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

**held on 12 January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

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

**I. Stubbs**

**Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

**Members of Public - Two**

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

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

**3**. **Declaration of Interest –** Cllr MacDonald confirmed she lives on A376

Cllr Stubbs confirmed she lived on Seaward Park

**4 Open Forum – Member of the Public (1)** expressed concerns over lighting at Seaward

Park. Also requested details of members as he considered decisions could overlap of the

Strategic Planning and the Planning Committee. Cllr Howe confirmed this did not occur,

the Strategic Committee deals with policies whereas the Planning Committee deal with

planning applications. A discussion ensued on the percentage of total acreage would

require planning consent to meet the target of homes by 2040. Cllr Howe considered it

could be 930 new homes per year, and if the proposed sites put forward it is estimated

that there could be figure of some 900 homes short. Back garden sites are not counted

in these estimates. The sites put forward on the maps are not the chosen sites at present,

just the sites that have been put forward by the owners. A discussion ensued on the

number of affordable homes that would be included in these figures. For an example

Cllr Howe said that Cranbrook was set at 45% affordable homes, but that figure varied

between town and country planning, with more affordable in the towns than county.

Member of Public (1) then enquired whether all the land at Clyst St George and Ebford

would constitute a new town as has been mooted. Cllr Howe confirmed he did not

consider this was the case, the land favoured is between Farringdon and Aylesbeare. The

member of public then commented that he was staggered that the whole of Ebford and

Clyst St George could be developed, that could cause incredible pressure on the traffic

situation. Cllr Howe said that the matter had a long way to go before any decisions were

made on this.

**5. Councillor’s Report -** The Clerk had circulated report from Cllr Randall-Johnson.

**Cllr Howe** reported that the Local Plan Policy is still a matter in hand, and there were no

Conclusions as yet and in particular the green wedges – that comes with a caveat they

will have to look at the existing ones as Communities were in danger of being swamped.

Green spaces were needed between communities. Also, transport was still a critical

matter and site assessments to be made. There were two meetings planned for the end

of the month, and he considered it would be prudent for the public to watch these

meetings online to gain what information they could. Cllr Manser confirmed he had

listened in to the meeting yesterday and found it very helpful. The problem of nitrate in

the rivers was raised and the litigation strategy, Cllr Howe confirmed this was monitored,

and of course, the problem with the River Clyst and the River Exe. Cllr Manser reported

that the Chairman of Bishops Clyst was considering a meeting on the new town near

Farringdon and how it will affect the local community.

**6. Emails Clerk to Report:**

Email received from Director of Public Health with additional COVID19 measures

of Omicron variant.

Email from Henry Lennox, EDDC, review on procedure dealing with Code of Conduct

complaints.

Email from NHS Devon advising getting the Booster jab sooner rather than later

Email from Highways re temporary traffic notice Ebford Lane 22 – 25 February 2022

Email re Neighbourhood Planning and Emerging Local Plan – End of Year update.

Email from Colin Trudgeon with Public Survey on 2022/23 Police Budget

Email from David Whelan with RSN Rural Funding Digest

Email from Angela King with Neighbourhood Planning and Emerging Local Plan Update

The Clerk confirmed all these emails have been circulated.

**7. Finance Clerk to Report**

The Clerk confirmed the accounts had been circulated.

The balance in hand of £6174.23 in our current account and £1192.24 in the CIL

account. One more account that has been voted on to the paid, Perrie Hale Nursery

for £118.99, and this will be done shortly. The payments due are £244.84, for Chic

Flower Designs, plus the Clerk’s salary.

The Clerk reported that the VAT return for the year 2021 in full, is now prepared for

Submission, and the figure claimed is £426.09, which corresponds with the

spreadsheet accompanying the accounts circulated. The Clerk requested a vote

to confirm submission of the VAT claim, together with a vote on the accounts as

circulated.

**Unanimous Vote on Acceptance of the circulated Accounts, Payment of the accounts as detailed and to submit VAT form to HMRC.**

**8. Precept**

Cllr Manser had circulated the updated draft Precept for consideration. He confirmed the increase in the Clerk’s salary to bring her in line with present rates.

He also confirmed the grass cutting quote from Countrywide and said that he had had no response from the other firm that he had requested a quote from, despite calling and emailing them. Cllr Manser considered that as we would be in receipt of the VAT refund, he would like to keep the Precept claim at the same figure as last year, i.e. £9135, which would assist East Devon District Council with their finances. He felt the extra costs could be absorbed by the Parish Council.

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| ITEM | **2021/22** | **22/23** | Expeniture |
| Clerks salary | £3,266.00 | £4,030.00 | 5 hours per week at £15.50 p/h x 52 weeks + 40 month |
| Clerks expenses | £480.00 | £480.00 | £40 per month x 12 |
| Training | £50.00 | £100.00 | Councillors |
| Petty Cash | £0.00 | £0.00 | miscellaneous expenses |
| Courses DAPC etc | £185.00 | £186.00 | Membership (DALC) |
| Thomas Westcott | £300.00 | £200.00 | Payroll fees |
| Village maintenance | £310.00 | £300.00 | Village Maintenance including bin emptying +Bus shelter cleaning |
| Footpaths |  |  | Grant from DCC |
| Insurance | £500.00 | £458.60 |  |
| Auditor (external) | £280.00 | £280.00 | slight increase possible |
| Grass Cutting | £2,900.00 | £3,120.00 | to include spraying and strimming of pavements |
| Hall Hire | £264.00 | £288.00 |  |
| Clerks new office equipment |  |  | no further equipment necessary |
| Misc/ Contingency fund |  | -£307.60 | VAT rebate |
| Grants | £600.00 |  | We can use money in bank for any grants. |
|  | **£9,135.00** | **£9,135.00** |  |
| **TOTALS FOR PRECEPT ONLY** |  |  |  |
|  |  | **£2,780** | **Reserve** |
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**Unanimous Vote to the raise in the Clerk’s salary and to accept the Precept Claim of £9135.**

**9. Street Lighting – Update on Seaward Park Lighting**

Cllr Manser said he and three Councillors had met at Ellacombe Meadows where

there was no lighting at all. He emailed Cllr Randall-Johnson. He reported it was

interesting there are no plans to adopt the whole development. He confirmed that

the Parish Council would support the residents if they request Burrington’s to

increase the lighting. Cllr Stubbs confirmed a letter had been drafted to send to

Burrington’s. Cllr Manser thought that solar panel lighting would be a good idea, as

that would be self-contained.

**Unanimous support to pass motion of support for additional lighting in Ellacombe   
 Meadows.  
 N.B**. Update 13th Jan the Seawards Park development is due to be adopted.

**10. SMS Alert System**

The Clerk confirmed she had now received four more wishing to joint this system.

This matter to be on next month’s Agenda.

**11. Grass Cutting Quotes**

Cllr Manser requested a vote on accepting the Countrywide Quote.

**Unanimous Vote to accept Countrywide quote.**

**12. Parking at School**

This to be on next month’s Agenda.

**13. Councillors Reports**

**Cllr Marks** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Bragg** said he was hopeful that the development of the children’s play area at

the back of the Village Hall could take place soon. He was hopeful that the legal

matters concerning this transaction could take place shortly. He said it would be

helpful to consider surfaces that would be suitable for the venture, and thought the

school could possible assist with advices.

**Cllr** **MacDonald** reported that East Devon District Council may be offering grants in

collaboration with the Queens Platinum, and we need to explore this. The Queen’s

Platinum will be on the Agenda next month.

**Cllrs Stubbs and Manser and had nothing to report**

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 9 February 2022 at 7.30pm**