

Bridgerule Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th November 2008 at 8:00pm in
Bridgerule Village Hall**

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

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

In Attendance : Parish Clerk

Member of the Public: Mr. J. MacDougall (Neighbourhood Watch)

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. G. Abbott and J. Watkins. Cllr. Stoneman passed Cllr. Kershaw's letter of resignation as a Cllr. to the Parish Clerk

25. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose

26. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr. McDougall was present but had no questions.

27. ADOPTION AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF 22ND OCTOBER, 2008

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd October, 2008 were recommended for approval by the Chairman. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the recommendation and this was unanimously agreed. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

28. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

29. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

Councillors agreed the following payments should be made:

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - OCTOBER INVOICES TO BE PAID IN NOVEMBER 2008

COUNCIL EXPENDITURE						
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Nett	VAT	Reason
19.11.08	M.Fenner	378	£25.98	£25.98		Cartridges for computer printer
19.11.08	HM Land Registry	379	£110.00	£110.00		Registering Parish Hall Land
19.11.08	Creative Play	380	£7,623.41	£6,488.00	£1,135.41	Playground Equipment
19.11.08	J. Stoneman	381	£12.87	£12.87		Refreshments Parish Plan Mtg 12 Nov
19.11.08	Cash	382	£30.00	£30.00		Petty Cash
	TOTAL		£7,802.26	£6,666.85	£1,135.41	

COUNCIL RECEIPTS						
Date	Paid By		Gross	Nett		Reason
28.10.08	The Bridge Inn		£1,000.00	£1,000.00		Donation Playground Equipment
	Playground Cttee		£1,000.00	£1,000.00		Donation Playground Equipment
	TOTAL		£2,000.00	£2,000.00		

The Parish Clerk reported that an amount of £5,623.41 should be transferred from the Reserve Account to the Current Account to cover the invoice of £7,623.41 received in respect of the Playground Equipment. The Bridge Inn and the Playground Committee had each donated £1,000

to this expenditure. The transfer form was duly signed. The Reserve Account balance now stood at £5,792.52 of which £2,637.77 is the grant in relation to the Parish Plan. The Clerk also explained that after discussion with the Chairman, a petty cash float should be set up, to cover small disbursements, i.e. stamps, stationery, etc. and this was agreed.

30. **PLANNING**

The following planning applications had been received:

1/1125/2008/FUL Conversion of building to holiday cottages
Knowle Farm
Bridgerule

1/0404/2008/FUL Erection of Dwelling (**Amended Plans**)
Plot 3
Canal Rise
Bridgerule

After discussion, both applications were recommended for approval. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

31. **HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Bruce Pedrick, Highways, DCC and he had agreed to meet with Cllrs. to discuss any highway issues the Council have. Cllrs. Stoneman and Chilton will meet with Mr. Pedrick on Monday, 1st December at 10.30 in the Village Hall. Cllr. James asked that any highway concerns be relayed to the two Cllrs.

Cllr. Stoneman reported on a site visit to Littlebridge Meadows, with Mr. McIntosh and Mr. Sorenson from DCC. It transpired that the issuing of Part 1 for the second phase had not been received; even so houses had been built and residents had moved in. It was agreed that Part 1 would be issued asap. Cllr. Stoneman also reported that a meeting between SW Water and DCC would take place regarding surface water going into each other's drains/pipes. He also explained a problem being suffered by Mr. & Mrs. Houghton, residents of Steps Bungalow. Excess water at the back of their bungalow had been alleviated by them clearing the drainage channel about 6 times a year. They maintain the gully ditch needs enlarging, in width and depth. Cllr. Stoneman had prepared a letter to be sent to Mr. McIntosh, Mr. Severson and Mr. & Mrs. Houghton. He had passed this to the Parish Clerk and it was agreed she should type and send this.

32. **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence Received – Oct/November 2008

Oct – e-mails L.Packer various

1. Communities & Local Government – Consultation Codes of Conduct for local authority members and employees
2. DAPC – Newsletter Nov/Dec 2008
3. NALC – salary awards for local clerks
4. DAPC – updated Freedom of Information Act
5. North Devon Council J. Sunderland CEO – Devon Structural Review and his reply Boundary Committee
6. [TDC – notification of Wheeled Bin Collections from December to March](#)
7. [Audit Commission – Completion of Annual Audit - signed off](#)
8. Devon Playing Fields Association – Newsletter Autumn 2008
9. Clerks & Councils Direct – Monthly Magazine
10. Senior Council Meeting 31st October
11. [Highways re. my letter dated 6 Nov to B. Pedrick](#)
12. Royal Devon & Exeter Magazine, Annual Report – [available www.rdehospital.nhs.uk](http://www.rdehospital.nhs.uk)
13. [L. Packer – copy of letter sent to Cllr. Stoneman re. Parish Plan](#)
14. [HIs Family Workshop – request for financial assistance](#)

Correspondence Sent – October/November 2008

1. L. Packer – e-mail queries re. VAT and Budgets
2. [H.M. Customs & Excise re. VAT](#)
3. [B. Pedrick DCC Highways – various and requesting mtg.](#)

4. L. Packer – e-mail re. correspondence and change of clerk
5. Devon in Touch – e-mail changing address for correspondence
6. Planning TDC – change of address
7. TDC Operational Services – change of address
8. DAPC – change of address
9. Communities and Local Government – change of address
10. Devon Playing Fields Assoc – change of address
11. [Peter Peter & Wright – Parish Hall Land Registry etc.](#)
12. All cllrs. re. planning applications
13. S. Cholwill – thank you for £1000 donation
14. Hls Family Workshop – request for financial assistance

The Clerk drew Cllrs. attention to the highlighted items.

Item 6. of received -Cllr. Stoneman will place in the notice board

Item 13 of received – Cllr. Stoneman explained this letter and reported that he had replied, after consulting Cllr. James, thanking Mrs. Packer for her input into the Parish Plan, but that her involvement is now not required. Should the Council require any further input from her the Council will contact her.

Item 14 of received – The Clerk read out this letter which was asking for financial assistance from the Council. After discussion it was agreed that the request be denied and the Clerk will write conveying this decision. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions)

Item 2 of sent – The Clerk explained this. She has not received a reply, and will be making a claim for reimbursement of VAT for the year. If this is a duplication, Customs & Revenue will inform her.

Item 11 of sent – The cheque of £110 made payable to the Land Registry will now be forwarded to Peter Peter & Wright. This item also requested PPW to inform the Council of their charges for the work they have done.

33. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE BUDGETS AND PRECEPT FOR 2009/2010

The Clerk presented the proposed Budgets and Precept to Cllrs. Cllr. Chilton asked why the increase was higher than the CPI and it was explained that each item had been gone through individually and to alleviate the possibility of there being a shortfall in the Council's finances, the increases were necessary. The Clerk pointed out that a figure of £2,000 (for benches in the playground) had already been taken out. Cllr. Giles also pointed out that an unknown quantity is, at the moment, for the cutting of grass in 2009/2010. A quotation already received was in excess of £1,500. After a lengthy discussion, Cllr. Chilton proposed an increase to the Budgets of 4.5% was sufficient. Cllr. James asked for a seconder to the Proposal. There was none.

Cllr. Stoneman Proposed the Budget and Precept figures be ratified as presented. Cllr. Davey seconded this Proposal and the Proposal was carried. (Vote 6 For. 1 Against. 0 Abstentions).

34. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James expanded on Littlebridge Meadows. He explained that it was possible that instead of 3 houses being built at the bottom end, 1 four bedroomed house may be an alternative and Mr. McIntosh was in agreement to this. This would help alleviate the problems with water and parking. It is possible, in exchange for this change to his plans, Mr. McIntosh could take over and renovate the buildings forming the Post Office 'block' from Mr. Orchard. Cllr. James had talked to planners and they seemed in agreement with this. Cllr. James reported that he had also had a conversation with another resident of Littlebridge Meadows regarding the size of rafters used in the building of the house the resident occupied.

Cllr. Stoneman reported that work at Southfields had been completed, as had the fencing of the Playground. He brought to the Council's attention a problem with cars driving onto the grass and suggested that wooden posts be erected so that notices could be put up asking motorists not to drive on the grass. This was agreed and Cllr. Stoneman would organise this.

35. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported as follows:

- She had started preparing posters for the next Parish Plan Meeting on 9th December. Cllr. Stoneman had informed her that Cllr. Cooper could laminate these and they would be happy to put them up.

- Letters to the volunteers for the Steering Group had been prepared and Cllr. Stoneman would circulate these.
- The Annual Audit had been agreed by the Audit Commission and a notice from the Commission, notifying residents that they can get a copy of this, will be placed in the notice board for a period of 14 days.

36. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 17th December, 2008 at 8.00 p.m. and Cllr. James suggested that residents could be invited and refreshments served at the end of the Meeting. Cllrs. agreed this and will bring the refreshments along to the Meeting.

37. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Signature

Date