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

 **held on 8 December 2021 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

 **Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

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

 **I. Stubbs**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - Four**

**1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Randall-Johnson.**

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

**3**. **Declaration of Interest –** None

**4 Open Forum – Member of the Public (1)** had intended to comment about the street

 lighting but as it was an Agenda item, he said he had conveyed his thoughts to the Parish

 Council and to residents of Seaward’s Park, which are the thoughts of the village. Cllr

 Stubbs replied that she had been passed a petition saying that there was a feeling of

 disproportionate lighting in Seward’s Park, more at the top than at the bottom, and this,

 in her view, needed rectifying. Member of the Public replied saying that when the

 development was completed there was a meeting with East Devon District Council and

 Highways and the Management took a vote to say they did not want any more lighting.

 Cllr Manser enquired when this took place. The response was in 2017, on completion of

 the development. Cllr Manser considered this matter should be reassessed. Cllr Stubbs

 agreed in view of the fact that the lower end was dark, and could be dangerous especially

 for any disabled residents living there. Member of Public (2) commented he lived in Clyst

 Road and was concerned about the indications of the Local Plan. Cllr Manser said

 unfortunately Cllr Howe was not here, but would try to update the Council later in the
 meeting.

**5. Councillor’s Report** The Clerk read an email received from Cllr Randall Johnson

 indicating she had not much to report, other than matters are moving forward regarding

 the footpath, and agreement with landowners was nearing completion. She expressed

 her disappointment at little or no development planned for the eastern half of East

 Devon.

**6. Emails Clerk to Report:**

Several emails from Devon County Council re the rise in the Covid19 virus and the introduction of the variant Omicron.

* Consultation from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, draft community risk management.
* Email from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service re Virtual Events.
* Email from EDDC Planning Officer with December update on Local Plan
* Email re temporary traffic notice for Ebford Lane 1.3.2022 – 4.3.2022
* Email from Bob Capon re proposed telecommunication installations.
* Email re yellow warning of wind.
* Email from Colin Trudgeon re anti-social behaviour and the reporting of this.
* Invitation for Devon Local Councillor Climate Emergency Support Network.
* Email from the Neighbourhood Highway Officer
* Email from Exe Estuary enquiring whether we would be prepared to continue to subscribe to the annual fee, this year will be £114.

All these emails have been circulated.

**7. Finance Clerk to Report including PRECEPT discussion**

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 £6785.23, and £1192.23. in the CIL account. This month, we have the monthly Plandscape account for £244.84, plus the hire of the Village Hall charges received for the month of September, October and November totalling £54, together with the Clerk’s salary.

The Clerk also confirmed she had received confirmation of the payment to Exe Estuary would be the sum of £114, and enquired whether this payment was to be paid, as in previous years. It was confirmed all were in agreement with this.

The Clerk called for a vote on the acceptance of the accounts, together with a vote for the payment of the accounts as specified.

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

**Accounts as specified.**

The Clerk confirmed she would be completing the VAT return at the end of the month, and was envisaging a repayment would be due in the region of £362.

The Clerk also confirmed she had completed the annual form confirming the CIL moneys were still in hand and had not been used for any reason. The form was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk and will be sent off now.

 **Cllr Manser** then turned to the draft Precept figures he had previously circulated. A

discussion ensued, wherein Councillor Manser confirmed that due to some savings in

 the year he considered the claim should be kept to the minimum, and slightly lower

 than last year and welcomed comments. Cllr Marks said he was considering

 increasing the Grant received from Devon County Council for the footpaths from
 £250 to £300. Grass Cutting was to be discussed further in the Agenda. Cllr Marks

 commented that the Clerk had not had an increased in salary for a few years. After

 discussion, the Clerk was requested to investigate salaries recommended by DALC.

 This matter to be an Agenda item next month prior to submission by the end of

 January 2022.

**8. Street Lighting -**

Cllr Manser thought there should be a re-assessment of the lighting at Seaward Park. He advised that he had emailed Devon County Council on this matter, and understood there was no funding for this, and it was possible that East Devon District Council may assist. Cllr Stubbs commented that it was not safe for people to walk around after dark, and there were disabled residents there. Cllr Manser said he will make enquiries into this, and it will be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

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**9. East Devon Local Plan update on the webinar 11 November**

Cllr Manser said he had attended the webinar, together with two others. He

 considered it interesting and it was East Devon District Council’s opportunity to

 assess the mood. The changing system from built up area boundaries to outside

 policy, what is sustainable and there the housing will be. Since the webinar, the

 Minutes had been produced indicating site assessments with areas put forward for

 appraisal. Dark green indicated as excellent sites and brown indicated as

 undeliverable. It appeared that Clyst Road, but nothing South of Grindle Brook was
 proposed.

**Cllr Howe joined the Meeting.** He confirmed that this matter was an Agenda item for their

meeting next week. He was informed of the concerns of the member of the public of

 the possible Clyst Road further development. The concern was that any new

 development would carry on from the present development., that there was no road

 widening shown and no footpaths either and there would be further traffic increase.

 Cllr Howe said he understood their concerns. Cllr Manser agreed with this. After

 discussion, Cllr Howe said the matter has to be agreed in principle, and this would

 enable it to go to consultation. Cllr Howe commented he did not believe in building

 new towns every twenty years. Cllr Manser said we will have to wait for the

 consultation, but was hopeful that local builders would get the opportunity to

 develop the sites rather than the major building companies.

**10. SMS Alert System - guidance for use, discussion and agreement**

Cllr Manser enquired how many had signed up. The Clerk confirmed she had

 received only two to date. Cllr Bowen said that he would enquire of the Ebford

 Residents Group who would like to sign up. This matter would be on the next

 Agenda.

**11. Tree Planting/Replacement**

Cllr Manser confirmed that he had put in an order with Perrie totalling £120.33,

 which was the sum voted on at last month’s meeting, but still needed to buy the

 stakes, as they had none in stock. Cllr Bowen suggested Plants Galore had some

 in stock. Cllr Manser called for a vote to purchase the stakes.

 **Unanimous Vote to purchase the stakes necessary.**

**12. Consideration of the Grass Cutting Quotes.**

 Cllr Manser confirmed he had received two quotes, one for £8912, and the second

 for £2225. Both had given the same specification. He was minded to ignore the first

 quote. Countrywide had already quoted £3120, which was nearly one thousand

 pounds more than the £2225 from LW Landscapes. A discussion ensued, and it was

 agreed that Cllr Manser will contact LW Landscape and ask them what they consider

 the total to be if more work was put on the specification. If their updated quote was

 still below Countrywide, then it could be considered. He took the suggestion that

 after the work was completed then it be inspected prior to payment being made and

 considered this was a possibility. This would be on the next Agenda when a final

 decision would be made.

**13. Councillors Reports**

 **Cllr Stubbs** reported that she had contacted the school regarding the parking

Problems. The headmaster said he would speak to parents about this. Cllr

 Bowen said that he had also spoken to the headmaster regarding proposed signs to

 be placed outside the school and he was very interested in this. He had also given

 him the Police Contact for Vision South West and it was a work in process at the

 moment. Cllr Manser confirmed that he was sure the Parish Council would be

 prepared to contribute towards any signs. This would be on the Agenda next month

 for further update.

 **Cllr Stubbs** also confirmed that the residents of Seawards Park would be prepared to

assist with any Platinum celebrations next year.

 **Cllr Marks** had nothing to report.

 **Cllr Bragg** commented on the gullies being full of leaves, which was seasonal. He

 enquired whether we had to pay for the removal of these. Cllr Manser confirmed

 that if this was annual, then yes we did. If there was standing water for in excess of

 twenty-four hours, then it could be reported on the Highways website. The sweeper

 used to clear the areas regularly, but this was not now happening due to the virus.

 Cllr Bowen reported he had emailed Vision South West regarding the school. He

 enquired about the cleaning of the bus shelters. The Clerk confirmed she had

 followed this up.

 **Cllrs Piper and** **MacDonald had nothing to report**

 **Cllr Manser** reported that he had attended the Police Liaison Committee Local

 Group, which was interesting – but mostly about Exmouth and the drug problems

 there and much discussion on the anti-social behaviour there too. He said that if

 anyone considered they had any intelligence on this, then they should let the Police

 know.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 12 January 2022 at 7.30pm