

# **HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mark Brown, Bernard Curtis, Gill Fisher, Brian Howell Cllr Libby Turrell (vice chair), Cathy Wetherden; Ruth Curtis (clerk & minutes); Devon Cllr Nick Way; MDDCllr Derek Coren

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Richard Gard (chairman), MDDCllr Peter Heal
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Howell declared an interest in item 5.2 (planning application at The Orchard)
3. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov** were approved and signed as a true record

#### **4. Matters Arising**

##### **4.1 From the minutes**

###### **Highways matters**

Water coming down road into Hittisleigh village from pumping station direction – Gerald Downes, Will Fisher and Cllr Brown helped to clear the ditch at the top of the hill from the village. The Parish Council acknowledges and appreciates the efforts by Gerald to trace the blocked course of the water and open the drainage ditch across his land. The outlet from the road drains has clearly been blocked for many years. The volume of water has been aggravated by repeated leakage from the pumping station. Further work is needed to clear other water courses. Councillors also expressed thanks to Will Fisher and Cllr Brown for their help. Gerald Downs will clear the gully as fence is in it and rotting. Various volunteers have offered to help when weather is better and ground drier.

Resurfaced Spreyton to Teighholt – now completed.

Poor stretch of road at 4 Cross Ways (Cheriton Bishop)– workmen have recently filled in potholes, potentially some of the poor surface may be fixed in this. Cllr Way has raised this stretch of road continually with highways but it is not a priority within a cut back budget. The clerk to write to the Leader of DCC, John Hart, cc CE Phil Norrey to offer support to Cllr Way in his work advocating proper repair and management of our rural roads (to encourage a change in policy) and to specify the appalling state of road at 4 Cross Ways which presents a real hazard to users.

Other – councillors discussed a volunteer group to clear overgrown ditch at Hittisleigh Mill. Cllr Brown had also reported the flood along road towards Church Cottage from the village hall. Cllrs to go online and report potholes following this meeting.

**Phone box** – the clerk to get map laminated within the next week.

**Transparency code** – the clerk to attend training provided by MDCC on 27<sup>th</sup> Jan and to apply for scanner in next round of funding (March).

**Parsonage Farm** – MDDCllr Coren to forward any news from MDCC enforcement officer.

**Salt** – councillors expressed thanks to Cllr Brown for organising

##### **4.2 Other matters arising**

None

#### **5. Planning**

- 5.1 15/01673/FULL and 15/01674/LBC Mill House - erection of a single storey extension following demolition of existing extension – *permission granted*

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- 5.2 15/01850/CLU The Orchard - certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of building as residential dwelling and associated use of land as residential garden for a period in excess of 10 years – *permission refused*
- 5.3 15/01992/CLU - Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of land for the siting of mobile home(caravan) under Class C3 at Swallow Tree – response by 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. Cllr Coren had spoken to Ken Toms (previous owner) who confirmed caravan has been there for more than 20 years.  
**HPC response:** no comments to make.
- 5.4 15/01996/MFUL - Erection of parlour, cubicle and covered feed building (1876sqm) at Zeal Monochorum – response by 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. **HPC response:** no comments – not sufficient information to make a response.

## **6. Payments**

- 6.1 Clerk salary July-Dec 2015 £400 and HMRC PAYE £80** – proposed by Cllr Fisher & seconded by Cllr Wetherden, approved by all

## **7. Correspondence**

### **7.1 For response**

- **MDDC questionnaire** – clerk to send responses as discussed on behalf of councillors.
- **MMDC Corporate plan** – councillors expressed concerned that the trend is that the more we offer to do as a council, the more we will be expected to do because of cuts to district council. It is really positive that the leisure centre is in the corporate plan. The plan itself is very good but what actions will be made to carry it out? Will there be more strategizing and round table talking, and not getting on with it? The clerk to reply with these comments.
- **Devon Countryside Access to Form** – no reply
- **Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy** – not relevant so no reply

### **7.2 For information**

- **Crediton High Street closure** – despite the experiences of some having caught in lengthy traffic jams getting into Crediton along the top road, overall the travel arrangements have been well managed, particularly as some places the roads are very narrow. There is confusion about parking. Are not allowing shoppers to park on the high street as indicated? If anyone wished to make a complaint, you need to contact South West Water direct.
- **Auditor appointment** (from DALC newsletter) – do we need to opt out or have an auditor appointed? The clerk to confirm and reply as needed (response date 31 Jan).
- **Queens 90<sup>th</sup> birthday** – it would be nice to have a village event. Cllr Howell to discuss with village hall committee and come back to the parish council. Cllr Way reminded councillors that an application can be made to the Locality Fund pot to support the event.

### **7.3 New correspondence** – none

8. **AOB** – none

The meeting closed at 9 pm. **Date of next meeting: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016**