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

# PARISH COUNCIL held on 8 February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

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

 **District Councillor: Cllr M. Howe**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - none**

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Cllr S. Randall-Johnson, Cllrs Bowen and Ward
2. **Approval of Minutes** – Unanimous approval.
3. **Items of Interest –** None.
4. **Open Forum - none**
5. **District Councillor’s Report –** Cllr Howe said he had no new news to report. There was a Strategic Planning Meeting planned for next Tuesday. There had been little progress and the matter was ongoing. Cllr Manser asked if Cllr Howe would be reporting back and he said he would be. He said that on Tuesday it would be decided on what to write to the Government on the housing situation. At present there is a shortage of some 946 houses. A short discussion ensued on the housing and the problem on the shortage of land and how it is controlled by the developers.
6. **Emails received**: The Clerk reported the following emails had been circulated:
* Query over Redlands Service Station and the very strong lighting used which appears to be directed not at the cars for sale but further afield, causing interruption in the sleep of an elderly resident at Old Winslade. Also comment made regarding the number of cars for sale and the apparent expansion of the sales site onto agricultural land. The planning consent given on 17 July 2019 was for 10 – 15 cars parked waiting for MOT/Servicing only, and for the portacabin to be replaced by a wood shed as required for a waiting room for MOTs etc. The portacabin is solely for car sales only and only a chair is provided in the workshop for customers with MOTs being undertaken. Condition 5 of the approval clearly defines the situation regarding this.
* Emails from Exe Estuary with their Newsletter and the Winter Forum
* Email from Michael Carter of Sports & Play offering help to Councillors in delivering new play areas.
* Rural Bulletin from EDDC

**7. Finance –**

The Clerk confirmed she had forwarded the spreadsheets together with the supporting bank statements. The balance in hand in our Treasurer’s account is £5085.21, and the CIL account is £1193.36, which will increase with the February interest due this week. The Clerk reported that the VAT claim had been paid in the sum of £1034.05. The VAT claimed is for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022. East Devon District Council had also agreed to pay the sum of £250 in respect of our claim for the footpaths for the previous year. Cllr Marks had spoken to the department dealing with this at East Devon District Council and it was confirmed that the payment had been missed. The payment for the current year in the sum of £300 was also agreed and would be paid shortly.

The Clerk confirmed the following accounts were outstanding:

Devon County Council for Exe Estuary Management 2022/23 at £114.

123 Registration for renewal of our domain in the sum of £14.39 plus VAT. Plus the Clerk’s salary.

**Unanimous Vote on the acceptance of the accounts as submitted and payment of the accounts.**

**8. Repairs to the Village Clock**

Cllr Bragg explained the clock would require professional attention at the changing of the hours plus lubricating at the same time. A short discussion ensued on this. Cllr Marks proposed this expenditure be incurred.

**Unanimous Vote to carry out the work on the Village Clock.**

**9. Commemorative Mugs for the Coronation of Kind Charles**

A discussion on the distribution of Coronation Mugs to the school children at Lady Seawards School, and Little Dragons and the children of the village. It was agreed that this should take place, and the Clerk was requested to order 108 mugs at the cost of £873.60 including VAT.

**10. Discussion on the Possible Grant to Clyst Valley News**

Cllr Manser reported that Clyst Valley News were on the verge of discontinuing the distribution of the paper copy. The firm that sponsored the back page of the CVN had pulled out. He was interested to ascertain whether Bishops Clyst would be prepared to join forces with our Parish to assist with the financing of this, and also wanted to know if we were prepared to support this. A discussion ensued wherein the annual cost was said to be £1300. Cllr Howe confirmed that this would be discussed by Bishops Clyst and also Farringdon could be involved too. It was agreed that in principle all were in favour and Cllr Manser will collate more details and the matter would be an Agenda item next month.

**11. Transfer of Land**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Bragg’s Solicitors had prepared documentation and it was being considered by the Parish Council Solicitors. Hopefully the matter will move forward and will be on the Agenda next month for a further update.

**12. Planning – For Information only :**

 **23/1092/PVJ Darts Farm Shopping Village, Clyst St George.**

 No comments made.

**13. Councillors’ Reports**

**Cllr Piper** reported that he would like to write to the school Headmaster concerning some of the pupils, at the end of school time, taking bricks off the wall around the Village Green and also moving earth there too. He was most unhappy with the situation and disturbed that parents were in the vicinity and allowing their children to do this without rebuke. There was much concern over this, as it is criminal damage and the parents could be held responsible for the damage done. The lack of respect for the wall as this is a historic area is concerning. It was agreed that an email be sent to the Headmaster in the hope that the parents concerned control their offspring a little better. Cllr Piper also spoke of the speed limit in the area and would like more restrictions to be made.

**Cllr Stubbs** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Marks** said he had spoken to Ros at Devon County Council regarding the footpaths grant and was pleased at the outcome of his conversation with her. He said that if we had a specific plan for more work to be carried out, there could be funding for that as well.

**Cllr Bragg** reported that the wall had fallen down in the Nature Garden, but that wall belongs to the house there. The owners are going to rebuild it, but at 6ft high and not 10ft as previously, using the same bricks. A builder had been employed to carried out the work which would be undertaken in April when the weather was dryer and warmer.

**Cllr Manser** confirmed that he had attempted the NPPF Survey. Cllr Piper enquired whether it was still open, but Cllr Manser was not sure of this. Cllr Manser also confirmed he had sent the Parish Council comments on the Local Plan to Planning West.

**The Meeting ended at 8.45pm**

**Date of Next Meeting: 8 March 2023.**