

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 26th September 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mark Brown, Bernard Curtis, Gill Fisher, Brian Howell, Richard Gard (chairman), Libby Turrell (vice chair) and Cathy Wetherden; Ruth Curtis (clerk & minutes); MDDCllr Derek Coren and MDDC Chairman, Peter Heal

Cllr Gard welcomed MDDC Chairman, Peter Heal to the meeting.

1. **Apologies** - DCCllr Nick Way
2. **Declarations of interest** – none
3. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 26th July 2017** were approved and signed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - 4.1 **Road Warden** – Phil Hancock (PH) has been very active and helpful making a new passing place on road between Bowacre and Teighholt Cross, organising hardcore for passing places along the road being resurfaced (from ford to up past Road Down farm) and liaising with highways to return to complete the road resurfacing section from ford to Teighholt Cross. Cllrs recorded their thanks to PH for all his efforts; the clerk to send letter to PH on behalf of the parish council.
 - 4.2 **West Studham** – MDDCllr Coren has had a look and now clarified that where the hole is in the hedge, it doesn't line up with the pipe. The water goes back towards the house and then meets the drain which goes across the Shepherds' field. The ditch is now blocked (by new fence) so water cannot run back into it at present. Some of the fence would need taking up to investigate further. Th pipe may not even be there! PH says Steve Tucker (ST) confirmed the grant of £1580 for this work from the Highways maintenance community enhancement that Cllr Gard applied for but Cllr Gard has not received confirmation.
 - 4.3 **Snow warden** – Cllr Brown confirmed bags of salt in place ready for colder weather.
 - 4.4 **Highways - resurfacing, potholes and drainage issues**
 - Resurfacing road from the ford to Teighholt Cross - as far as we know Highways are returning to complete this work
 - Drain on the Spreyton road on from Easterbrook – Cllrs Gard and Howell have had a go at clearing it but the pipe is not even visible at one end. Cllr Howell has made up some rods to hopefully be able to clear the pipe. Upstream the left hand side of road has crumbled away (but other side is being undermined too) and someone has put sandbags there is to ensure that no-one drives into it.
 - Cllr Brown checked the drain between village hall and church – someone has done a good job but there's still a drain to unblock that goes under the road. Very silted up and can't locate the drain. The water is draining away so just keep an eye on for now.
 - 4.5 **Auditor comments from accounts year ending 31 March 2017** – the clerk confirmed the audit was completed with no material comments. An advisory comment was made on assets held – where these are a gift/donation, a nominal value of £1 needs to be attributed and the asset amount restated in next year's accounting statement.
 - 4.6 **Other matters arising**

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- Mare & Foal, Yeoford, a community share offer is being put together – a 3% return with 3 year investment £150 minimum share purchase. An investor can also receive 30% back on their investment under the social investment tax relief (SITR) scheme to offset against income tax as the community organisation is now registered as a community benefit society (CBS). £200K to raise with £450K as target. The next meeting Monday 2nd Oct is for Crediton Hamlets PC to decide whether to support the planning application. The landlord has also put in planning application for an additional dwelling on the pub site with a separate entrance in off the road.
- Speed limit signs - Cllr Turrell had been approached by two separate families asking whether we can have speed limits/signs in the village particularly with increase in traffic around weddings. The suggestion is to have 'Please drive slowly through our village'. It was commented that signs which flash up your speed could be more effective than speed limit signs although these are expensive. MDDCllr Coren noted that getting speed limit 30 mile p/h signs is almost impossible as you need safety data based on accident rates. A first step would be to talk to DCCLr Way – the clerk to contact and ask about the process and how we can take this forward.
- Outside notice board – MDDCllr Heal offered pinboard for the notice board repair and Cllr Howell offered to do the work.
- Phone box – Needs pressure washing and then painting. It was suggested that the group doing community work (supervised re-offenders) could be a possibility.
- Community Garden S106 – Cllr Howell and CH to draw up a site plan and the clerk to send in to the Planning Obligations Monitor, Juliet Hamlyn-Payne, to discuss the project further.

5. Correspondence

5.1 For response

- DALC AGM 10th October (www.devonalc.org.uk/agm-2017) the clerk is unable to attend the DLC AGM, no other councillors were able to attend
- Devon Community Resilience Forum Event 22nd November, Exeter – no-one free to attend.

5.2 For information – no comments on the for information correspondence

5.3 New correspondence – none

6. AOB

1. Crediton Farmers Market town square – Cllr Curtis raised issue of parking on market days; MDDCllr Heal confirmed this comes under remit of Devon County, there should be better liaison with Crediton Town Council
2. Cllr Brown reported that arrangements have started with making the new train station at Okehampton, parking will be next to Mole Avon.
3. Cllr Turrell reminded everyone of the forthcoming Harvest Supper 20th October at village hall and the Harvest Service 11 am at Church
4. MDDCllr Heal thanked councillors for the invitation to the meeting and gave an update on some of the key areas of responsibility, activities and personnel at MDDC.
 - Peer Review undertaken and kept under review – one of the things which came out of that is that MDDC now have their own property development company to build market value housing and social/council housing.

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- Housing - Mid Devon need 500 homes p/a. MDDC concerned that housing not being built where planning permission has been granted (land banking); there is no 5 year land supply so likely that MDDC will lose some appeals; Garden Village (new town) at Cullompton eventually involve around 5000 homes
- Greater Exeter Strategic Plan ongoing piece of work for next 7 years
- Hitchcocks Farm at Willand is MDDC waste and recycling centre, landfill is no more
- Planning team should be up to full strength by November now new staff have been recruited
- Code of conduct training upcoming, important for councillors to keep up to date with latest developments
- Annual State of the District debate this year focuses on 'Future of Policing in Mid Devon'
- Details of the Devon & Cornwall ALERT service were circulated

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.