**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CLYST ST GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL on 14th February 2018 at 8pm Held in the Village Hall, Clyst St George**

**PRESENT: Cllr. Ackland-Smith (MAS) Cllr. J. Manser (JM) Cllr. P. Bragg (PB), Cllr A. Marks (AM) Cllr R. Bloxham (RB) Cllr M Howe (MH) Mrs. C. Newbery (CN). 5 Members of the Public.**

1. **Apologies for absence**: Cllr Baker, Cllr. Meechan, Cllr Dearsley, Cllr Randall-Johnson
2. **Minutes to Meeting 10 January 2018 –** unanimous approval
3. **Declarations of interest**- none
4. **Open Forum – none**
5. **District Councillor’s Report followed by County Councillor’s Report**

**Cllr Howe** reported that the Precept was increasing which would make a harder year for rate payers. Cllr Bragg enquired about land supply. Cllr Howe replied that he is confident there is still a healthy land supply.

**Cllr Bloxham** reported that the budget was being set on the 11th February, budget is £511m, services take up £478m, extra £13m into adult care and £6m into children, and 6% highways. £16.6m will be taken from business rates. Band D will put £1.22 per week onto bill. Cllr Bloxham went on to discuss the Police Fund – Council Advocate Scheme and advised that next year’s bids can be put into the Police Scheme from £250 upwards, and details would be forthcoming. This will commence next year.

6**.**  **Correspondence – Clerk Report**

Email from resident of Clyst Road indicating that the speed limit along Clyst Road be lowered because of the dangerous situation of residents exiting their properties and walking along Clyst Road. The email has been acknowledged.

The following response has been sent in regarding the Draft Villages Plan:

*Clyst St George PC supports the Villages Plan with its modifications set out by the Inspector and wishes for no further changes to be considered.  It is important that the main business parks of Hill Barton and Greendale have clear boundaries to avoid uncontrolled expansion of these areas.  The impact of such would have a detrimental effect on the road network through significant increases of commercial and commuter traffic.*

*There are already issues with congestion at both Sandygate and Clyst St Mary roundabouts and we would wish to see any development which places further pressure on this infrastructure to contribute to improvements to these areas.*

*We also need to recognise that the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan could have further significant impacts on the area and there is a need for a long-term plan which truly considers and deals with the wider impact of any development on this area of East Devon*.

Email from member of public relating to drain problem in Lower Ebford Lane, following the clearing of the drains. This matter has been resolved.

**7. Police Report**

The Clerk reported that there was no report on line at this present time.

**8. Finance: Clerk to Report**

There has been no expense save for the Clerk’s salary payment. The balance in hand is £2823.32. The Annual Precept has been submitted, as has the Parishes Together Fund. I have had no queries on either of these applications to date. I have received an account in the sum of £300 from Devon Communities Together being our contribution towards the Housing Needs Survey, October 2017. I have also received the account from Drainology in the sum of £1056 for the gulley clearing. This of course, is the subject of the Devon Communities Together Grant claim. Please may I have a vote on the accounts circulated, and also a vote on the payment of the two accounts mentioned above. **Unanimous Vote for acceptance of accounts and payment of two accounts.**

**9. Road Survey**

Cllr Manser reported that the main routes were indicated as requiring overnight maintenance. After discussion, it was agreed to respond with no objections

**10. Road Patching**

Cllr Manser had found one area that needs doing and enquired whether a survey was required. Cllr Marks enquired whether we were charged per pothole. We also need to look at Clyst St George. Cllr Howe reported that Farringdon have a serious problem with pot holes, and it would make sense to join together with them. Cllr Bloxham said it would have to be discussed with Farringdon Parish Council. After discussion, it was agreed that we respond to Farringdon’s communication and enquire what they can offer us.

**11. Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Manser reported that they were now preparing the statement ready to go into East

Devon District Council and putting the final wording together for submission. The Local

Heritage List has caused some difficulties. East Devon District Council consider that the

Parish Council should hold the list. Diamond Cottages in Clyst Road was built in 1863 are of

local significance. He said the Design Statement was on the Neighbourhood Plan website,

and he is pleased to report that there have been some good comments from local residents

on the Statement.

**12. Planning**

**17/2357/MFUL Newcourt Barton, Clyst Road, Topsham EX3 0DB**

Change of use of buildings to B1 (Business) and B8 (Storage and Distribution) Uses, siting of storage

containers and compounds for B1 and B8 and sui generis (car sales) Uses (retrospective); proposed

widening of access, creation of visibility splays and passing bay.

Cllr Manser reported that this was a retrospective planning application for the business park where

30 small businesses are being run. Loss of these would cause a big impact on the local community.

East Devon District Council Planning are looking closely at this as it is retrospective. There is a 26

Page flood report on the comments section. The Environmental Agency have criticised as it

Is very close to the river, it is a wildlife site, and perhaps should ask for restrictions which could lead

To pollution. The visibility splay at the entrance is poor, and the average speed going past is 37mph.

There are a number of signs on the verge – perhaps a request for lower level unobtrusive signs be

considered. Cllr Marks agreed with Cllr.Manser. Cllr Bragg thought the visibility splays important and

pollution will be a problem. It is off the beaten track, and flooding was a possibility, Cllr Manser

commented that the Environmental Agency had been very critical of the Flood Report. Cllr Ackland-

Smith pointed out that planning permission should have been obtained in the first instance but would support what East Devon District Council had to say. Also, the Environmental Health were very critical, and she considers we should also support their decision. Cllr Howe commented that the area was a green wedge and new buildings were resisted. Cllr Manser reported that some of the buildings were agricultural, and Cllr Howe confirmed that 50% were new build. There were 150 employees there. It was agreed that Cllr Manser would draft response to go to Planning West and submit to Councillors for their approval before submitting to EDDC planning.

**18/0067/TRE Tanglewood, Clyst St George EX3 0RE**

A1, Two Lime Trees: Prune epicormic branches from base of trees, twice per year, for a period of ten

Years.

Cllr Manser reported that this was a reasonable request. All agreed.

**15. Councillors’ Reports**

Cllr Marks reported that the Dog Bin problems had now been sorted out.

Cllr Manser reported that water was running down the road in Ebford Lane. It was thought not to be a spring, but someone’s supply pipe. Cllr Ackland-Smith said the same had occurred in Lower Lane, there was a leak that South West Water would not be responsible for. It was agreed to contact Highways next week.

Cllr Bragg reported that the Events Organising Committee – Village Hall – were considering having an event to celebrate the Royal Wedding in May and enquired whether the Parish Council would be prepared to support with a donation, possibly a Hog Roast. It was agreed that this would be an Agenda item next month for discussion.

Signed………………………………………………………………………. Dated ……………………………………..

The meeting closed at 9.00pm