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

**held on 13 October 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

**Councillors: P. Bragg, A. Marks, S. Piper, I. Stubbs**

**Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

**Members of Public - none**

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Randall-Johnson, Cllr Bowen, Cllr MacDonald

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

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

**4. Open Forum – None**

**5. Councillor’s Report**

**Cllr Howe** attended because he wished to report on the Strategic Local Plan. He wished the Parish Council to understand that Clyst St George may well be considered sustainable in the future. There could possibly be development allowed as it is not in the ‘Green Wedge’. It has been noted that Darts own land behind the George and Dragon Inn which they consider could be developed as, in their opinion, Clyst St George was sustainable. He urged Councillors to study the website to understand the situation, and if possible, apply to watch the webinar on this matter on the 11th November. He said that our Neighbourhood Plan was relatively new and we should consider it again to be prepared for the change. There was still a great demand for housing due to many reasons, family break up etc. Cllr Manser agreed and urged Councillors to read the information that had been sent to them, look at our Neighbourhood Plan which was on our website and watch the Webinar if at all possible.

**6. Finance Clerk to Report**

The Clerk reported the financial statements had been circulated. Following payment of the accounts approved at last month’s meeting, the balance in hand is £8184.03, and £1192.21 in the CIL account. This month, we have the monthly Plandscape account for £244.84, plus the charges for two dog bins emptied by East Devon District Council in the sum of £226.80, and, of course, the Clerk’s salary. The Clerk called for a vote on the acceptance of the accounts, together with a vote for the payment of the three accounts as specified.

**Unanimous Vote on Acceptance of the circulated Accounts and payment of the**

**Accounts as specified.**

**7. Grass Cutting – Report by Cllr Manser**

Cllr Manser reported that he had met with Andy Trower of Plandscape to discuss the poor cutting at The Triangle at Ebford lights, and general lack of attention to the grass cutting recently. Andy said that he would give this matter his immediate attention. The grass had been cut yesterday, 12th October, and it appeared good now. It is hoped that this will continue. Cllr Bragg thanked Cllr Manser for his efforts in this matter. Cllr Manser enquired whether the Parish Council were happy now for this contract to continue to completion. Cllr Marks commented he was happy for Plandscape to continue. Cllr Manser added that he had heard from a firm in Exeter who were interested in taking on the grass cutting and thought it prudent to get a quote from them in due course. Cllr Stubbs queried whether the firm that did the work at Seaward Park could give a quote. Cllr Manser asked for details and will contact them too for a quote.

**8. East Devon Local Plan Update**

Cllr Manser reported that Bishops Clyst were already reviewing their Neighbourhood Plan and considered it may be beneficial for us to consider this too. He had not, as yet, consulted anyone on this. Cllr Piper asked how our Neighbourhood Plan fitted in following Cllr Howe’s discussion earlier in the meeting. Cllr Manser replied that a Neighbourhood Plan cannot contradict the hierarchy. In Clyst St George’s Neighbourhood Plan we had to base the policy on the idea of levels of sustainability. This means that as Ebford has no shop, no village hall and therefore only a low level of development there. Clyst St George is a little different, with Hall, School, Church and a pub therefore more sustainable. Cllr Manser suggested that each and everyone tuned in to the Webinar on the 11th November to ascertain more information on this matter.

**9. SMS Alert System – Guidance for Use**

Cllr Manser circulated a list of priorities to the Councillors for their comments. A discussion ensued. Cllr Stubbs had prepared a grid on what she considered to be priorities. Cllr Manser requested that she forwarded this to all Councillors, and the matter would be on next month’s Agenda for discussion and decision. He and Cllr Marks and Bragg thanked Cllr Stubbs for the work she had put into this.

**10. Planning**

**21/2467/FUL Higher Thatch, Ebford Lane, Ebford, EX3 0QX**

Cllr Manser reported that this application was for conversion of roof space to habitable use to include two front dormers and two rear roof lights. He explained this was looking towards Haldon Hills and would not interfere with any other property. There had been a previous application about three months ago for a new house to built at the back of this property, but this had been withdrawn. Cllr Bragg could not see any objections to this and was happy to support it. Cllr Manser confirmed the Council had not received any objections on this application. Cllr Stubbs agreed it should be supported, as did Cllrs Marks and Piper.

**Unanimous Vote to Support.**

**11. Councillors’ Comments**

**Cllr Marks** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Bragg** reported that he would check on the tree situation prior to the next meeting. Cllr Manser agreed this was good, and it would be an Agenda item next month, and he would arrange to visit Perrie Vale nurseries in order to purchase stakes and more trees.

**Cllr Stubbs** reported that the area behind the Village Hall had been cut back and was looking much better. The gulley was being cleared and grass being removed, and a sign would be erected warning of the gulley for health and safety purposes. She said that the barrier had been extended at Seaward Park in order to safeguard the area against intrusion by travellers.

She considered that the street lighting on the road toward Seaward Park to be very poor. Cllr Manser asked whether it should be considered that another streetlight should be supplied. Cllr Marks considered this could be reasonable as the estate was now completed. Cllr Manser confirmed he would contact Devon County Council in the first instance and report back.

Cllr Stubbs also enquired whether any consideration had been given to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Manser thought it was a little early to make decisions on this at present, but it would be borne in mind early next year.

**Cllr Piper** reported that there were continuing problems with children on the wall and in the village green. The wall was damaged. Cllr Bragg enquired where the damage was, as he would ensure it was repaired. Cllr Marks agreed and said he would assist with the cutting the overgrowth back to enable them to use the path instead of the wall. Cllr Manser said that as the green belongs to Cllr Bragg, it was a possibility that we will agree to contribute to the repairs being completed.

Cllr Piper also mentioned the crossing of Woodbury Road and was concerned that it would not be too long before there was a serious accident there. He wanted to know if there was anything the Parish Council could do to avoid this happening. Cllr Manser said the Parish Council had made numerous enquiries of this, and to date, there was nothing that could be done, there were not enough incidents to persuade Highways or Devon County Council to spend the large funding that would be necessary.

Cllr Piper also mentioned that the steep farm track off of the A376 dual carriageway needed signage to warn the public it was not safe to use in order to make a U turn on the dual carriageway. He had witnessed an incident there recently which could easily have caused a serious road traffic accident.

The Meeting closed at 9pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 10th November 2021 Village Hall at 7.30pm