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

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**held on 2nd August 2023 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

 **Councillors: P. Bragg, A. Marks, I. Stubbs, E. Ward**

 **District Councillor: Cllr M. Howe**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - 3**

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Cllr Randall-Johnson, Cllrs Bowen and Piper
2. **Approval of Minutes** – Unanimous approval.
3. **Declaration of Interest –** Cllr Braggs re Item 8 of Agenda
4. **Open Forum –** Member of Public said she was attending the meeting because of Planning Application 23/1399/FUL. Cllr Manser commented that there had been twelve comments lodged in respect of this application, eleven against and one in favour.

Member of Public also commented on the state of the hedge on the footpath at the back of Rosario, and asked if anything could be done about this. It was dangerous attempting to walk along the footpath because the hedge was so overgrown the public were forced to walk in the road. The Clerk said she had emailed the owners of Rosario, who informed her that they no longer lived there but would inform the new owners of the situation. The Clerk confirmed she would deliver a copy of the email to Rosario and hopefully the matter would be resolved quickly.

Member of Public also commented on the graffiti around areas such as the bus shelter. Cllr Manser confirmed that this had been reported to EDDC, and the bus shelter had been cleaned as best as possible. Cllr Howe commented that Royal Mail were responsible for any graffiti on the post box, and similarly, the Gas Board were responsible for damage to their property.

1. **District Councillor’s Report –** Cllr Howe reported that he had been in meetings during the past five weeks, dealing with a long agenda. The planning meeting for August had been cancelled. The Council were back working on the Local Plan, and presently they are waiting to hear whether the Government targets are changed. Cllr Manser thanked Cllr Howe for his report.
2. **Emails received –** **Clerk to Report**
* Email from Michael Carter of Sports & Play Consulting Company re supporting Councils who need new playground or sports facilities.
* Email From Exe Estuary re Committee Meeting
* Email from Lady Seawards CE School re School Consultation
* Email re temporary traffic notice on A376 at Clyst St George
* Email re Devon’s Best Young Landscape Artist Competition.
* Emails re The Rural Bulletin.
* Email re Devon Climate Emergency
* 2 Emails from Colin Trudgeon re Motor Cycle behaviour change and the Victim Care Website
* Email from Highways re temporary Traffic Notice on closure on Oil Mill Lane on the 15th December.
* Email with the Exe Press Newsletter.

 The Clerk confirmed these emails had been distributed.

1. **Finance Clerk’s Report**

Following payment of the accounts authorised last month, the sum of £4668.45 in hand. This balance includes the sum of £50 deposited for the payment of twelve mugs. This month’s outgoings, the Village Hall fees of £36, Countrywide £1044.00, Clean and Clear £300, plus the Clerk’s salary for the months of July and August.

The Clerk requested a vote on the acceptance of the accounts as submitted, together with your vote for the payment of the accounts detailed above.

**Unanimous Vote on the Accounts as distributed.**

1. The Clerk reported that notification was received from our insurance brokers, Norrish Fisher that they are no longer undertaking Parish Council insurance, and therefore she had approached the Gallagher Group in Exeter. They are a renowned group of brokers who have supplied a quote on the basis of the previous insurance. The sum is £618.89. This amount would be payable now and the new policy would be issued immediately. The Clerk requested a vote on the acceptance of the insurance proposal from Gallagher together with a vote on making payment for the first year’s cover.

 **Unanimous Vote on acceptance of proposal and payment of cover for first** year

1. The Clerk reported that notification had been received from our external

auditors, who, although we are exempt from providing full accounts annually, they have informed me that they would like the form of exemption completed and returned to them. This form has been circulated with the finance reports. It is basic details of the income and expenses which have to be voted on and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. The Clerk requested a vote of approval of this Form of Exemption in order to comply.

 **Unanimous Vote – the Chairman and Clerk signed and dated the SBA 2 Form 2**

 **8. Transfer of Land, including the draft financial statement – Update from Clerk**

 The Clerk reported she had responded to Cartridges indicating that two Councillors were

 prepared to sign the Transfer document on behalf of the Parish Council – Cllr Manser

 and Cllr Marks. Cartridges were in the process of engrossing the Transfer and it should

 be ready for signature shortly. A bill of costs has been requested. The Clerk confirmed

 that the CIL Department at EDDC had been written to requesting the sum held and

 updating them on the situation. Cllr Manser called for a vote that the Parish Council

 wished to use all of the S106 funds for this project.

 **Unanimous Vote to use the total sum of S106 funds for this project.**

**9. Telephone Box - update**

 Neither Cllr Marks nor the Clerk had had a reply to their requests for information from BT. It was agreed that both would attempt further to make contact with them.

**10.Response to the School Consultation –**

The school are proposing association with Little Dragons, which may relieve the situation. They are now on summer holidays, Cllr Manser thought we had missed the Consultation but
wanted the School to flourish.

1. **PLANNING**

**23/1185/FUL Oak Tree House, Old Ebford Lane, Ebford**

Cllr Manser confirmed this application was for a replacement building, which was not such a contemporary building as the previous application. A short discussion ensued. It was agreed to object on the scale and height in comparison to existing buildings. Cllr Manser asked that the Conservation Officer consider the impact on Ebford Mount.
**Unanimous Vote to Object with request for Conservation Officer’s comments.**

**23/1399/FUL Land at North of Barley Way, Ebford Lane, Ebford.**

Cllr Manser confirmed this application was for a new agricultural entrance at Land north of Barley Way. A discussion ensued wherein it was suggested this was a fore runner for more serious development in the future. Cllr Manser commented that the application was solely for a new agricultural entrance, which would allow the large tractors and farm equipment such as balers to enter the fields. The gate presently in use is not suitable for this purpose, and with the size of tractors that farmers use it was a reasonable request. Cllr Stubbs suggested the existing gateway be widened for this purpose. Cllr Manser indicated this was not possible as it would make exiting the field extremely difficult with farm equipment. Member of the Public was concerned the lamp post would be taken down, but Cllr Manser disagreed this could happen as it belonged to Devon County Council that permission would have to be sought for this and any damage would have to be repaired.

**Unanimous Vote for Approval as agricultural entrance only.**

**12. Councillors’ Reports**

**Cllr Marks** reported he had cleared the footpath to the main road. He queried whether our emergency system was working in view of the concrete lorry accident at Clyst St George roundabout recently. Cllr Manser said this should be on the next Agenda. Cllr Marks also reported damage to a resident’s car by a young man, who probably had attended a wedding in the village. He also reported that he had noticed that dog walkers had not been clearing up after their dogs at Pytte Lane and had had little help from the Dog Warden. He will try to obtain labels again, and the Environmental Health had been spoken to also. Cllr Stubbs and Cllr Howe confirmed that the black bins can also be used to dispose of the dog plastic bags.

**Cllr Bragg** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Stubbs** enquired the owner of the hedge on the road from the George and Dragon leading up to the Clyst St George roundabout. Cllr Bragg will speak to the owner and request it be trimmed.

**Cllr Ward** had nothing to report.

**Cllr Manser** reported that he had had an email conversation with a person in the upper part of Ebford Lane who had suggested maybe road humps being installed in order to stem the speeding along the Lane. Cllr Manser commented that these humps cost a lot and he felt it was not possible for this. He suggested using an existing road sign post with an exclamation mark on it with “shared space” underneath, this would cost around £150, and he considers Highways would not object to this. He had already consulted an official who informed him, there was no funding available. It was agreed that Cllr Manser explore the costing of obtaining an exclamation mark sign and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.50pm

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 7.30pm or an earlier date to be agreed.**