



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th February 2014 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, S. Cholwill, J. Giles and J. Medland

In Attendance: Parish Clerk
Members of the Public
PCSP Beverley Bray

1109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Johnston had sent apologies.

1110. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

1111. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Cllr. James asked the Members of the Public, who he assumed were in attendance in relation to Item 10 of the Agenda, if this in fact was the case, or did anyone have other questions. Members of the Public confirmed that they were in attendance regarding Item 10.

Cllr. James, noted that all Members of the Public were attending in relation to a planning application to be discussed in Item 10 on the Agenda. He explained Standing Orders and informed the Meeting that, to enable the Public to ask questions and make comments, he would suspend Standing Orders. He also proposed that the Order of Business be altered to hear Item 10 next. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was agreed. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1112. PLANNING

Application

1/1147/2013/FUL Erection of a pair of semi-detached residential dwellings
Encot
Bridgerule

Cllr. Giles registered a personal interest. Cllr. James asked Members of the Public to speak individually. Mrs. Tomlin informed the Meeting that letters informing residents of the proposed application had not been received from TDC. Mrs. Goodman stated that she was concerned regarding traffic implications of the development. Mr. Palmer, who confirmed that he had sent a letter of objection (with his reasons) to TDC. Some of his concerns covered the inaccuracy (he believed) of the statements and measurements given in the application, the design being in keeping with the village, parking, sewage and the boundary hedge already having been removed.

Cllr. James explained TDC's planning policy, the Local Development Framework (LDF) and TDC's affordable housing policy.

After Members of the Council had discussed the application in detail, Cllr. James proposed that the PC be instructed to write to the Planning Officer with the concerns Bridgerule Parish Council has regarding the application, namely; residents had not received notification letters, the effect of the development on the sewage system, highways issues, parking issues, the proximity of the dwellings to the pavement, stability of the ground behind the dwellings, the protection of existing buildings, a retaining wall, the affordable housing element and the accuracy of some of the statements/measurements/photo. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 1 Abstention).

Cllr. James thanked the Members of the Public for their attendance and all but two left the Meeting.

The PC informed the Meeting that she had received notification that the Tatson Farm Wind Turbine application had been approved.

1113. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Bray informed the Meetings that no crimes had been reported in Bridgerule over the past 3 months. Two new Police Officers are due to join the Holsworthy force in March.

Cllr. James asked PCSO if she could investigate a vehicle which had been deposited, by a truck, near Bailey Gardens over 7 weeks ago. It was taxed, but had not moved in that time. PCSO Bray will investigate. She then left the Meeting.

Cllr. McDougall left the room at 8.45 p.m.

1114. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Cllr. James proposed the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 15th January, 2014 be approved. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 2 Abstentions).

1115. MATTERS ARISING

Item 1076 – Lease re. River Walk – The PC asked Cllr. James if he had the signed copy of the Lease for her retention. He handed the signed lease to the PC.

Item 1097 – £500 transfer - The PC asked Cllr. Cholwill if the transfer of the £500 had taken place. Cllr. Cholwill confirmed that the actual amount was £497 and this had been transferred to Bridgerule Parish Council's Reserve Account.

Cllr. McDougall returned to the room.

1116. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES						
PAID IN FEBRUARY 2014						
COUNCIL EXPENDITURE						
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
19.02.14	B. Williams	543	£830.00	£830.00		Grass cutting
19.02.14	M. Fenner	544	£156.43	£156.43		Salary - February
			£986.43	£986.43	£0.00	
Bank Accounts						
<u>Current Account</u>			<u>Reserve Account</u>			
Balance at 19th January		£2,759.25			£5,361.56	Balance at 19th January 2014
			£2,759.25			
542			£156.23			
Balance at 19th February			£2,603.02	£5,361.56		Balance at 19th January 2014
<u>Playing Field Project Bonus Saver Account</u>						
Balance at 19th December				£5,020.77		
quarterly bonus - December		quarterly bonus - September		£7.80		
		Interest		£0.39		
Balance at 19th December				£5,028.96		

Cllr. James proposed the accounts be approved for payment. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The PC gave an estimate figure of monies she believes will be held in the current account at 31st March and of the budget to date. She informed the Meeting that she would be recommending, once the first half of the precept has been received in April, that the balance at 31st March 2014 be transferred to the Council's reserve account.

1117. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE COUNCIL'S GRANT POLICY AND GRANT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Copies of the Policy and Application Form had been circulated with the Agenda. The PC explained that she would be placing an advert in The Buzz and Holsworthy Town Newsletter (Summer edition) regarding the grants; applications to be received no later than noon on 29th August, to be discussed at the Full Council Meeting on 17th September. Cllr. McDougall pointed out a typographical error, which the PC will amend. Cllr. James proposed that the Grant Policy and Application documents be approved and that as a matter of courtesy the PC will inform the usual recipients of grants from the Council about the new procedure. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1118. TO DISCUSS THE TAP FUND FOR 2014/2015

Cllr. James explained this item, informing the Meeting that he must apply for monies from the TAP Fund for 2012/2013 as soon as possible. Part of the criteria for receiving money from the Fund is that two or more Councils work together, and to this end he felt that Bridgerule and Pancrasweek Councils would benefit from a joint application. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that funding should be applied for, by Cllr. James to the TAP Fund, to improve facilities and provide equipment for the two village halls. Cllr. Cholwill seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

1119. HIGHWAYS

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he and the PC had attended a Meeting with County Councillor Parsons and Simon Phillips, DCC Highways. A list of concerns regarding the highways in and around Bridgerule had been discussed. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that work will take place in the near future (if at all), due to the deficit in funding available to DCC and its new policy regarding the priority of repairs.

Cllr. James went on to say that it would seem likely that all rural councils, in the future, would have to work with other local organisations/stakeholders, to keep the standard of services at an acceptable level.

1120. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith informed the Meeting that the Hall is still waiting to hear whether it has received the grant from CCD. It is hoped work on the toilets will commence end of April/May. The Hall would like permission from Bridgerule Parish Council to extend the Hall into the play area. It was agreed this subject will be placed on the Agenda for the March Meeting.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith, in his capacity as Chairman of the Hall Company, and other members of the Company, are meeting with Colin Pound, representative of the Post Office, on Friday, 21st February to discuss the possibility of the Hall being used, on a temporary basis, as an outreach Post Office by the Post Master of Kilkhampton. He will e-mail Councillors with an update after the meeting.

Cllr. James is in communication with Daniel Marsh, who has indicated that someone may be interested in the Shop.

1121. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received 15th January – 18th February

1. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
2. C. Pound, PO consultation – PO closure in Bridgerule
3. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
4. RoSPA - Playground inspection brochure/costs (this inspection is done automatically annually)
5. M. Timms – requires explanation of SW Water compensation allocation (see reply from Cllr. James Item)
6. TDC – publication of electoral register by e-mail.
7. **DCC Highways – suspended services for remainder of financial year**
8. TDC – Empty Homes Toolkit (already received after Cllr. James met with S. Southwell)
9. TDC – Planning Committee Mtg – 6th Feb. – to discuss Tatson Farm wind turbine application
10. Victim Support – nationwide circular re. funding
11. M. Norton – Precept – confirming amount required (replied 04.02.14)
12. **TDC – Hls Area Advisory Meeting – 7th April, 7.00 Market Hall, Holsworthy**
13. **DCC – Day Services Review consultation – on line new.devon.gov.uk/day-services/ or hard copy by e-mail clcfedback@devon.gov.uk**

14. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
15. CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) – looking after the elderly in winter
16. S. Cholwill – confirming she will transfer £497 re. play area
17. L. Tarling – update re. PO
18. C. Hitchings – to Cllr. James – query re. money allocated to Pyworthy PC re. Solar Parks
19. Rural Services – invitation for cllr. to join Rural Sounding Board re. fuel poverty, rural transport and rural broadband (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
20. TDC – Part 3 Neighbourhood Planning (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access and hard copies circulated at Council Meeting**)
21. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

Item 18 – Cllr. James explained this item and gave Members of the Council background information on possible funding from companies/developers making planning applications.

Item 20 – Cllr. James went through sections of the Plan.

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

1122. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) are holding an 'open meeting' on Tuesday, 25th February. He encouraged Councillors to attend.

1123. CLERK'S REPORT

The PC had circulated, to all Councillors, copies of the Code of Conduct 2014 ratified at the January Meeting. She had also circulated blank Register of Interest Forms, and asked that if any Councillor felt his/her form needed updating, they do this and return the form to her.

1124. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr. McDougall informed the Meeting that Mr. Hilliard had been told that drilling regarding electrical cabling and Pitworthy Solar Park had been discontinued and a fresh application to change the route is to be made.

Cllr. McDougall further informed the Meeting of changes to the mobile library service and the PC was asked to write to DCC pointing out that the new times would mean people attending the Tuesday coffee morning and school children would not be able to visit the library.

Cllr. Elliott volunteered to join the Rural Sounding Board (Item 19 correspondence).

1125. 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