



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall**

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr. K. James  
Councillors: Cllrs. J. McDougall, C. Seymour-Smith, P. Haydon, J. Giles, J. Medland, A. Johnston and K. Davey

Cllr. Johnston arrived at 8.59 a.m.

In Attendance: Parish Clerk (PC)  
Members of the Public

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that Standing Orders would be suspended to allow members of the public to speak without the restriction of the 2 minutes time limit .

**784. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. Abbott had sent apologies.

**785. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

**786. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME**

Mr. Marsh, who is the owner of the cottages and shop in the village, explained the work that has already been carried out in relation to the renovation of two cottages and his belief that, on the open market, the cottages would be affordable to local people. A planning application, in relation to alterations and extension of the shop and Post Office, will be discussed later in the Meeting. He hoped that the plans would enhance the centre of the village; the plans showing that the shop will be slightly bigger (2 metres). Mr. Marsh asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Pearcey, lessee of the shop/post office, made comments in relation to the proposed size of the shop, lack of parking for both private and delivery vehicles, storage being on the first floor and the lack of washing facilities. He said that his lease would not be renewed on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2012. He also complained about an article which had appeared in The Buzz; he disputed the facts in the article. Mr. Pearcey further commented that TDC did not consider the shop structurally unsound.

Cllr. James explained that the Council's remit regarding the planning application was not how it would affect the shop keeper, but how it would affect the village. Cllr. James pointed out that the planning application includes a parking space for the cottage cited in the application; that he had discussed, with Mr. Marsh although not part of the application to be discussed, the parking in relation to the other two cottages which would contribute to the existing problems. Mr. Marsh had pointed out, correctly, that the parking situation with the two cottages would remain as it always has been and the refurbishment of the two cottages will not alter this.

Mr. Marsh said how difficult it had been to enter into negotiations with Mr. Pearcey. He was very aware of how important it is to maintain the shop/post office and was endeavouring to do this. Cllr. James gave a brief explanation of the history of the 'block' encompassing the shop and cottages and how over the years it had become derelict and in need of extensive attention; he believed the plans to be discussed would give the option to do this.

Mr. Brian Meadows informed the meeting that no notification regarding the planning application had been situated on the site. (The meeting was later informed that TDC was now aware of this and had extended the time scale regarding the application). Mr. Meadows believed that no feasibility plan had taken place regarding parking/traffic flow. He has concerns about the dangers surrounding traffic and believes parking is insufficient for the shop/cottages. Cllr. James confirmed that these concerns would be discussed when the Council considers the application.

Mr. Meadows asked that it be minuted that, should the Council not give due consideration to the points he had made, and a traffic accident happened, he would raise the issue at a higher level. Cllr. James said that such a comment would not affect the decision of the Council.

**787. POLICE REPORT**

The Police were not present and a report had not been provided.

**788. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The PC confirmed that she had amended item 767 to show PCSO Bray had sent her apologies (not on copies circulated with Agenda to Cllrs.).

Cllr. McDougall proposed the Minutes be approved. Cllr. Davey seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**789. MATTERS ARISING**

Item 775 – New Account/Mandate - The PC had met with an official at Natwest, who had gone through the completed application form and mandate. Everything appeared to be correct and the PC has received a standard letter confirming the account has been set up. As yet no details, i.e. account number have been received.

Item 777 – Potholes – The PC confirmed the reporting of the items mentioned and confirmation of the reporting and reference number is in Correspondence Received. Cllr. James said the work had not been carried out yet.

Item 781 – Register of Interest Forms – The PC had notified all Cllrs. regarding communications she has had with Ken Miles regarding the Forms (see Correspondence Received Item 10). Certain Cllrs. have completed new forms. She asked for any others to be passed to her, reiterating that it is the Cllrs'. own responsibility for declaring Interests. She also explained further communication with Mr. Miles that suggested he would be happy to accept the previous forms, but with 'the interests listed are those of the Cllr. and his spouse/partner' being added and initialled by the Cllr. at the top of the form. She asked the relevant Cllrs. to do this at the end of the Meeting.

**790. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT**

The following account was presented for payment:

<b>BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN AUGUST 2012</b>							-
<b>COUNCIL EXPENDITURE</b>							-
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason	
15.08.12	M. Fenner	486	£156.23	£156.23		Salary - August	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£156.23</b>	<b>£156.23</b>	<b>£0.00</b>		
<b>Bank Accounts</b>							
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>			
Balance at 19th June		4941.53				£5,000.35	
		<hr/>					
		£4,941.53					
25-Jun-12	Transfer to Reserve Account		£2,000.00			£2,000.00	Transfer from Current Account
	483		£156.23				
	484		£117.20			0.5	Interest - June
Credits as below for Project		<hr/>					
		£1,500.00					
		<hr/>					
		£6,441.53					

	£2,273.43	
Balance at 19th July	£4,168.10	<b>£7,000.85</b> Available to Council as Reserves
		£70 being residue of Parish Plan

Cllr. McDougall proposed the payment be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Seymour-Smith and unanimously agreed. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The PC informed the Meeting that she would start to prepare a draft of the Budget for 2013/2014 and would bring an initial draft to the next Meeting. She asked Cllrs. to consider anything they deemed might be necessary (over and above the usual categories) to be included. Cllr. Giles informed the meeting that the seat dedicated to Mr. Vinnicombe, on the playing field had been badly damaged; the plaque with his name on it having been stolen. He asked if the Council would consider replacing it. Cllr. James proposed that Cllr. Giles investigate a replacement seat and the cost involved, to include a new plaque; Cllr. Giles to pass the information to the PC. Cllr. Davey seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**791. TO ADOPT THE NEW MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT 2012**

The PC explained this and Cllr. Davey proposed that the Code of Conduct adopted by Torridge District Council on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 be retrospectively adopted as the code for members and co-opted members of Bridgerule Parish Council with effect from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 to replace the current Code of Conduct. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). Copies of the Code of Conduct had been circulated to Cllrs. on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2012).

Cllr. Johnston arrived at 8.59 p.m.

**792. PLANNING**

The following applications had been received:

**Applications**

1/0574/2012/FUL          Proposed alterations and extension to shop and post office  
Post office  
Bridgerule

A discussion took place. Cllr. James pointed out that the plans include the existing parking space and that provision for delivery vehicles was not material to the application however desirable it might be. He confirmed that the internal layout was not within the remit of the Council's consideration of the application. He confirmed that DCC Highways could have input (should it be deemed necessary) regarding the application.

After further discussion Cllr. Davey proposed the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Members of the public left the Meeting.

1/0533/2012/FUL          Erection of dwelling  
Site at Canal Rise  
Bridgerule

After discussion Cllr. Haydon proposed the application be recommended for approval, but pointing out that Bridgerule Parish Council is not happy with the 'visual' design, believing it does not fit in with the rest of the village and is an inappropriate design for the rural aspect. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1/0628/2012/FULM        Application for 10 extra caravan sites to replace tent sites for holiday  
Highfield House        use  
Bridgerule

After discussion Cllr. Seymour-Smith proposed the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. Davey seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**For the Council's Observations Only:**

1/0595/2012/FUL                      Erection of single 500kw turbine (60.7m to blade tip) and associated  
Land at Thorne Farm                infrastructure  
Holsworthy

After discussion, Cllr. James proposed the PC be instructed to send the following observations:

'The Council has no objections to the application. However, it notes that on page 54 of the application document the following statement is made:

'Elected members of the three closest parish councils Chilsworthy & Holsworthy Hamlets, Pancrasweek and Pyworthy, will be invited to form a management group to oversee the distribution funds to projects of community value within a 3.5km radius of the turbine location. £18,000 per annum for the life span of the FIT will be made available to local community projects'.

The Council would ask why the Parish of Bridgerule has not been included in this group; the parishes included will be no more affected by the application than Bridgerule, and in fact the turbine will be more apparent to sections of Bridgerule than Pancrasweek, Pyworthy and Chilsworthy'.

Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The following permission was brought to the attention of Cllrs.:

1/0418/2012/FUL                      Retrospective application for rebuild of derelict warehouse and  
conversion to live/work unit  
Merrifield Holt  
Bridgerule

**793. HIGHWAYS**

No items were brought to the Cllrs'. attention

**794. PARISH HALL**

Cllr. Seymour-Smith informed the Meeting that the next Meeting of the Parish Hall Committee would take place on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2012.

**795. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Clerks and Councils Direct July issue
2. TDC – Dog Control Orders consultation
3. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
4. DALC – internet banking for councils – consultation
5. Natwest – notification of having to represent F'ball club's cheque
6. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
7. Safer North Devon – community messaging service
8. DCC Highways – notification of road closure – Carnival 4<sup>th</sup> August
9. DCC – monitoring form re. Cllr. Parsons donation of money for gritter
10. Ken Miles – all correspondence (including sent) re. register of interest forms
11. Cllr. McDougall – request from resident to have dog bin moved nearer Southfields
12. K. Chilton – possible bus service cuts due to redundancies
13. DALC – AGM 6 October Exeter
14. DALC – AGM and attendance at 'Localism on the Ground' – cost £20
15. DALC – Annual Report 2011/2012
16. DALC – possible training 'Rising to the Challenge – making Localism a reality for local councils'. (**circulated to Cllrs**)
17. K. Miles – (including my response) – further advice on register of interest form
18. Cllr. Parsons – portakabin request from resident and PC's response
19. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
20. TDC – Localism – Council Tax – consultation (**copied to Cllrs.**)
21. S. Sharp – resignation as Cllr.

22. TDC – Posters re. councillor vacancy
23. Natwest – confirmation letter of new savings account
24. Cllr. Parsons – e-mail re. DCC roadshows re. finance – Holsworthy 8<sup>th</sup> November (circulated to Cllrs.)
25. Rural Services weekly newsletter (circulated to Cllrs.)

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

Item 11 – The PC informed the Meeting that it was likely there would be a financial implication to the Council if a request was made of TDC to move the existing bin. It was agreed that the initial course of action would be for the PC would report the incidents regarding the leaving of dog waste in bags to Carl Caswell, the Animal Warden, TDC.

Item 22 – The PC confirmed that posters regarding the vacancy would be placed in the shop, notice board and website; if on 6<sup>th</sup> September she was informed an election would not take place she would advertise a co-option vacancy.

**Correspondence Sent – 18<sup>th</sup> July – 14<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

1. R. Glover – none cutting of brambles – bus stop
2. DCC – reporting potholes etc. – ref. numbers
3. K. Miles – completed register of interest forms (copies in file)
4. Cllr. James – informing of representation of cheque
5. S. Sharp – reminder that resignation is required in writing.
6. DCC – completed monitoring form re. Cllr. Parson's donation
7. TDC – copy of completed dog control order questionnaire (see 2 received)
8. All Cllrs. – observations on wind turbine application
9. K. Miles – update on Bridgerule's Interest forms.
10. All Cllrs. – DALC's possible training course – rising to the challenge

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

**796. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr. James had nothing to report.

**797. CLERK'S REPORT**

The PC reported as follows:

- The TC circulated copies of 'A plain English Guide to the Localism Act'. She hoped it would help Cllrs. understand how this relates to Bridgerule.
- There will be a Public Consultation on 7<sup>th</sup> September in the Market Hall, 11.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. regarding the development, by Cavanna Homes, on the Old Cattle Market site.

**798. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

Cllr. McDougall brought to Councillors' attention a newspaper article regarding the use of red diesel in relation to salt gritters.

**799. CLOSE**

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.42 p.m.

Signature ..... Date .....