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

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**held on 12th February 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Present: Chairman: Cllr J Manser**

 **Councillors: District Councillor Howe,**

 **Cllrs. Bragg, Marks, Bowen, Stubbs, Ward**

 **Clerk: Mrs. Cathryn Newbery**

 **Members of Public - 0**

**Apologies for Absence**: Cllrs Randall Johnson

**Approval of Minutes** – Unanimous approval.

1. **Declaration of Interest –** Cllr Bragg – Agenda Item 12.
2. **Open Forum** – none
3. **County Councillor’s Report –** had been distributed.

**District Councillor** expressed his apologies at non-attendance of previous meeting. He reported that a considerable amount of time had been spent on the Local Plan which is now working. He reported they expect a considerable amount of planning applications and these are being worked through. Cllr Howe reported changes were ahead for local government which will result in a Unitary Councillor in the future. Cllr Manser said he will comment on this matter in his report. Cllr Manser thanked Cllr Howe for his report.

**6. Emails received –** **Clerk to Report**

 Several emails re yellow weather warning and amber weather warning affecting

 the South West of England.

 Emails from DALC with bulletin

 Email received from East Devon District Council re Local Plan Consultation launch

 webinar.

 Email received from East Devon District Council re Tree Preservation Order at land at

 Lady Seawards C of E Primary School.

 Email re Fire Service Consultation

 Email re Smaller Council Meeting Devolution White paper.

 Email from Cllr Sara Randall Johnson with Local Government Review.

 The Clerk confirmed all these emails have been circulated.

**7. Co-Option of Councillor to replace Sam Piper**

To date no applications were received for this position. The Clerk had placed the

 Advertisement for the vacancy and East Devon District Council had been informed.

**8. Finance -Clerk to Report**

The up to- date accounts had been circulated. The repayment from, H.M. Customs for VAT had been received. Following payments of the approved accounts at last month’s meeting, there is a balance in hand of £3586.37 in the Treasurer’s Account and in the CIL account of £1971.93. Accounts due are for the hire of the Village Hall of £18, £259.98 for AB Grounds Maintenance, together with the Clerk’s salary.

 **Unanimous Vote on acceptance of the accounts and settlement of the said accounts.**

**9. Update on Footpath**

Cllr Marks has made enquiries relating to the next step forward to cover the path and extra work entailed. Cllr Howe said he and had been informed that the matter is being considered. Cllr Marks is going to complete the forms for the grant for £350, although Cllr Howe is unsure of whether the funding is available at this time.

**10. Transfer of Land**

 The Clerk reported that Cartridges had heard nothing further. After discussion, it was

 suggested the Clerk approach Cartridges suggesting we take an indemnity. This may

 assist the matter being concluded effectively.

**11. New Open Space: Fencing & Footpath Diversion**

Cllr Bowen reported that he considered the grass cutting should be carried out before any fencing takes place although no plans had been made. He considered good grassland was essential and that selective weedkiller be used to reduce weeds etc. Drainage could be problematic and this must be considered. Cllr Bragg agreed this was a problem and should be dealt with, could be a problem but he thought a drain could be run down. Cllr Manser suggested getting HCT involved for advice on this. Cllr Bragg agreed and will also make contact with someone who could assist. Cllr Bowen queried on the time frame for this. Cllr Bragg suggested following silage making in early May time. A discussion ensued on the future use of the grass use. Cllr Bowen suggested keeping the Parish Council’s section low and the remainder of the grassland be left to grow normally. He suggested marking the area off and getting our contractor to mow it in the meantime until all completed. Cllr Bragg agreed to deal with HCT and Cllr Manser will deal with the footpath application. He confirmed his awareness that the Parish Council do not own the land, nor do Seaward Park, but he will resolve the matter accordingly.

**Planning**

**24/2663/CPE Larkbeare, Clyst St Mary, EX5 1AS**

Application for Independent Living Accommodation.

**Vote – No comment**

**25/0153/FUL Redwood, Clyst St George EX3 0NN**

Cllr Manser reported this application was for a single storey front and rear extensions and alterations. A discussion ensued, and it was considered this wouldenhance the property.

 **Unanimous Vote all support this application.**

**24/2690/FUL Estuary House, Ebford EX3 0PF**

Cllr Manser reported this property was situated on the A376 on the West side The application would not cause any problems, and not be visible from the road. Following a discussion;

**Unanimous Vote no objection.**

**Councillors’ Reports**

**Cllrs Bowen, Marks, Ward and Stubbs had nothing to report.**

**Cllr Bragg** asked who cleaned the ditches – it was resolved that Cllr Ward will speak to the land owner concerned.

**14. Traffic on Ebford Lane**

Cllr Manser reported that he had been contacted by two residents complaining that Ebford Lane was being used as a ‘rat run’ during early morning rush hour traffic. Cllr Manser considers it may be prudent to write to our local Highways Engineer to get a counter and timer on the lane so the matter can be clarified. Cllr Howe suggested we may ask the local inhabitants what they wish doing in this matter.

**15. Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Manser reported that he attended the DALC Zoom Meeting about the new authority. He had been sent details of who to contact. He considered the Transition Team were working hard. He said the County Council elections were to be held in early May, and as Cllr Randall Johnson now resides in London, she will no longer be eligible and Cllr Gent had already expressed a wish to no longer stand. There was very little information of the new authority at this time. Cllr Manser thought we should submit documentation in support of this and he thought DALC would assist in this with ideas to put to the Transition team and what areas to address. Cllr Manser said there was little information and not much consultation at this stage. Cllr Howe said that the leader of East Devon District Council had written with his ideas. There was no leadership from the Government, and this is such a large area. He said that ultimately the Government was looking for efficiency. Cllr Ward suggested that Cllr Manser emphasise the rural area in our defence in this matter. Cllr Manser agreed this would be done.

Cllr Stubbs reported she had had a meeting with Stuart Baker, EDDC tree Officer, regarding the culvert/Lime trees beside the Parish Hall, who had explained how to manage it.
Cllr. Manser thanked for updating the P.C.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.50pm

**Date of next meeting Wednesday, 12 March 2025 7:30pm in the Parish Hall.**