

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th September 2023 in the village hall

Present: Cllrs Darrell Chidley, Chris Dack, Andrew Shervington, Beryl Watson; Ruth Curtis (clerk); DCCllr Frank Letch; MDDCllr Martin Binks and one member of the public.

1. Apologies – Cllr Cathy Wetherden; MDDCllr Sandy Chenore
2. Declarations of interest - none
3. Minutes of the last meeting 28th June 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.
4. Matters Arising
 - 4.1 Co-option – the Chair and Clerk had received notification of Cllr Brown’s resignation from the parish council with immediate effect. This means there are now two vacancies. Anyone interested in joining the council is encouraged to come along to the next meeting in November where we will hope to co-opt.
 - 4.2 Emergency Plan update – Cllr Brown had been in charge of developing the information gathering survey to inform the emergency plan and a member of the public offered to now take this forward.
 - 4.3 Signpost at Dennis Down – the clerk confirmed that this is registered as a local heritage asset on the MDDC Local Heritage Assets Register. She has been unable to find information about the missing finger post in the minutes as yet. MDDCllr Binks had taken a look at the condition and reported the main post (oak) is sound but the three existing fingers (pine) need replacement. He offered to repair and replace the fourth finger if it is found and can be transported to his house. The letters which need unscrewing from the posts are probably cast iron and of a typeface which is no longer available.
 - 4.4 Highways matters – the clerk reported the summer delivery of pothole repair (PPR) material to the road warden. The spray sealant is no longer available via DCC who say the PPR no longer requires it. The road warden’s view is the sealant is important as it provides greater longevity to the repairs. Councillors resolved to purchase the sealant direct from the suppliers or via the road warden subject to costs being approved.
 - 4.5 Drains and winter management – there are 5 grit bins within the parish. These are filled by DCC Highways and will be re-filled when reported empty (anyone can report online [Grit bins and salt bags – Road and Transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](#) . Cllr Shervington and Cllr Chidley volunteered to train as snow wardens and Cllr Shervington offered to move the parish store of salt bags to Davylands. The clerk to follow up re: a drains map.
5. District and County Councillor reports

MDDCllr Binks read out the 3 Rivers statement and the financial impact on MDDC was discussed. DCCllr Letch had been on a drive around with Steve Tucker (Highways) concentrating on work needed on roads between Yeoford & Crediton. DCC has reviewed and confirmed there is no RAAC in county run schools. Young people who have been in care are now awarded protected characteristic status by DCC. This means care leavers will be supported with housing and accommodation (exempt Council Tax up to 25 yrs old), health, employment and education. On a visit to CHAT, DCCllr Letch had been introduced to the Balloons charity which helps children with bereavement in the Exeter, East and Mid Devon areas [Balloons – Bereavement and loss looking onwards \(balloonscharity.co.uk\)](#).

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

6. Planning

6.1 23/01430/FULL Erection of agricultural storage building on land at NGR 272682 94534, Hittisleigh – response by 4th October – withdrawn. It was understood a new planning application has been submitted – the clerk has not yet been notified but will check the MDDC planning portal and circulate details as they are available. Cllr Watson to join planning sub- committee.

7. Payments

- MDDC election re-charge £127.35 approved.

8. Correspondence

8.1 For response

- MDDC Landscape Character – no one available to attend.
- MDDC Class Q Planning Training – Cllr Watson & Cllr Dack have signed up.
- DALC AGM and conference – no one available to attend.

8.2 For information – no comments on information circulated.

8.3 New correspondence

- Cllr Dack reported the Selecta DNA kits have been ordered and distributed and paid for
- Wedding venue Hittisleigh Barton noise nuisance – a member of the public had been in touch to report that the Church service had to be suspended on Sunday 17th September due to loud music from the wedding venue open day. Cllr Watson to follow up on behalf of the parish council.

A reminder that everyone is very welcome to all meetings and time is set aside at the beginning of the meeting specifically for public discussion.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th November 2023