

HITTISLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th November 2024 in the village hall

Present: Cllrs, Chris Dack, Madeleine MacDonald, Andrew Shervington, Mike Tootell, Cathy Wetherden, Beryl Watson; MDDCllr Martin Binks

1. Public discussion time
2. Apologies – Cllrs Darrell Chidley; Ruth Curtis (clerk); MDDCllr Sandy Chenore; DCCLl Frank Letch
3. Declarations of interest - none
4. The minutes of the meeting of the parish council meeting 18th September 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.
5. Matters Arising
 - 5.1 Fly tipping – MDDCllr Binks had reported the incidents to MDDC. It was noted that Punchbowl will no longer be accepting soft furnishings. It is likely that disposal of these items will now need to be paid for via MDDC.
 - 5.2 Community Wildlife Grant Scheme 2024 – Cllr Wetherden passed on information from the Devon Swift project to the Chair and MDDCllr Binks passed on RSBP contact. Cllr Watson to follow up.
 - 5.3 Emergency plan update – Cllr Watson see if the draft plan can be retrieved.
 - 5.4 Highways matters – the road warden needs to attend refresher training which is required before new delivery of pothole materials will be authorised. Cllr Watson to follow up with Steve Tucker to see if a course place can be expedited.
6. District and County Councillor reports – DCCLl Letch's report had been circulated. MDDCllr Binks reported that MDDC have scrapped the need to register as a resident before completing MDDC Residents Survey (closing date 11 December). Free parking in Crediton for Christmas shopping on various dates in December. A 50% increase in housing supply is required and more sites are needed – MDDC will make a decision on the locations in early February. Landowners were asked to put land forward for development and one area is in Hittisleigh parish but it is on the 'less likely' list. Development means more than four houses. Adding to areas with existing infrastructure is generally favoured over new development in more rural isolated areas. At the Culm Garden Village (Cullumpton), Tesco have agreed to sell land for housing development which may mean a higher concentration of housing at that site. The Tiverton East Urban Extension will include new housing but is close to the canal and is expected to have strong objection.
7. Budget 2025 – councillors discussed the budget including ring fencing future funds for parish wildlife and environmental projects. It was resolved to approve the budget as presented at £2,333.29.
8. Precept 2025-6 – following the budget discussion, councillors resolved to request a precept of £2,475.
9. Planning matters
 - 9.1 24/00904/FULL Erection of replacement dwelling, The Bungalow – revised drawings – approved. Councillors expressed concern that a significant amount of hedging had been removed, more than seemed necessary for access, including a devon bank.

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10. Payments

It was resolved to pay the following:

- St Andrew's Church annual donation £250
- Ellen Sibley internal audit £30
- Village hall hire for parish council and parish council organised meetings 2023-4 (9 meetings) and 2024-5 (7 meetings including January and March 2025) £253

11. Correspondence - there were no comments on the information circulated and no new correspondence