

# **HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the village hall**

Present: Cllrs Darrell Chidley, , Andrew Shervington, Beryl Watson; Cathy Wetherden; Ruth Curtis (clerk); MDDCllr Martin Binks and two members of the public.

1. Public discussion time
2. Apologies – Cllr Chris Dack; DCCLr Frank Letch; MDDCllr Sandy Chenore
3. Declarations of interest - none
4. Minutes of the last meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.
5. Matters Arising
  - 5.1 Co-option – councillors discussed the role and responsibilities of a councillor and the need for representation across the parish. There are two vacancies. Interested persons are warmly invited to the next meeting in January where we will look to co-opt.
  - 5.2 Emergency Plan update – The questionnaire is ready to go pending final wording being checked by Cllr Watson. Cllr Watson to put on the community Facebook hub and the clerk send to the village hall secretary with a request to circulate to the community list.
  - 5.3 Signpost at Dennis Down – MDDCllr Binks to liaise with John Painter re: detailing of the repairs.
  - 5.4 Highways matters – it was agreed the salt can stay in the Brown’s field for now and to replace bags with buckets where possible and where bags, double bag. Cllrs Shervington & Chidley to arrange. The clerk to follow up re: snow warden.
  - 5.5 Noise disturbance wedding venue – Cllr Watson had spoken to the venue owners who explained that it was an outdoor event held at the venue. They had made participants aware and will ensure such a disturbance on a Sunday won’t happen again.
6. Budget 2024-25 – councillors reviewed the budget and approved the draft presented.
7. Precept 2024-25 – it was resolved to request a precept of £2,250 (approx. 3% increase).
8. District and County Councillor reports – DCCLr Letch had circulated a report as had MDCCllr Chenore. MDDCllr Binks reported on MDDC suggestion to re-site books from mobile lending libraries in village halls and on the discussions around MDDC governance – to change from the current executive structure (a leader and a cabinet) to a committee system. A hybrid system (leader and cabinet) is likely to remain but there may be some additional changes.
9. Planning
  - 9.1 23/01459/FULL Erection of agricultural storage building on land at NGR 272682 94534, Hittisleigh – permitted, prior approval not required. Mobile home has been moved on site and there are reports of a wind turbine. It was understood that a turbine over 11 metres needs full planning. Cllrs agreed to record concern about size of barns in relation to agricultural activity and the clerk to contact Enforcement and/or Planning as appropriate.
  - 9.2 23/01277/FULL Conversion of barn to a dwelling with the incorporation of The Barn and Workmans Cottage into new dwelling to form 1 holiday let, The Barn/Workmans Cottage/Barn Howard Barton Farm – response by 21<sup>st</sup> November (extension). Cllrs agreed the following response: HPC reviewed the application and have no comments.

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9.3 MDDC Class Q Planning Training feedback – clerk to send slides and any additional information to all councillors.

## 10. Correspondence

10.1 For response – councillors had received the links and will complete individually

- MDDC condition of Mid Devon highways petition (email link)
- MDDC Residents Survey (email link)

10.2 For information – Cllr Weatherden drew councillors’ attention to the CPRE bulletin article on ‘woodland lotting’ and Torridge District Council’s successful application of Article 4. There were no comments on the other information circulated.

10.3 New correspondence – it was reported that the footpath from Crayford to Davylands is now clear and walkable.

**The next meeting is on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**