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

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**held on 9 November 2022 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser
 Councillors: Cllrs P. Bragg, A. Marks, S.Piper, I.Stubbs and E. Ward**

 **County Councillor: Cllr Randall-Johnson**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - Two**

**1. Apologies for Absence**: Cllr M. Howe, Cllr H. Gent, Cllr Bowen

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

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

**4. Open Forum – none**

**5. County Councillor’s Report –** Cllr Randall Johnson had already circulated her Report. She wished to explain the meaning of the term ‘Social Care’. She said that the term means that people be looked after to the extent to which they were used to living, and not be institutionalised for whatever reason, whether it be because of mental health issues or other health reasons. If people were simply put into a home where their freedom was taken away from them, they became frail and thus suffered. She emphasised that nearly 50% of budgets at present goes into social care, and people are living longer, some into their 100s, many in their 90s and even more in their 80s, and it was this that was using up the funding available. Trying to cater financially is proving very difficult, £313million of our money goes into social care, with trying to keep people in their homes. More carers are desperately required. A discussion ensued on this, and it was obvious that Cllr Randall-Johnson’s comments had caused concern.

Cllr Manser reported to Cllr Randall-Johnson that he had received a complaint regarding the parking for the rugby match last Saturday along Clyst Road. Cars were parked along all the verges and anywhere they could. He said that he had put this complaint online on the Police website. Cllr Randall-Johnson was pleased this has been recorded and would be dealing with it herself too.

Cllr Manser also commented on the Clyst Valley Trail consultation and said most were in support of this. Cllr Stubbs considered there was a problem with access at Clyst St George. Cllr Randall-Johnson thought that comments should be made at the highest possible level and urged this be done. Cllr Piper said that the extent of the traffic on the A376 was so high, it was impossible to believe anything should be considered that would create more traffic on that road.

**6. Emails Received –** The Clerk reported

* Email from EDDC re Emerging New East Devon Local Plan Webinar – presentation slides.
* Email from EDDC re Avian Influenza Outbreak.
* Email from Exe Estuary re Winter Waders Webinar – beginners introduction to our special visiting birds.
* Email from member of the public re road concern at Woodbury Road, adjacent to Clyst St George.
* Email from Devon County Council re the bleak financial situation.
* Email from DCC with support for households using prepayment meters, free holiday activities with hot meals available for Christmas holidays.
* Email from member of the public re concern at the farm fields beside Redlands Garage being used for parking and car sales and ground works going on there. This was refused for planning some years ago, has planning permission been obtained for this? The previous owners were not allowed to show sales cars on the tarmac standing, drive or the grass there. Cannot find reference to this on the EDDC planning website.
* Email from David Whelan re three flood alerts for the Rivers Clyst, Culm and Axe.
* Another email from David Whelan re the Cold Weather Plan.
* Email from EDDC re the East Devon Local Plan – have your say – the consultation is now live.
* Email from EDDC with Rural Bulletin.
* Email from Simon Bates with details of the link to Have your Say on EDDC Consultation.
* Email from member of the public about concerns around protecting the character and

Heritage of our Parish, as well as ensuring local infrastructure are there to support any development.

**7. Land at Clyst St George – Mail received from McMurdo Land Planning**

Cllr Manser reported that all had received the email from McMurdo Planning and asked what should be done about this. Should there be a policy on this happening in the future, as he was sure it would be happening again? What do we want to do? A discussion ensued. It was considered that probably the best way forward would be to hold a Public Consultation. Cllr Randall-Johnson considered this was an excellent way forward – encourage the public to attend a meeting and get a general feel of their views.

**Unanimous Vote to encourage developers to hold a Public Meeting.**

**8. Finance –** The Clerk confirmed the accounts had been circulated. The balance in hand is £6168.65, and £1192.45 in our CIL account. This month accounts for Countrywide in the sum of £936, plus there will be a Village Hall account in the sum of £18, and the Clerk’s salary.

**Unanimous Vote on Acceptance of the Accounts and Unanimous Vote on the payments to be paid as described.**

**9. Precept – Preparation for Application of Next Year’s Precept**

Cllr Manser reported that he had prepared a spreadsheet and would circulate it shortly. He had taken the opportunity to speak to Countrywide to enquire if they had plans to raise their charges next year and to what extent. Countrywide informed him that their fuel costs were up 75% (due to red diesel only now sold for agricultural use) and this would affect their costing. They will be in touch in due course with more specific figures. Cllr Manser confirmed he was inclined to keep the figure as last year’s at £9135. He said that the sum that would be repayable by HM Customs for VAT would be about £800, which would be of a great help to the situation. The question of the maintenance of the Church clock was discussed, and it was thought that this could be provided by way of a Grant by the Parish Council. The Precept would be an Agenda item again next month.

**10. Transfer of Land –** The Clerk confirmed that our Solicitors had been in touch with Cllr Bragg’s Solicitors and were expecting to hear back from them with documentation to allow the preparation of the Contract to be completed ready for approval and signature.

A discussion ensued as to the use of the land, and the need for a consultation on this. It was agreed a Public Consultation would take place on the use of this land. The Clerk will contact East Devon District Council with a view to them helping with this.

**11. Planning**

**22/2152/PVJ Armada House, Odhams Wharf, Ebford EX3 0PB**

Cllr Manser reported that this application was for solar panels and was for Observation only.

**Unanimous Vote no objection**

**22/2384/OUT - Changes, Old Ebford Lane, Ebford EX3 0QP**

Cllr Manser reported that this application for residential development was opposite Ebford Manor and it was saying it was not contrary to the Local Plan, with the lack of a 5 year supply of land for building. He emphasised it was for Outline Planning only. After discussion, it was concluded that:

**Unanimous Vote – no comment but wished to draw attention to Clyst St George Design Statement.**

**12. Councillors’ Reports**

**Cllr Marks** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Bragg** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Piper** wished to know whether and how to approach speeding drivers in the village if they are known to him. It was suggested by Cllr Manser that they be confronted and be informed they were driving too fast or leave a polite note on the windscreen.

**Cllr Stubbs** was also concerned about a car speeding through the village. She thought speed bumps would be excellent in the circumstances, or a sign indicating drivers to slow down. After discussion, it was suggested that maybe logging the incident a couple of times, and then threaten to report to the Police giving the registration number of the car involved.
Cllr Stubbs also commented on the parking at the school. Cllr Manser said the new Headmaster had just started, and in due course this could be raised with her.

**Cllr Ward** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Manser** reported that he had looked at East Devon District Council website and an exhibition on the Draft Local Plan is to be held at Clyst St Mary Village Hall on the 2nd December, and thought perhaps Councillors may wish to attend. He said Cllr Howe could be in attendance to explain the Plan.
Cllr Piper commented that it would be helpful if there was a way that ownership of land owned locally could be known. Cllr Bragg confirmed he would assist with this.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.00pm

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 14 December 2022**