



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th May 2017 at 7.45 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present: Chairman: Cllr. J Medland
Councillors: Cllrs. J. McDougall, P. Haydon, S. Cholwill, K. Elliott, K James, C Seymour-Smith, B. Beadle, D.Hale.

In Attendance: Parish Clerk
Members of the public x 3

Cllr. Parsons, Cllrs Hale and Giles, and the PCSO had sent apologies.

1837. Welcome by Cllr. Medland, Chairman

Cllr. Medland welcomed those present.

1838. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting Held on 15th April, 2015

Cllr. McDougall proposed that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th April, 2016 be approved. Cllr. Beadle seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1839. Chairman's Report

Cllr Medland informed the meeting that Sports Hall Committee was up and running, and will be looking to start fund raising for the Sports Hall Project imminently.

1840. To Receive A Report a Representative of each the Following:

District Councillor

Cllr. James, as District Councillor spoke to the meeting about his new appointment at Torridge, as Lead Member for the Environment, he hopes to be taking a more pragmatic approach to the role than his predecessor.

The new Local Plan should be back to the inspector by the end of July, if it's to meet its anticipated release date of September. Currently planning can still only work to the old plan.

6000 more houses are to be built in Torridge.

The Trust were disappointed with the feedback and reaction they had been getting, to the point of intimidation regarding Holsworthy Hospital. Three members of Torridge, from Parishes surrounding Holsworthy have been consulting with the Trust. They have agreed to talk with the medical centres about the need to justify opening the hospital. The Councillors have asked to be supplied with the criteria they will be working with, so they are able to hold them accountable. If there is deemed to be a need to reopen the hospital, it will take 3-4 months to reopen. It has been stressed to the Trust that there is insufficient options and provision for homecare in the area, for that option to be successful. All meetings have now been suspended until after the general election in June.

The new appointed lead member for Health at Torridge is Phillip Hackett, who was one of the three Cllrs that approached the trust to open discussions.

The shortage of staff in the area will be an issue. Hopefully there will a positive guide to what is likely to happen after the 9th of June. Stratton will take those that are desperate at the moment.

Police Community Support Officer

PCSO had sent apologies. All crime information for the past year is below in the Neighbourhood Watch report.

Bridgerule Village Hall Limited

Cllr. Cholwill, provided a report on behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

'At the beginning of the year, Cliff Seymour Smith stepped down from being Chairman. The committee are very grateful to him for all the work he did in regards to the refurbishment of the hall. To accomplish what has been done is a relatively small period of time, a lot of work had to be done behind the scenes, to which we are extremely grateful.

Mr Chris Hitchins is now the Chairman, and the refurbishment project continues. In the last year 20 new table and 160 chairs have been acquired, and more recently the main kitchen has had a complete refurbishment, and only a few weeks ago a new floor was laid in the hall.

Thanks are also extended to the Knit and Natter Club who meet regularly, who have made and donated 22 Table Cloths to fit the tables which can be used for events in the hall.

We are fortunate to have a really good and helpful building contractor in Donnie, and without him we would not have been able to succeed like we have.

Unfortunately we have lost one regular class who has made use of the hall for a few years as she now holds all of her classes in Bude, and Stephanie who ran the Toddler Group has moved to live in Bude.

We recently had a very successful History/Open Day which many attended, and only a couple of weeks ago Johnny Cowling came to entertain us, and that proved very successful, but that goes without saying with Johnny. A wedding reception is to be held in September, and another booked for 2018.

Grants are still being applied for, and we are extremely grateful to those where we have been successful, and thank the Parish Council for their continued support. We were fortunate to receive one such grant only last week, which will help us on our way to our biggest expense in that of a new roof and canopy, and we meet next week to discuss that project amongst other items'.

Football Club/Playing Field

Cllr Giles had sent apologies, so no report was available.

Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr. McDougall, as the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, gave the following report:

'Much the same as for the last several years on Bridgerule. There have been 'walk-ins' to properties but nothing appears to have been stolen as one at least one occasion the intruder was seen and fled. No one has yet been picked up for these intrusions.

No one here has been known to have been taken in by any scams, although a computer problem hit some of the co-ordinators having opened emails from the Torridge Area NHW Scheme.

The Torridge Area NHW Team had a recent meeting in the Village Hall and speakers included Police Sergeant Dave Monkton and PCSO Emma Tomkies. There were not many in the audience, which was somewhat of a shame, but it was a worthwhile meeting considered.

I would urge all co-ordinators to register their watch by going onto ourwatch.org.uk.

Thank you

John McDougall, Area Co-ordinator Bridgerule 01288 381237

Parochial Church Council

Mr Harris sent his apologies, but Mrs Pat Johnston spoke on his behalf.

Over the past couple of years Father Penn has had quite a juggling act, and has in recent weeks put forward his resignation, and he will be leaving at the end of May.

A Parish Profile has been put together and a meeting with parishioners for further guidance is to take place next week. Services will continue and an advert for the vacancy will be put online in due course.

Close relationships remain with the school, with Father Penn residing over assemblies, and the school producing a nativity at Christmas.

Fund raising is active with dances, dinners and coffee mornings.

This past years has seen 8 Baptisms and 3 Funerals.

Revel Committee, Chapel and the Buzz Newsletter

Cllr. Cholwill, as organiser of the Revel Week, informed the Meeting that two meetings have already taken place for the 2017 Revel Week. It will run from 23rd to 29th July.

A young lady has come forward to be queen.

A carnival procession will hopefully take place on Saturday 29th July. A Road Closure has already been applied for. It would be great if more of our residents would enter a tableaux as that has been lacking of late. Perhaps some members of the Parish Council would be willing to lead by example!

With the continues support of various organisations of the village I am sure we will have a varied weeks of events for us all to partake in, because it is the one week of the year that we can show what a great village with wonderful community spirit we live in.

Cllr. Cholwill, as editor of The Buzz, gave the following report.

'The Buzz continues to be a popular resource for our village.

Almost 400 copies go out Bi-monthly to every home in Bridgerule, some houses in Holsworthy and Bude and about half a dozen get posted to people that have lived in Bridgerule and still want to receive it although live in another part of the country.

We have about 38 business sponsors and a good proportion of residents who kindly sponsor it. But as the cost is now £264 every time the magazine is printed, we would be grateful for those who do not currently sponsor to perhaps do so as it is a perfect resource for the village to tell all the residents what has gone on, what is about to happen, plus much more. Quite a few who have newly moved to the village find it helpful.

When it began in late 2010 Cliff was printing 8 pages for each copy. The last edition, printed by Phil Tucker, had 40 pages. We are always grateful for any reports and photos sent in for inclusion. Thanks especially to Rose for her very appropriate covers on each issue. We try to make each edition interesting and informative. Special thanks must also go to the volunteers to regularly deliver it.

Cllr Cholwill informed the meeting that the Tamarside Singers are going from strength to strength, and the money that is generated by them is extremely beneficial to chapel funds.

Primary School

Following a recent Ofsted Inspection the school received a Good report. SIAMS is expected any day.

There is uncertainty within Holsworthy Federation, as individual academy trusts are no longer supported by the Government. The federation are currently investigating the Dartmoor Academy Trust. The Diocese is also involved as Bridgerule is a church school, and the church school status wants to be protected.

13 Children move up to secondary school this year, and 6 children will start in reception from the preschool.

Bibles have been donated to all pupils in years 2 to 6. A presentation is coming up this term.

Friends of Bridgerule have been very active in raising funds to the school.

There have been visits to the school and trips out, including RHS Rosemoor and PCSO Tomkies to name a few.

The head Mrs Caroline Hatrell leaves in July. Unsure as to what happens next.

1841. Close

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.13 p.m.

Signature **Date**