



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 16th October 2013 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present: Chairman: Cllr. K. James
Councillors: Cllrs. C. Seymour-Smith, K. Elliott, G. Abbott, J. McDougall, P. Haydon and S. Cholwill

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

Member of the Public

1034. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Medland, Giles and Johnston. PCSO Bray had sent apologies for possible lateness.

1035. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

1036. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

As PCSO Bray had not arrived, the Chairman proposed changing the Order of Business.

1037. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Cllr. McDougall proposed the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18th September, 2013 be approved. Cllr. Elliott seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 4 For. 0 Against. 3 Abstentions). Cllr. James signed the Minutes.

1038. MATTERS ARISING

Item 1024 – Rubbish Bin – Mike Crocker has informed the PC that a bin will be available; the invoice, which amounts to £162 inc. VAT) will be presented for payment under Item 7 of the Agenda. The PC confirmed that she has been notified that Cllr. Parsons' Locality Grant (£67.50) has been confirmed and should be in the bank account shortly. The PC has also e-mailed Cllr. James asking him to expedite the completion of TDC paperwork regarding the allocation of the remaining £67.50 from his funds. Cllr. James took details of the amount and confirmed he would complete the necessary paperwork.

Item 1024 – Derelict Housing – This Item had been carried over from the last full Council Meeting. Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he had met with Sue Southwell; she had inspected various properties in the village and informed Cllr. James that she would be preparing a report. As he had not had sight of such a report so far, he would be chasing this up, and once this had been made available he would give an update to the Council.

Item 1024 – Bank opposite Canal Rise – The PC asked Cllr. James if he had an update. Cllr. James informed the Meeting that Ian Sorensen had met with Mike Vanstone, the contractor, and the work necessary should be progressing shortly.

Item 1024 – Compensation from SW Water – Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he believed a cheque should be on the way, in light of another resident having recently received a similar cheque settling a compensation claim.

Item 1024 – Mole – The PC had organised the mole catcher to go out to the playing field; he had confirmed that the problem had been solved.

Item 1025 – Self Build Bus Shelter – Cllr. James confirmed that work was progressing and that Mr. Fraser would be submitting invoices, for the materials, to the Council.

Item 1032 – Recycling – The PC had written to TDC, who contract out the collection of recycling to South Molton Recycle (SMR). Elaine Lester, Dry Recycling Contract Officer, had replied,

(correspondence received Item 12) stating that she had been in contact with SMR concerning the debris, and it has been added to the Agenda of the next Monitoring Meeting. SMR had confirmed to her that all crews had been reminded of their obligations to clear debris.

1039. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Bray reported that at the moment it is quiet in Bridgerule. Various individuals have been spoken to about allowing their dogs to foul areas of Bridgerule (without clearing it up) and the Police are keeping an eye on the parking of vehicles at the entrance to Littlebridge Meadows. They will also be recommencing visiting the School after half term to talk to the children.

1040. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN OCTOBER 2013

COUNCIL EXPENDITURE

Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
16.10.13	Mole Control	529	£150.00	£150.00		Removal of moles from playing field
16.10.13	Torrige District Council	530	£162.00	£135.00	£27.00	Litter bin for playground
16.10.13	M. Fenner	531	£156.23	£156.23		Salary - October
17.10.13	Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd	532	£1,000.00	£1,000.00		Grant
17.10.13	Torrige North, Mid & West CAB	533	£50.00	£50.00		Grant
17.10.13	Holsworthy Family Workshop	534	£50.00	£50.00		Grant
TOTAL			£1,568.23	£1,541.23	£27.00	

Bank Accounts

<u>Current Account</u>		<u>Reserve Account</u>	
Balance at 19 September	£2,461.97	£6,960.17	Balance at 19 July
2nd instalment Precept	£3,947.50		£400 Locality Grant - Cllr. Parsons (self build bus shelter project)
	<u>£6,409.47</u>		
525	£520.00		
526	£156.43		
527	£117.20		
528	£546.00		
	<u>£5,069.84</u>		<u>£7,360.17</u>
Balance at 19 October			
		<u>Playing Field Project Bonus Saver Account</u>	
		Balance at 30 April	£2,011.74
		quarterley bonus - June	£4.26
		Locality Grant Cllr. Parsons	£1,000
		Balance at 31 July 2013	<u>£3,016.00</u>

Cllr. James proposed the accounts be approved for payment. Cllr. Elliott seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

A request from Bridgerule Village Hall Limited for a grant was received after the circulation of the Agenda and therefore the PC asked that it be discussed in this Item of the Agenda. Cllrs. McDougall, Seymour-Smith and Cholwill declared a personal interest. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that a

grant of £1,000 be made to Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd. Cllr. Abbott seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 4 For. 0 Against. 3 Abstentions).

A request, for a grant, had also been received from Ken Chilton on behalf of the CAB. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that a grant of £50 be made to Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon CAB. Cllr. Seymour-Smith seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1041. TO DISCUSS A REQUEST FROM HOLSWORTHY FAMILY WORKSHOP RESOURCE CENTRE FOR A GRANT

After discussion, Cllr. James proposed a grant of £50 be made to the Holsworthy Family Workshop Resource Centre. Cllr. Cholwill seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The PC suggested that it might be worthwhile discussing all requests for grants at a specific time of the year. This would necessitate advertising in the Buzz and the Holsworthy Newsletters that the Council would be considering applications for grants at its September Meeting. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that in future the Council would consider applications for grants in September of each year. Cllr. Seymour-Smith seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1042. TO DISCUSS THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015

Copies of the draft Budget and Precept had been circulated with the Agenda. The PC explained the draft Budget. A discussion took place and various amendments were made to the draft. The PC will finalise the Budget and Precept for ratification at the Council Meeting in November.

1043. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE, FROM CLLR. JAMES, ON THE TAP FUND IN RELATION TO THE FENCING OF THE EXTENSION TO THE RIVER 'WALK'

Cllr. James explained the joint application, by Bridgerule Parish Council and Pancrasweek Parish Council, to the TAP Fund. This is on the basis of environmental enhancement. Cllr. James confirmed that he is progressing the application.

1044. TO DISCUSS THE PLAYINGFIELD PROJECT

Cllr. James confirmed that he will be approaching the Playingfield Association regarding a grant. The PC explained that, as RFO, she felt the £2K 'ring fenced' for the Playingfield Project should be transferred from the Reserve Account to the Playingfield Project Bonus Saver Account. It was agreed that this would be placed on the Agenda for the November Meeting for ratification.

**1045. PLANNING
Applications**

1/0776/2013/FUL Sturton Bridgerule	Erection of a wind turbine measuring 30m to hub with a rotor radius of 15m with ancillary equipment
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and Amended Red Line received under the same reference.

Interest: None declared

Recommendation: Cllr. James proposed that the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. Elliott seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Withdrawal

1/0605/2013/FUL Hedley Wood Caravan Park Bridgerule	1. Retrospective change of use of land from 28 day camping and touring to all year round use (Area A) 2. Retrospective change of use of land from former caravan storage and agricultural land to increased area of land for caravan storage (Area B).
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1046. HIGHWAYS

Cllr. Abbott commented that the drains from Churchtown to Chapel Cross should be cleared, as well as the 'ditch' outside Short & Abbott to ensure water doesn't build up and flow onto the road. The PC will contact DCC Highways.

1047. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported that work on the replacement windows is almost complete; once done the blinds will be put up and this would mean that Phase 1 has been completed. It is planned that Phase 2, work on the front of the Hall, will commence in the Spring, 2014 with Phase 3, the back of the Hall, commencing at the end of 2014 or 2015. It was agreed that this item would remain on future Agendas to enable the Council to receive regular updates.

1048. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received 18th September – 15th October

1. TDC – remittance advice re. second instalment of precept due to be paid into bank account 25th September
2. B. Williams – confirming no increase in grass cutting rates.
3. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
4. Holsworthy Area Advisory Group Agenda – 30th September (**circulated to Cllrs**)
5. Hls. Family Workshop Resource Centre – request for a grant (**agenda item**)
6. DCC Highways – Temporary prohibition of through traffic & parking – Weekstone Cross to Killatree Cross – 18 November – 23 November – drainage works
7. TDC – invite to Torrington Area Advisory Group/Agenda – J Hart DCC to address Meeting – Monkleigh Village Hall 22 October, 7.30 p.m.
8. Connecting Devon – Broadband update
9. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
10. DALC – newsletter – training calendar
11. Campaign to Protect Rural England – Seminar on Wind Turbines – Hls. Memorial Hall – 15th November 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. – open invitation
12. E. Lester TDC – Recycling – response to PC's letter (Item 13 sent)
13. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
14. Rural Services Opportunities Bulletin (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
15. Rural Services Vulnerability Service – Broadband October 2103 (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
16. CCD- membership - £50 per annum
17. NALC – update of Standing Orders (in file)
18. Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd – request for a grant (**to be discussed in Full Council**)
19. DCC – confirmation of Locality Grant for litter bin (in file)
20. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
21. K. Chilton – request for grant re. CAB

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

Correspondence Sent – 18 September – 15 October

1. B. Williams – cheque/request to contact Cllr. Giles/request to extend river grass cutting
2. J. Pine TDC Planning – approval of planning application re. underground electric cable to serve Pitworthy Solar Farm, with Council's observations re. pipework and impact on Bridgerule
3. R. McCormack TDC – complaint re. recycling collection debris
4. Cllr. Parsons – Locality grant form re. litter bin

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

1049. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he had attended a Meeting of Pyworthy Parish Council at which the Schools were discussed, also attended by Mr. Fitzsimmons, Head of Holsworthy College and the Federation. The future of Pyworthy School looks "bleak", and Cllr. James has grave reservations about Bridgerule Primary School being in the Federation. He informed the Meeting that Clawton Primary School is no longer in a Federation. A brief discussion took place regarding pupil numbers and the possibility of the School becoming autonomous.

Cllr. James asked the PC to prepare a letter to Mr. & Mrs. Hale regarding a lease, with the Council being the lessee, for the extended river walk – a yearly lease, with payment of £1 on request. This will be placed on the Agenda for the November Council Meeting to be discussed and ratified.

Cllr. James had attended a meeting regarding Neighbourhood Planning at Putford, where the community is hoping to take over the Chapel. He explained the workings of such a scheme and said that Pyworthy is hoping to do the same with the pub (which has been closed for some time) having taken out a six month moratorium. Neighbourhood Planning Groups decide how their areas should develop and he believes it is something Bridgerule should bear in mind.

1050. CLERK'S REPORT

The PC asked Cllr. Abbott if the salt (re. the gritter), which is stored on his premises, is still useable. Cllr. Abbott said he would look at both the salt and gritter and come back with an update.

1051. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr. Cholwill raised the issue of transport in the village, with the Wednesday bus stopping in November. A general discussion took place and the PC was asked to write to Holsworthy Rural Community Transport, asking what provision is made for Bridgerule/could be made.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith asked if there is any news on the Shop. Cllr. James believes there is no reason to suppose the Shop will not continue trading.

Cllr. Abbott informed the Meeting that a resident is planning to get the hedge opposite Bridge Park cut.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith had prepared further signs regarding the penalty for allowing dog fouling and these were distributed to Cllrs. for erecting in various locations of the village.

1052. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signature Date