

# HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in the village hall

Present: Ruth Curtis (clerk), Cllrs Mark Brown, Gill Fisher, Brian Howell, Libby Turrell (chair), Cathy Wetherden; MDDCllr Derek Coren; Beryl Watson; two members of the public

Public participation session – two members of the public joined the meeting from ‘Sanctuary Ranch’ to introduce themselves and answer questions about the work completed so far and their future plans at Parsonage Lane. Councillors had the opportunity to ask questions and clarify several matters in relation to the planning applications approved and future plans for the holding. It was noted that the intention is to apply for planning permission in due course and councillors appreciated being kept informed of developments.

1. Apologies: DCC Cllr Frank Letch; Cllr Chris Dack
2. Declarations of interest – Cllrs Brown, Turrell and Watson declared an interest in 6.1 as neighbouring properties.
3. Minutes of the last meeting 20 July 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record
4. Matters Arising
  - 4.1 Wildlife Warden Scheme – there had been two meetings since last parish council meeting and the locations for the soil testing within the parish have been selected. Anyone who wishes to be involved and have their soil tested is welcome. Bacteria (ecoli) and overall soil health (fertility) will be tested and representatives of the group will offer to conduct the testing. Samples need collating and sending back within certain time frame. An application is being made to the Locality Fund for the soil tests (cost approx. £16 per site). Cllr Watson is the parish council contact for the scheme.
  - 4.2 Potential water contamination – the clerk to respond to Natural England to see whether there are any farmers involved in the Catchment Sensitive Farming project in our area in either the red or yellow priority areas indicated on the magic map. Cllr Fisher offered to volunteer to collect river water samples as part of the West Country Rivers Trust (WCRT) river monitoring scheme. The clerk to contact the WCRT group at Newton St Cyres for further details, they are active in this scheme.
  - 4.3 Village defibrillator – VETS. Information leaflets and fridge magnets have been given out to all parishioners. Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Fisher for all her efforts in organising and managing this. The VAT claim associated with the defibrillator is still to do.
  - 4.4 Crediton Policing Team feedback – Cllr Watson is to due go out with the Crediton team at the end of month. PCSO Lisa Crocker had visited Cllr Turrell following the break-in at her property and had given good practical advice about enhancing security measures. She is happy to come and run an information session for the community and it was agreed to invite her for a Saturday morning. Cllr Turrell to arrange.
  - 4.5 MDDC Parish Review second consultation – neighbouring parish councils are being consulted on the changes we have proposed for Hittisleigh and MDDCllr Coren will continue to support what we have submitted. Cllr Watson confirmed that Forder Farm wishes to be in Cheriton Bishop NOT Hittisleigh and MDDCllr Coren will relay this to the committee and advise if we need to resubmit any documentation.
  - 4.6 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements – it was resolved **not** to opt out.

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- 4.7 Hittisleigh Parish Emergency Plan – Cllrs Brown Fisher volunteered to take on updating the plan and will talk to RG re: maps and any information he may still have.

## 5. District/County Councillor reports

MDDC Cllr Coren gave an update on various items including new 1-2-3 Bin collections. If the new bin isn't suitable, you can apply for a seagull sack instead. At the Homes PDG, it was reported that Devon has been recognised by Central Government for its work with Ukraine refugees. Mid Devon is currently hosting 215 guests (mainly women and children) in 92 host properties which is set to increase. DCCLr Letch had sent in a report which was read out.

This was the first meeting of the council since the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and a minute's silence was held.

## 6. Planning

6.1 22/001508/FULL Retrospective application for the retention of an already constructed access track, Land at NGR 272944 95058 (East of Medlake Farm) – permitted with conditions – councillors noted the recent decision and that the applicants are now living on site in the mobile home until the cladding is done and the barn fully completed. It was felt by all that in retrospect a direct discussion would have been helpful as would an early presentation to the parish council of the plans for the site. Reflecting on the various communications with MDDC Planning on the issues arising from this particular application, councillors felt it would be helpful to give feedback from the parish council and agreed to send pertinent points to the clerk who will draft a letter for all to review before sending to MDDC.

6.2 22/01461/HOUSE Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of lean-to extension, installation of rear dormer and installation of a side window at first floor level Location: Old Smithy – response by 13<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors discussed the application, noting there will be a window overlooking the carpark. It was felt the changes will improve existing property and it was resolved to support the application.

## 7. Payments – all agreed

- 7.1 CPRE membership - £36  
7.2 Gill Fisher – reimbursement for VETS leaflets & fridge magnets (defibrillator) £154.80 and for VETS set up costs £54

## 8. Correspondence

### 8.1 For information

- RSN Rural Funding Digest September (email) – Cllr Turrell to forward to the village hall committee
- Neighbourhood Plan Crediton referendum (email) – this has now been adopted – [Crediton Neighbourhood Plan approved at Referendum \(middevon.gov.uk\)](https://www.middevon.gov.uk)

### 8.2 New correspondence

- Cllr Wetherden is enquiring about erecting a new wind turbine 2.5kW – it will be a few meters taller than the existing one with a slightly bigger head.
- It was agreed to include a green energy talk on agenda next time.

**Next parish council meeting 7.30 pm Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**