Clyst Honiton Parish Council

Present: Parish Councillors Suzanne Hales: Mike Muir: Gary Collier: County Councillor Henry Gent (Broadclyst County Division Member).

In attendance: Rob Martin (Parish Clerk)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CLYST HONITON

The Annual Parish Meeting of Clyst Honiton was held on Tuesday 20th May 2021 at 7.00pm in the Bell Tower, St Michael's Church, Clyst Honiton

MINUTES

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
   No apologies had been received.

2. **Minutes of the last Parish Meeting**
   The minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

3. **To receive a report from the Chairman**
   - Well, what a year it's been, Clyst Honiton Parish council are meeting in person for the first time in over a year. I would like to thank all the councillors and our clerk for all their hard work during lockdown, we met as usual but via zoom.
   - We were asked to set up a support group to help people isolating during the lock down. We had a few people ask us to deliver shopping, prescriptions and post letters. We applied for some funding and were able to buy a fridge so that the Exeter inn could become a part time shop for essentials in the village.
   - We were able to lower the parish precept this year, we felt it was not an appropriate time to increase it and we have good reserves for anything that might need acting upon. People ask why they pay a precept and why is it so high? We have insurance for the play equipment, bus shelters, notice boards, benches, we have to pay the clerk, we have to pay for a meeting room every month, we pay for an outside body to look at our accounts and we are always trying to improve the village.
   - As the year moved on, we saw the new play park be built and then no one could use it, now it's so popular people visit from far and wide.
   - We saw a relaxing in July last year when we could start to move about and see people from a distance. Then just before Christmas 2020 we were all locked up again. Lots of our local businesses provided take away and food delivery, lots of people supported them.
   - The village has had to put up with a lot of Vans from DPD and Amazon parking all over the place, leaving litter and using our roads and lay-by's as a toilet and leaving their rubbish. We have been in contact with the warehouses who have said they will monitor it!
   - The owners of Home Farm has tried to build a warehouse we are not opposed to businesses starting up in the village but have agreed through the neighbourhood plan that they should be

small work units there are enough empty warehouses throughout the Parish without building more.

- Our Neighbourhood plan is coming along nicely now and you will be consulted on the final plans.
- We will have our Village hall to meet and enjoy in the near future.
- The village road is due to be resurfaced, we are meeting DDC in a few weeks to discuss this and other road issues in and around our Parish including, lorries getting stuck in Holbrook ,ship lane access and parking in the village road.
- At Michael's Church has lost a lot of funds this yet due to lockdown and now has services shared with other parishes. The is talk of it becoming a place just for weddings, Christenings, Christmas and Easter services only. Which is better than being shut. Thanks to all those who look after our lovely Church it is a beautiful building that is the heart of the village.
- As usual we are always looking for volunteers to help Mike around the Parish and to help with the Neighbourhood development order.
- Looking forward now to a better year ahead and maybe a fete again next year in May.
- Thank you all for keeping the village looking nice and for your great community spirit.
- Clyst Honiton is a fantastic place to live.

4. Financial Report

The parish council started the financial year in April 2020 with reserves totalling £79,658, of which the General Reserve was just £9.613 with most of the remainder being held for the Neighbourhood Plan/Development Order. The precept was £20,114 and further grants of 23,797 were received, alongside section 106 finance from EDDC and £9,198 of VAT recovered from the HMRC.

Expenditure of £19,164 on the NP/NDO work was spent together with £14,244 on finishing the play area and the memorial garden, both on the recreation ground. Overall, payments of £61,607 were made leaving a total in reserve of £75,500, of which £19,493 was General Reserve. In addition, £6,795 has been reclaimed from HMRC in VAT.

5. Public participation – to receive questions/comments from members of public.

There were no members of the public present, so there were no questions.

6. To close the meeting

The meeting was closed at 7.34pm.

Chairman
Clyst Honiton Parish Council