

Bridgerule Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th March, 2009 at 8:00pm in
Bridgerule Village Hall**

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

Councillors: Cllrs G. Cooper, G. Abbot, J. Stoneman, Chilton, Giles, Davey and C. Seymour-Smith

In Attendance : Parish Clerk

84. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies

85. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose

86. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no Members of the Public present

87. POLICE REPORT

A Report was not available.

88. ADOPTION AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF 18TH MARCH, 2008

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th February 2009 were recommended for approval by the Chairman. Cllr. Abbott seconded the recommendation and this was unanimously agreed. (Vote, 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

89. MATTERS ARISING

Item 81 – Cllr. Cooper is to obtain a price for a gate/gates to be placed at Southfields.
There were no further matters arising.

90. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - FEBRUARY INVOICES PAID MARCH 09

COUNCIL EXPENDITURE

Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
18.03.09	Knowle Contractors Ltd	388	£1,277.65	£1,111.00	£166.65	Materials for Parish Hall Car Park
18.03.09	Mrs. L. Packer	389	£282.62	£282.62		Time Parish Plan inc. postage
18.03.09	Mrs. L. Packer	390	£566.12	£566.12		Time as Parish Clerk April 08-Oct. 08 inc. expenses (see sheet att. To invoice
18.03.09	Mr. J. Elson	391	£38.58	£38.58		Facilitation of Parish Plan Mtg.
TOTAL			£2,126.39	£2,126.39	£166.65	

COUNCIL RECEIPTS

Date	Paid By	Gross	Net	Reason
18.03.09	Parish Hall	£250.00	£250.00	Part payment for materials re. car park
TOTAL		£250.00	£250.00	

TRANSFER FROM RESERVE TO CURRENT ACCOUNT

Date	
19.03.09	£1,503.32

The Clerk explained the invoices presented by Mrs. Packer and Mr. Elson. The Clerk pointed out that there were several receipts missing from Mrs. Packer's list of expenses relating to postage and stationery;

the receipts dated back to 2005. Cllr. James pointed out that the Council had not agreed to paying Mrs. Packer for her time on the Parish Plan and, indeed, no agreement was made to pay for a facilitator at any meeting relating to the Plan (i.e. Mr. Elson's invoice). After a lengthy discussion Cllr. James proposed that all accounts presented should be paid. Cllr. Davey seconded the proposal, which was carried. (Vote 6 For. 1 Against. 1 Abstention). Cllr. James further proposed that a letter be sent to Mrs. Packer and Mr. Elson, accompanying the payments, stating that the payment is in full and final settlement of all time and disbursements relating to work carried out for Bridgerule Parish Council. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). The invoices relating to the Parish Plan, totalling £321.20, would be deducted from the Parish Plan grant.

The Clerk pointed out to the Meeting that funds should be transferred from the Reserve Account to the Current Account to cover these invoices and it was agreed that an amount of £1,503.32 be transferred. This amount would also cover the Invoice which the Clerk will be presenting to the Council in April for her time.

The Clerk informed the Meeting that she had e-mailed Mr. Ken Abraham, who had previously prepared the Accounts for the Council. She had asked for a quote regarding the cost of completing 2008/2009 Accounts. She had also spoken to David Vaughan, Accountants in Holsworthy, for a quote for the same work. Mr. Abraham had indicated that he had a contract with the Council for preparation of the accounts, but on investigation, the Clerk informed the Meeting, that the Contract had been for 5 years and had started in 2003. This meant it was no longer in force. David Vaughan had given a cost of no more than £50. It was agreed that the Council did not wish to be confined by a contract and that it would be better to have a local accountant prepare the accounts. Cllr. James proposed that David Vaughan, Accountants, be asked to carry out the preparation of the 2008/2009 accounts. This was seconded by Cllr. Cooper and carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The Clerk informed the Meeting that a decision regarding the awarding of a contract for the grass cutting was necessary. Three quotes had been received: Mr. B. Williams, Mr. B. Lyons and Mr. Graham Saunders (who had given his quote to Cllr. Stoneman over the telephone). All were well above the Council's Budget. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that the Clerk would write to Mr. Williams asking him if he would carry out the following work as priced:

Football Field	8 cuts a year @ £50	=	£400.00	April – Sept.
Village Hall	12 cuts a year @ £40	=	£480.00	March - Sept
Riverside & Paddock	10 cuts a year @ £40	=	£400.00	
Total			£1,280.00 per annum	

She would ask Mr. Williams to contact Cllr. Abbott to discuss this. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

91. PLANNING

Planning Applications had been received and after discussion recommendations detailed were approved:

Received 20th February – discussed 21st Feb:

1/0127/2009/FUL Proposed local affordable needs dwelling
Former Railway Yard
Bridgerule

Interest Declared:

Recommendation: *Recommended for approval on the condition that the plan is only for affordable housing*

Received After 20th February

1/0159/2009/FUL Removal of condition 3 of permission 1/1166/2008/FUL
1 & 2 Littlebridge Cross
Bridgerule
Mr. Cholwill

Interest Declared:

Recommendation: *Approval*

1/0091/2009/FUL Conservatory
Brooklands
Bridgerule
Mr. Burns

Interest Declared: **Cllr. James**

Recommendation: **Approval**

1/0223/2009/FUL Toilet facilities for use by visitors including disabled
The Bridge Mill
Bridgerule
Mr. Beat

Interest Declared:

Recommendation: **Approval**

1/0245/2009/FUL Conversion of integral garage to kitchen
11 Littlebridge Meadow
Bridgerule
Mr & Mrs Clarke

Interest Declared: **Cllr. Giles** **Recommendation: Approval**

A site meeting had taken place at the Primary School regarding the request for permission to build a ramp (see Item 75, 18th February 2009 Council Minutes). The Clerk will send a letter to Mrs. Neep, indicating that the Council have agreed to the 'shorter' ramp being built, and requesting the Council be informed of the date of commencement of work and progress reports.

92. HIGHWAYS

Cllr. Stoneman informed the Meeting that he had met with Mr. Bruce Pedrick, DCC Highways' Department on 4th March, 2009. See Appendix 1 which lists the concerns Cllr. Stoneman raised. Mr. Pedrick confirmed that any work regarding white line marking would take place after April. He will liaise with Traffic Management regarding a stop/give way sign at the Post Office Junction. Mr. Pedrick agreed that repairs to road surfaces (from Bridgerule Village Shop, past the Sanctuary and up to the Launceston Road and from Bridgerule Garage on the Launceston Road to Bridgerule) were necessary. Unfortunately, he couldn't confirm when this would be done as financial decisions at DCC are not complete at the moment.

93. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received – February – March 09 (18.02.09 – 18.03.09)

1. TDC – dog control Orders (laminated Poster passed to JS for erecting)
2. DAPC newsletter March/April 09
3. TDC - Strategic Housing Land availability Assessment
4. TDC – Settlement Assessment
5. Village Green March issue / CCD (Community Council of Devon) Village of the Year entry form – bring to parish plan mtg?
6. TDC – Register of Electors update
7. Barnstaple & District Civic Society – Conservation Awards 2009
8. Standards Board February Newsletter
9. TDC – Local Needs Assessment (**see 3 above**) amendment
10. RoSPA – notification of inspection (April)
11. Clerks & Councils Direct Newsletter March
12. DAPC – County Committee Vacancy in Torrridge
13. Devon NHS Trust Membership – leaflets
14. TDC – Settlement Assessment (See 4 above)
15. E-Mail DAPC replying to query re. invoices L. Packer & J. Elson
16. Devontalk Spring edition

- 17. Senior Council for Devon Newsletter Issue 2
- 18. K. Abraham – e-mail re. accounting contract

Correspondence Sent – February - March (to 18th March)

- 1. DAPC – e-mail re. Invoices L. Packer, J. Elson etc.

Item 3 – See Item 96 of these Minutes

Item 13 – These will be placed in the Village Shop

94. PARISH PLAN

The Clerk confirmed the next meeting would take place on 6th April, 2009. Cllr. Cooper had prepared posters to be placed around the village. The Clerk will e-mail Steering Group Members reminding them of the Meeting. Cllr. James reported that he had attended a meeting of Pyworthy Council, where he had seen a copy of Holsworthy Beacon's Plan. He said it was very concise, and envisaged this is what Bridgerule should work towards.

95. TO ADOPT THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT APPROVED MODEL SCHEME WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

The Clerk explained that all Councils are legally obliged to adopt the Model Scheme Freedom of Information Act. She had prepared a Freedom of Information Act document, specific to Bridgerule, which she had circulated to Councillors. Cllr. James proposed the Freedom of Information Act be adopted with immediate effect. Cllr. Giles seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

96. TO DISCUSS AND EITHER COMPLETE OR SET UP A SUB-COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT.

Cllr. James explained why TDC were requesting the information. The full Council then completed the document. The Clerk will forward it to Jenny Preece at TDC.

97. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James had nothing to report.

98. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk had nothing to report.

99. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

There was no exchange of information.

100. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 15TH April, 2008 at 8.00 p.m.

101. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 10.05.m.

Signature

Date

APPENDIX 1

Meeting Held on 4th March, 2009 to Discuss Bridgerule Highway Matters

Cllr. Stoneman – representing Bridgerule Parish Council
Mr. Bruce Pedrick representing DCC Highways' Department

Concerns raised:

Priority

Replace poor road surfaces, very uneven with numerous large holes/large areas top dressing badly eroded:

- From Bridgerule Stores to main Launceston Road passed Village Hall
- From Bridgerule Garage (Sids) on Launceston Road to Littlebridge

White Road Markings

Need renewing at:

- Centre line at junction of Southfields into Estate (worn)
- Stop line Littlebridge junction with middle village road (worn)
- Stop lines (new) at entrance to Littlebridge Meadows. (S38 issued recently, road adopted).
- Lower village road at Post Office. Stop lines (warn). Needs 'give way' sign.
- Stop signs lower road junction with Launceston Road (Knowle Plant) worn)
- Replace – (surfaced over) 30mph road marking sign 100 yards from Bridgerule Chapel 40 yards – Short & Abbott
- Road markings adjacent to Chapel at junction opposite – near school (worn)

Road Holes

Numerous dangerous holes on lower village road to junction with Launceston Road – very bad

Uneven dropped road surface where new footings at Bridge Park distance 30 yards (middle road)