

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 29th March 2016 at
7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Richard Gard (chairman), Mark Brown, Bernard Curtis, Gill Fisher,
Brian Howell, Cathy Wetherden; Ruth Curtis (clerk & minutes); MDDCllr Peter Heal

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Libby Turrell (vice chair), MDDCllr Derek Coren; Devon Cllr Nick Way
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 26th January** were approved and signed as a true record

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1 From the minutes
 - Parsonage Farm – the barn is being used for ancillary accommodation to the house. No further information from MDDC at this stage. A planning application is expected.
 - Website – the clerk to approach the village hall and church committee, and any other village groups, to see if they wish to be included on the MDDC hosted website.
 - Queen's 90th birthday – village event probably in the church field, date to be confirmed
 - Cllr Hart email road matters – we have also asked for materials to fill in pot holes. We could request a quantity of road planings for emergency pot hole filling (M5 being rescalped). Contact Steve Tucker in first instance. We would need to find a suitable site to store them Cllr Brown to identify a possible area.
- 4.2 Dennis Down cross – the clerk to thank Alex Scougall re: his offer of repairs to the fingerpost
- 4.3 Highways tippings Swallow Tree – the clerk to follow up with DCCllr NW cc Steve Tucker
- 4.4 Cheriton Bishop TAP fund application – councillors were happy to agree to support this application

5. Planning

- 5.1 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 – permission granted
- 5.2 15/01996/MFUL - Erection of parlour, cubicle and covered feed building (1876sqm) at Zeal Monochorum – permitted with conditions. MDDCllr Heal confirmed that this is now not going ahead. The farmer is now selling the land on the open market with covenant that it will not be built on.

6. Correspondence

6.1 For response

- **MDDC consultation on landscape impact of solar PV proposals** by 29th March midnight – Cllr Gard summarised the categorisation of landscape sensitivity as it relates to our area. A point for consideration is the lifespan of the project. The following response was suggested:

'Hittisleigh Parish Council has considered the comprehensive proposals and asks that greater detail is included within the *plans for reinstatement* and *plans for decommissioning*. Planning consent is granted

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for 25 years but the economic value of the installation will change and the renewal and maintenance costs will rise. We suggest that a review period is built into approval of an application so that unviable installations are not left to decay in the countryside, with potential risks to livestock and wildlife from degraded materials and in attendance to landscaping that reduces the visual impact. We suggest a review after 5 years and each 5 years thereafter. If the review indicates that the installation is no longer meeting the production targets then enforcement of decommissioning and reinstatement of the land is carried out'. All agreed. Cllr Gard to respond.

6.2 **For information** – no comments on items circulated

6.3 New correspondence

- DALC membership £58.06. All agreed.

7. **AOB** – none

- **Salt bags** – Cllr Brown to collect them back in
- **Broadband** – Cllr Gard has had a response from Paul Coles. We won't know any more until June but it is not looking likely given the difficulty of the area. However, on the Devon & Somerset Get up to Speed website (under DCC website), there is now a funding scheme of up to £500 per premise for helping with costs for alternative systems, such as airband or satellite, where the project is not going to be able to deliver the higher (2 meg) speed (the government promise is that 95% of premises will have 2 meg broadband by 2020).
- **3 G** - Cllr Brown confirmed that 3G is easier to get in the village area with provider O2. Cathy is getting 4G occasionally via provider 3 (and a signal in the village hall!)
- **Thefts from outbuildings** - the Crediton Courier mentioned recent spate of burglaries in outbuildings/garden sheds.
- **Tellam lorry signs** - there are now some signs directing lorries to Tellams in some places. Have fixed drain cover down towards Toms.
- **Pot holes from** Teighholt to Road Coltsfoot – these need reporting as they are now becoming quite bad.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.