCllr Way and MDDCllrs Coren & Heal re: potentially changing to the last Weds in the month.
- 4.4 May elections – nomination forms to be completed at the March meeting – completed forms must be received at Tiverton by 3rd April.
- 4.5 Other matters arising – MDDCllr Coren confirmed that there are to be no boundary changes to parish council boundaries but there could be changes within the wards.

5. Payments

The following payments were approved:

- 5.1 Clerk salary July-December 2018 £400
- 5.2 HMRC PAYE July-December 2018 £80
- 5.3 CPRE membership renewal £36
- 5.4 Highways work £743.76 for the flooding remedial work at West Studham and twin wall pipe for drainage improvements near Coltsfoot (financed by the HMCEF grant).

6. Planning

- 18/01876/FULL - Erection of dwelling and carport/workshop on land at NGR 271183 94393 (Fursham Down Farm), Hittisleigh – no objection response submitted. MDDCllr Coren to check with MDDC planning re: what checks are made in relation to original permitted development criteria (ie building in agricultural use).
- JW Mann Ltd 2701/18/FUL (West Devon) – Development of new farm shop and ancillary cafe with supporting secondary areas consisting of storage, WCs, offices and kitchen space (resubmission of 1255/18/FUL) – planning meeting Tues 26th Feb.

7. Correspondence

- 7.1 For response
 - Villages in Action request for support – councillors felt that as Hittisleigh was not an appropriate venue for events (not sufficient seating to cover costs) that it was not a priority for financial support
 - Mid Devon Mobility (Ring and Ride) request for financial support (email) – councillors agreed a £50 donation.
- 7.2 For information
No comments on these items.
- 7.3 New correspondence – none

Next parish council meeting Tues March 26th 2019