**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CLYST ST GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL on 8th March 2017 at 8pm Held in the Village Hall, Clyst St George**

**PRESENT: Cllr. Ackland-Smith (MAS) Cllr. J.Manser[JM]Cllr. P. Bragg (PB), Cllr R. Horner (RH), Cllr K. Dearsley (KD) Cllr D. Baker (DB) Cllr A. Meechan (AM) Cllr M. Howe (MH) Cllr. P Bowden (Cllr.B) Mrs. C. Newbery (CN). 6 Members of the Public.**

1. **Apologies for absence**: None
2. **Minutes to Meeting 8 February 2017 – unanimous** approval.
3. **Declarations of interest**- None
4. **Open Forum**

(1) **Member of Public 1** raised the problem of Old Ebford Lane being used as a ‘rat run’. He reported that there had been accidents, and several near misses and asked whether something could be done about it – signage, speed bumps – urgently. DCC Highways Dept. have explained that speed cushions were only considered when collision data showed the need. There was a review twice a year, and the Police would need data of the accidents and severity. MAS confirmed that the Police do co-ordinate with Highways, and 20mph limits are not enforceable. Devon County Council unlikely to have funds for this, it would need to be self-funded, and the Parish Council do not have the funds at this time. Member of Public enquired whether if the money was available could it be done. MAS replied that data and a survey would be necessary in the first instance.

 **5.** **County Councillor’s Report**

 MAS welcomed Councillor Bowden to the meeting and said she was sure the PC would join

 with her in expressing sadness that he was retiring, and presented him with a signed retirement card. Cllr.B reported that he will raise the matter of Old Ebford Lane at a meeting on Friday, but he considered that a survey will be required. MAS confirmed that the PC would write to Devon County Council regarding this. Cllr.B welcomed that the PC were considering joining with the Exe Estuary Management Partnership. He reported that there was a huge problem with development costs and the budgets for roads had been cut again. MAS replied that the PC were grateful for the funding given for the VAZ monitor which is now in operation. Cllr.B reported that there would now be two Councillors replacing him. He advised that the PC should continue with the surveillance on parking at rugby days as this was most appreciated by the Chiefs.

MAS said the PC joined with her in wishing Cllr Bowden all the very best.

 **6. District Councillor’s Report**

MH welcomed the fact that the EEMP and Greater Exeter Strategic Plan were on the Agenda.

 He reported that the Cabinet were in negotiations with relation to building homes, affordable

 and shared ownership. Presently EDDC are in the process of setting up a private company.

 This will be funded by the sale of a piece of land. KD enquired whether there was any further

 news on CIL, MH replied there was not at present.

 **7.**  **Correspondence – Clerk to Report**

* Letter from member of the public referring to history of the public footpath.
* Correspondence regarding speed bumps on Clyst Road – MAS to report later.
* Correspondence with Devon County Council regarding a proposed footpath in Clyst Road, this has been referred back. MAS will report on this later.
* Correspondence regarding completion of VAS Monitor training. We now have a Chapter 8 trained volunteer.
* Telephone call from member of the public alerting me to some tree clearance in the region of Darts Business Park.
* Email from member of the public asking that I remind people that it is now illegal to cut hedges after lst March to 31st August. If hedges are cut after this time, they can be reported to the Police Wildlife Crime Officer by dialling 101. Clerk commented this did not apply to private hedges if no nesting was taking place.

 **8. Police Report**

 The Clerk reported that there was no report available. MAS to contact police re lack of

 contact.

  **9. Finance: Clerk to Report**

Balance of account after paying Clerk’s salary £2995. There were no other payments,

**Unanimous Vote for acceptance of accounts.**

 **10. Greater Exeter Strategic Plan document received – discussion**.

 **MAS called for comments on the Partnership information that had been distributed to**

 **Councillors for perusal prior to the meeting:**

 **AM** has read plan and understands that it will sit above the Local Plan. She asked whether

 EDDC and other local authorities will take on Exeter. MH replied that they would have to

 work with Exeter as they have not got their housing sorted out. He confirmed that, in time,

 The Neighbourhood Plan will diminish, but presently the Plan will have to be worked with.

 He considered there were grave concerns and any concession would have to go to a full EDCA Meeting. This is because Exeter have failed to reach their housing criteria and are in crisis.

 DB enquired in call for sites, would it be 5 houses per 1.5 hectare. MH said they were looking

 at 500 homes and above.

**JM** commented that apart from housing, this PC along with others, suffer with the largest town, Exmouth, at the end of the road, which is already heavy congested. Are there

 schemes available? MH responded that we need to warn councils of this.

 **DB** commented there was not enough capacity presently, with the trains and traffic.

 **JM** said that only two of the councils have local plans – Exeter’s local plan was thrown out

 Because of the heavy student population. MH said that we were in a very strong position.

 **PB** had no comments, his queries had already been answered.

 **RH** said he agreed with what has been said. He also agreed that traffic was a major problem.

 He asked whether a link road was still a likelihood. MH replied that the link road was not a

 matter being discussed presently.

 **KD** said she was concerned about the strength of Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge bullying

 East Devon. MH replied that we would have to take our share, but the other councils

 mentioned would have to do so also.

 **MAS** confirmed that this would have to be publicised fully, on the noticeboards, website,

 Clyst Valley News April edition and Ebford Residents Group. Date of Exhibitions on the

16thMarch from 2 – 8pm. She said we should amalgamate with other PCs and list common problems. We should list roads which we consider over capacity – Clyst St George, Woodbury, Ebford, Clyst road, consider- health, air pollution, medical capacity and school capacity. She agreed to prepare a document and circulate it to the Councillors for approval. She would also contact Dr Margaret Hall from CPRE

 **11. Exeter Estuary Management Partnership (EEMP)**

 **MAS** reported on this matter and called for comments.

 **KD** commented that she could not see the benefits of joining the scheme. **MAS** replied that joining the scheme would give us a lot of contacts who could assist us when needed, and the Parish Council would find themselves more in touch, than if not in the scheme. She also pointed out that we had the Lower Clyst running through our parish from the Bridge Inn on the Topsham Boundary to the boundary with Exton.

**JM** agreed with MAS. He said that our Parish is on both sides of the Exe estuary and therefore

we need to be involved. He considered we should join the scheme.

 **MH** stated that Bishops Clyst were hoping to join and it was very good value.

 **AM** considered that it would be to our advantage to be in the scheme.

 **DB** was happy to support**.**

 **RH** said he did not support – he considered that we are covered on the River Exe which had

 been resolved. MAS responded saying Darts Farm had been supportive.

 **PB** said this matter had been raised a long time ago but the problems then had been resolved.

 He thought it would be acceptable to be a part of the scheme.

 **Vote:** All but one in agreement.

 This matter will be an Agenda item for the next meeting to vote on the £100 fee.

 **12. Neighbourhood Plan**

JM reported that this had now gone to the Consultant for approval to start the consultation

 process. KD enquired whether there was an update on the design statement. JM replied

 there was not at present.

 **13. Planning**

**17-0360/FUL Lady Seawards C of E Primary School Clyst St George EX3 0RE**

Construction of new single classroom block.

DB reported that this was for a new classroom block, single storey, very straightforward.

RH enquired how many extra children would be taken in, he considered that Clyst St George was up

to capacity traffic wise, and also the use of the village hall car park was at its capacity. Representing

the village hall, he had campaigned to take the trees down for a long time.

JM had spoken to the Headmaster, the school currently had 99 pupils, and would not exceed 110. He

had also spoken to residents, and there were no complaints.

MAS commented that some of the new pupils could be from the Burrington development.

PB considered it was in the interests of the school to take more pupils. He thought the trees should be

taken down. He has no objection.

MAS asked DB the situation regarding the trees. DB commented that there had been reports on the trees

and everything had been checked in this respect.

KD said she would support. Every new home built is likely to have one child going to school.

AM in favour of extra classroom. The viability of the building and the accessibility for children favoured this.

**Vote unanimous support.**

**17/0199/LBC Ebford Cottage, Lower Lane, Ebford EX3 0QT**

Chimney on west elevation to be removed and made good.

DB reported that the rethatching had now been done.

**Vote: No objections or comments. Approved subject to Conservation Officers views.**

**17/0198/FUL Land North of Ebford Lane, Ebford (two applications – one**

Construction of a single family dwelling and detached garage

DB reported that this was a change of design.

RH no objections.

PB very innovative and no objections.

MAS had seen both neighbours, neither objects – one considers windows still overlooking and concerns regarding drainage.

DB considered it was smaller and would be an improvement.

KD if drainage satisfactory, then no objections.

JM No objection – considers it a very bold design.

**Vote : 1 Objection. Remainder support.**

**15. Councillors’ Reports**

**RH** reported that the Animal Pound had not been completed. JM replied that he had now received

a quote for replacement gate and posts, and this would be on next month’s Agenda for approval.

RH also commented he had not seen the road sweepers in the village. PB said that Burrington’s

sweepers had been out.

**PB** nothing to report.

**KD** nothing to report.

**DB** nothing to report.

**JM** reported that Andy Love had been clearing the ditch in Ebford.

**MAS** reported that she had attended the School Service for the SIAMS award presented by the Arch Deacon.

MAS had spoken to Highways, who had confirmed that the Exmouth Road at Ebford was to have the verges cut back on the 13th March.

MAS also reported that she had spoken to Simon Bates, Project Manager of Green Space. He was

looking at the notable trees in the area and was applying for funding to expand this project to include volunteers etc.

MAS confirmed that the road sweepers would be around every four to six weeks, and we would hopefully be Informed prior to their visit.

**Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 April 2017 following Annual Meeting.**

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

The meeting closed at 9.45pm