



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall**

**Present:**

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

Councillors: Cllrs, J. Medland, J. McDougall, S. Sharp, C. Seymour-Smith, P. Haydon and K. Davey

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

**730. TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN FOR 2012/2013**

Cllr. Medland proposed that Cllr. Ken James continue to be Chairman of Bridgerule Parish Council for the year 2012/2013. Cllr. Seymour-Smith seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstention).

**731. SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF OFFICE**

Cllr. James duly read and signed the prescribed 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office'.

**732. TO ELECT THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN FOR 2011/2012**

Cllr. McDougall proposed that Cllr. Kelvin Davey be elected as Deputy Chairman of Bridgerule Parish Council for the year 2011/2012. Cllr. Haydon seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**733. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs. Johnston and Abbott had sent apologies.

**734. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

**735. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FOLLOWING BODIES: PARISH HALL; PLAYGROUND AND OPEN SPACES; FOOTBALL CLUB**

Cllr. James proposed that Cllr. Seymour-Smith be the Council's Representative for the Parish Hall; Cllr. Gary Abbott be the Council's representative for the playground and open spaces and Cllr. Giles be the Council's representative for the Football Club. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**736. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

**737. POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Bray had sent apologies. Cllr. McDougall, Neighbourhood Watch, said there had not been much in the way of crime. He will send the Clerk the e-mail address, to be circulated to other Cllrs., to register to obtain crime reports. Cllr. Sharp asked if there had been any rise in crime since the implementation of the street lighting being turned off. There had been no rise in crime.

**738. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 had previously been circulated. Item 726 – Chairman's Report – Cllr. James pointed out that he and Cllr. Parsons had not attended the meeting with Pam Johns and John Allen. Cllr. James proposed the Minutes be approved. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**739. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**740. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT**

The following accounts were presented for payment:

<b>BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN</b>						
<b>MAY 2012</b>						
						-
<b>COUNCIL EXPENDITURE</b>						-
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
16.05.12	Playsafety Ltd	480	£75.60	£63.00	£12.60	Annual play area safety report
16.05.12	M. Fenner	481	£156.43	£156.43		Salary - May
16.05.12	D.J. Vaughan	482	£54.00	£45.00	£9.00	Prep. Accounts/audit return
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£286.03</b>	<b>£264.43</b>	<b>£21.60</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>						
<u>Current Account</u>			<u>Reserve Account</u>			
Balance at 19th March		3,016.01			£4,998.35	
		£3,016.01			0.5 Interest June 11	
					0.5 Interest Sept 11	
					0.5 Interest Dec 11	
					0.5 Interest March 12	
		471	£156.43			
		472	£185.67			
		473	£156.23			
		474	£117.40			
		477	£27.48			
		£643.21				
					<b>£5,000.35</b> Available to Council as Reserves	
Balance at 19 April		£2,372.80	£70 being residue of Parish Plan			

Cllr. McDougall proposed the payments be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Seymour-Smith and unanimously agreed. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). Cllr. James said that in future all cheques signed must be checked by the Chairman.

**741. TO RECEIVE AND AGREE THE INTERNAL ACCOUNTS, THE ANNUAL AUDIT RETURN AND THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT DETAILED IN THE ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2011/2012, PREPARED BY DAVID VAUGHAN ACCOUNTANTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER.**

The Clerk had circulated copies of the accounts for 2011/2012. She went through the accounts and explained that the subject had to, legally, be adjourned until the next Council Meeting, to enable Councillors to fully inspect the Accounts and that she had only received the Audit Return and Governance Statement prior to the Meeting and therefore had not checked them. Along with the accounts they will be presented for approval at the next Meeting of the Full Council on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2012. She requested that Councillors inform her, before the next Meeting, if they have any queries regarding anything detailed in the accounts.

**742. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM CLLR. ABBOTT RE. PURCHASING LAND TO EXTEND THE PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL PITCH AND AN UPDATE FROM CLLR. JAMES RE. THE EXTENSION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE RIVER BANK WALK.**

Cllr. Abbott was not present, but Cllr. James confirmed that funding was being pursued. He told the Meeting that he has spoken to Mr. Hale and that, at the moment, Mr. Hale has withdrawn from selling the farm/land. However, once Mr. Hale has carried out work on the farm/land he may put it back on the market.

**743. PLANNING**

The following permission had been received:

1/0158/2012/FUL      Erection of 3.8kw/16 panel ground mounted solar panel array  
Scotland Farm  
Bridgerule

**744. HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk read out the response from Mike Newcombe, DCC, to her queries regarding the Meeting at the school (Item 718 Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012). She will contact Mr. Newcombe before the next Meeting of the Council for a further update. Cllr. McDougall mentioned potholes near Furze Farm and the Clerk will report them to DCC for repairing.

Cllr. James and Cllr. Sharp had received a complaint/request from a resident regarding the street lighting being turned off. The Clerk confirmed to Cllr. James that a letter had not been received from DCC Highways regarding the Council requesting one or two lights to be left on. After discussion, the Clerk will contact Maurizio D'Alesio at DCC to ask if it would be possible to leave individual lights on; the Council to decide on the location at a later date if this is possible.

**745. PARISH HALL**

Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported that he had not heard whether the grant application had been successful; the work on the drain under the floor had been carried out, with an insurance claim being successful. He asked, if the grant application was successful and therefore plans for the Hall could continue, if the Council's solicitor, Clive Smale, could be approached to help with the Hall Committee becoming a limited company by guarantee. Cllr. James said he didn't believe this would be a problem, but that the subject must be discussed by the Council when this becomes possible.

A general discussion took place regarding housing developments in Bridgerule and housing requirements in Bridgerule. Cllr. James said that major strides had been made over the years with keeping green areas in the village.

**746. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE**

**Correspondence Received 18 April – 16 May**

1. TDC – Olympic Torch – 21<sup>st</sup> May – Merton/Torrington/Bideford
2. T. Curtis – DCC Highways – 30mph sign Jewells X – looking at asap
3. TTVS – complimentary edition newsletter
4. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to councillors – internet access required**)
5. DCC – monthly newsletter (**circulated to councillors – internet access required**)
6. M. Newcombe – DCC Highways – update on Meeting at School
7. RoSPA – annual report play area safety (in file)
8. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
9. Clerks & Councils direct – May issue
10. Cllr. S-S – shop (**sent to cllrs**)
11. Rural Services – newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
12. Cllr. S-S – ramp (exchange of info item)

The highlighted items were brought to the attention of Cllrs.

Item 7 – the Clerk confirmed that the report indicated all equipment was of 'low risk' – no work was required at this time.

Cllr. James had received a letter from Mr. Malcolm Fraser requesting a bus shelter, possibly on the corner of the Hall car park. His letter explained that the school children had no shelter when waiting for the school bus. After discussion the Clerk was asked to contact DCC, initially, to see whether it could provide a bus shelter. This item will be discussed again once a reply has been received. Cllr. James passed Mr. Fraser's letter to the Clerk for retention.

**Correspondence Sent – 18 April – 16 May**

1. PCSO Bray – parking Littlebridge Meadows junction
2. DCC Highways – 30 mph sign chase up Jewells X
3. M. Newcombe – DCC Highways – request for update on safety measures at School
4. Cllrs. Haydon/James – update on above
5. Community First – insurance renewal (correspondence in insurance file)
6. L. Rose – chair of governors – School re suggestions from Council re. traffic 'calming
7. All Cllrs – e-mail from Cllr. S-Smith re. Hall

**747. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr. James gave an update on the plans for the cottages and shop in the centre of the village. He had spoken with Mr. Marsh, who now owns the properties; he plans to renovate the whole site and a shop will remain on the site. However, the shop will have to be closed whilst major renovation on it is carried out; the aim is to keep the Post Office as well. A discussion took place. Cllr. James will keep the Council updated.

**748. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had nothing to report.

**749. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

There was no exchange.

**750. CLOSE**

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

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