Present : Cllr D. Mitchem Chair(DM), Cllr.B.Thrussell Vice Chair(BT), Cllr S.Walton (SW), Cllr C.Edwards (CE).

Devon County Council – None

East Devon Council – None

There were no parishioners present

1. Appointment of Chair : SW proposed retaining Cllr D. Mitchem; CE seconded Cllr Mitchem duly elected
2. Appointment of Vice Chair: CE proposed Cllr B. Thrussell; SW seconded

Cllr Thrussell duly elected

1. Apologies - Cllr C. Jones
2. Risk Management.-None Required
3. Declarations of Interest/requests for dispensation- Cllr Mitchem declared an interest in item 13 Courtneys Farm
4. Minutes from March 2022 Parish Council Meeting : Accepted and approved
5. Open Session-

DM. Stated the village WI is winding up funds and has proposed to donate a bench with a plaque to the village, and has asked to discuss a suitable site for it within the village. Two sites were discussed, on the green or by the noticeboard. CE suggested the green. The green was felt to be the better option. DM suggested there may be funds for the village from the Queens Jubilee Celebrations and that it might be possible to get two benches and replace or restore the current bench which is showing signs of wear. BT asked if there was a possibility to extend the green. It was decided to investigate who owned the land next to the green.

1. County/District Councilors Reports- None
2. Parochial Charities- DM presented the accounts which had an end of year balance of £904.95.DM stated there had been issues with changing the funds bank account after the death of A. Mitchem the previous Trustee. CE asked how the funds were used. DM explained historically they were used for the apprentice funds and for village school children.
3. Chairman’s annual report- See attached document.
4. Local Issues- DM stated two more people (Chris Jones and Steve Walton) had passed the course to be allowed to mend potholes in the parish roads to help Barry Thrussell.
5. Highways- Voneus is going to dig up roads in the village to run fibre optic cables, which will require temporary road closures. CE stated that a pole will be erected, as trenches cannot be dug, on the church path below the lych gate near the road, presumably opposite the Western Power pole. Voneus will supply 'The Old Forge', 'Refuge Cottage' and 'Trumps' via cables strung from the pole. BT stated there will be a small one off payment for the subterranean work when it was completed.
6. Planning- There were 8 planning proposals,5 for Courtneys Farm, and one each for Broadoak Farm, Peradon Farm and Ratclyffe House.

22/0485/ful; 22/0495/ful; 22/0668/ful; 22/0667/ful; 22/0684/ful all pertaining to Courtneys farm were discussed in the absence of DM who had declared an interest. There were no objections from the remaining Councilors.

22/0557/var pertaining to Land East of Broadoak Farm. DM stated the work had already been completed. This was confirmed by BT.

21/3120/mful pertaining to Peradon farm (Solar Farm). There were unanimous objections to this application on the same points as for the original application. SW asked if the previous objections carried forward or whether the council needed to resubmit its objections. DM suggested checking with Emma.

21/2974/ful pertaining to Ratclyffe House. No objections.

1. Finance- End of year accounts. DM stated the accounts opened at £4300 there was a precept of £3800 (no increase on last year) there were payments of £3167.04. The balance in the account was £5007.33. SW asked what balance was needed to be maintained in the account. DM explained it was required to have sufficient funds to run the parish for a year which last year was £3167.04. Therefore the account was compliant.

14.1 Year end statement resolved and agreed.

14.2 Receipts and Payments resolved and agreed.

14.3 Certificate of exemption for external audit resolved, agreed and duly signed

1. Correspondence- None

The meeting ended at 8:55pm

Next Meeting 4th July 2022

Minutes accepted as true and accurate

Signature 1 Chairman………………………………….

Signature 2 Cllr…………………………………………

Date……../…….../………

**Chairman’s Annual Report 2021-2022**

The last year has seen the Country go in and out of lock down several times. Foreign travel has been slowly made more possible due to the roll out of the National Vaccination scheme. Without doubt Covid has changed the world we live in. Be it Doctors’ appointments, the NHS waiting lists, or individuals simply not having the confidence to socialise the ‘Covid Effect’ will forever be etched in our memories.

From a Village perspective the planning application for a large solar farm within the Village has been of as much interest as Covid 19. The Parish Council has objected to this application. During a well-attended Parish Council meeting the unanimous vote was against the new Solar Farm. The arguments were balanced and considered. The majority of residents who attended the meeting and have made representation to members of the Parish Council are not against Solar Power. What has been by far the most common comment is that Solar Power Panels should be on the roofs of industrial buildings and on all new build houses. They should not be built in open unspoilt countryside. On the day the Parish Council members met in January to discuss the application a small solar installation within the village generated no power all day and night. At best Solar Power should be stored in batteries for use when most required. Hydon Parish Council has always been apolitical so we can say we believe that the politicians have got the energy policy wrong. Since we sent our objection to EDDC Planning we have witnessed the War in the Ukraine which has effected not only energy supplies but Food supplies. Food provision has now become an area of real concern.

I would like to thank all my fellow Councillors for their hard work and diligence over the past year. We now have three registered pot hole fillers within the parish. We also have a very proactive relationship with the Highway department ensuring we get best value for the Parish. Those of you that read small print will notice that the Parish of Clyst Hydon posted no increase in its precept this year. In fact we have one of the lowest precepts in the County.

The attendance of your Parish Councillors has been good with only illness or isolation stopping a full attendance at our bi monthly meetings. The same cannot be said of our elected representatives from EDDC. With the exception of one representative, none have attended our meetings or made representation in any form to the Parish Council. A full list of attendees can be seen in the Parish Council minutes.

I would like to thank our Clerk, Emma, who although at a distance has kept us up to speed and current.

David Mitchem

May 2022