**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CLYST ST GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL**

 **held on 8 September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

 **Present : Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

 **Councillors: P. Bragg, A. Marks, G.Bowen, J. MacDonald**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - 2**

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Piper

**2. Approval of Minutes** – Unanimous approval.

**3**. **Declaration of Interest –** none

**4. Co-option of Councillor -** The vote was carried out, with scrutiny, and Isobel Stubbs was

 Formally invited to be Councillor and join the present Councillors at the table. Mrs.

 Stubbs accepted the position and was duly passed the necessary forms to complete.

 She joined the Councillors at the table. Cllr Manser expressed thanks to Mrs Kynaston

 for her application and for attending the meeting.

**5. Open Forum –** **Member of Public 1** enquired about the lack of grass cutting that had

 been carried out recently. Cllr Manser confirmed this matter would be discussed

 further on in the meeting,

 **Member of Public 2** said that six years ago there were proof user forms submitted to

 Devon County Council regarding a footpath from Woodbury Road to Pytte Lane that

 had been in use for over seventy years. The footpath runs alongside pasture and the

 cricket ground. This was put before the relevant committee of the Council and it was

 approved by all but one Councillor who did not understand the countryside. It clearly

 had been in existence for seventy years. All the necessary procedures were followed

 including a formal notice put at the end of the footpath. This notice was removed,

 subsequently replaced and removed again. It was proposed there would be a

 meeting, which included the Inspectorate. A public meeting. Then absolutely nothing

 happened, it appeared to have died a death. It was appreciated that the pandemic

 caused much delay, but it appears to have been swept under the carpet. What can

 be done to progress this please? Cllr Randall-Johnson confirmed she would

 investigate this and let us know when she had done so.

**6.** **Councillors’ Reports and**

**7. Email received regarding proposed Tier Structure Extension (Local plan update)**

 Cllr Howe explained that it was the wish of the Council to keep the countryside alive

and to this end allow a small amount of homes scattered throughout communities. He explained that it was wished that families have the opportunity to grow up and stay where they have lived if they wished to do so. This would only be done with consultation with the Parishes. There was a worrying trend of what Inspectors think is sustainable. Sustainable means there are sufficient post offices, shops etc enough to sustain day to day living locally. Cllr Randall Johnson emphasised that much of East Devon is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Cllr Howe explained that there were a number of appeals outstanding, especially at Farringdon.

**8. Finance Clerk to Report**

 The Clerk reported the financial statements had been circulated. Following the

 receipt of the second Precept payment from EDDC in the sum of £4567.50, and

 payments of the accounts authorised at last month’s meeting the remaining

 balance in hand is £9013.90 and the CIL account balance is £1192.20. As yet, we

 have not been able to pay the sum of £40 to the Information Commission Office

 authorised at last month’s meeting but will do so as soon as I have received the

 paperwork for this. This month, we have received accounts from Devon County

 Council for £109 being our contribution to the Exe Estuary Management, £244.84

 our monthly payment due to Plandscape (Chic Designs), invoice from DALC for

 the Webinar attended by me on Data Protection. I am also expecting the charges

 for the use of the Village Hall shortly and the Clerk’s salary due, plus £95.88 being the

 Microsoft payments for one year (£7.99 month) and printer cartridges in the sum of

 £31.99. Please can I have a vote on the acceptance of the accounts as produced,

 together with a vote on the payment of the accounts as outlined above.

 Cllr MacDonald requested that the payment to Plandscape be withheld due to the

 problem with grass cutting. She considered their work to be substandard and they

 were not meeting their contractual agreement with the Parish Council. A discussion

 ensued, wherein Cllr Marks enquired whether we would receive a refund for the work

 not completed. It was agreed that Cllr Manser would contact Plandscape again in

 order to elicit a dialogue and a plan to remedy the matter.

 **Unanimous Vote on the Accounts and Payment of the Invoices as submitted.**

**9. Planning – none**

**10. Councillors’ Reports**

 **Cllr Marks** reported that there were travellers in the area. Several had attempted to
 get access to various parts of the village, but these attempts were thwarted by himself,

 Cllr Bragg and other locals. He said the travellers had been moved on from

 Exminster, been turned away from Winslade Park, and then got stuck in the ford

 at Pytte. Cllr Marks considered the new alert system we now have in place will be

 beneficial in circumstances such as this.

 **Cllr Bragg** had nothing to report further, as Cllr Marks had covered the situation with

 the travellers. He too, was very interested to hear about the new alert system now in

 place.

 **Cllr Bowen** Reported that the school was now back. He had noticed an electricity box

was on its side, probably left following a crash on the A376 between the George and

 Dragon and Ebford. A large sign was also knocked down.

 Cllr Bowen said he had now set up the new Notification System which was part of the

 Community Resilience for dealing with emergency situations. He had found a

 Government provided service and we now have that account. It does not store data

 and automatically deletes messages after seven days. The Clerk
 would receive notifications and pass these on to the Councillors included in the system.
 It was a simple scheme that should work well in emergency situations. A discussion
 ensued wherein emergency situations were discussed and defined.

 **Cllr MacDonald** reported on the volume of traffic on the A376. There were accidents/

 crashes and felt something must be done urgently. Cllr Manser considered this year

 was exceptional in that there was the staycation to consider and the volume of traffic

 would be excessive in these circumstances. Cllr Randall Johnson said there were

 various considerations under review at present with the Exeter from Exmouth Road.

 There were the problems with the Junction 30 at Sowton which was a mixture of long

 Distance travellers using the services. Cllr Bowen enquired whether there was a system

 in place that monitors accidents and who would record this. Cllr Randall Johnson

 replied Devon County Council. Cllr Bowen thought there was a duty of care involved.

 **Cllr Manser** reported that he had emailed Helen Selby of D.C.C roads. They were

 initially going to resurface the top of Ebford Lane (also the cycle route) and are now

 saying the budget had been reduced, so this would be completed next year, and they

 may now use the dragon patcher. The gullies will be cleaned. He had also suggested a

 new signpost. Cllr Randall Johnson said she would speak to Helen Selby the next day

 and ask what signages could be provided.

 The Meeting closed at 8.45pm

 Date of Next Meeting: 13 October 2021 Village Hall at 7.30pm