



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19th December, 2012 at 8.00 p.m. in
Bridgerule Village Hall**

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

Councillors: Cllrs. J. McDougall, C. Seymour-Smith, P. Haydon, J. Medland, G. Abbott, A. Johnston, J. Giles,
and K. Elliott

In Attendance: Parish Clerk (PC)

Members of the Public

859. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Davey and PCSO Bray had sent apologies

860. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

861. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present at the time this item was heard.

862. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Bray had sent her apologies but had informed the PC that all is well in Bridgerule at the moment. There had, unfortunately, been 6 road collisions in the Bridgerule area in 6 days, mainly due to a combination of adverse weather conditions, poor light and driver error.

863. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Cllr. McDougall referred to Item 850, pointing out that Cllr. Davey did not declare an interest. Cllr. McDougall, under the same item, also queried whether it had been said that an amount of £330 had been received, from Waitrose, by the Committee. He believed the Minutes should read 'will be received'. Cllrs. agreed that at the Minutes are correct as written.

Cllr. James proposed the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st November, 2012 be approved. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstention).

864. MATTERS ARISING

Item 849 – Seat for Vinnicombe Park – The PC confirmed the seat had been delivered to Short & Abbott and Cllrs. Abbott and Giles had agreed to assemble and place the seat at the location, once the weather permits.

Item 850 – Village Hall – The PC confirmed that Clive Smale will be attending the Full Council Meeting on 16th January, but that due to a prior booking of the Hall, the Meeting will commence at 7.45 p.m.

865. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were presented for payment:

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN DECEMBER 2012						
COUNCIL EXPENDITURE						
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
27.11.12	Bradford Pre school	501	£25.00	£25.00		Donation
19.12.12	Neptune Outdoor Furniture Ltd	502	£597.60	£498.00	£99.60	Seat Playing Field
19.12.12	M.Fenner	503	£156.43	£156.43		Salary - December
19.12.12	HM Revenue & Customs	504	£117.20	£117.20		PAYE
Total			£896.23	£796.63	£99.60	

claimed is set at £6.80 per elector and, if applied for, would add approximately £4,000 to Bridgerule Parish Council's precept.

The PC explained that all Councils have unrestricted specific statutory powers to spend money. This includes supporting the maintenance etc. of a village hall, recreational facilities, etc. As they have this power, Section 137 money cannot be used to support a village hall. Hence, Bridgerule Parish Council's budget (each financial year) includes a sum for maintaining the Hall.

Mr. & Mrs. Hitchings (members of the public) arrived at this point and Cllr. James briefly went over what had been said. The PC passed a briefing note from DALC (Devon Association of Local Councils) and the most up to date Topic Note regarding Section 137 from NALC to Mr. Hitchings for his information.

868. PLANNING

No planning applications or permissions had been received.

869. HIGHWAYS

The PC informed the Meeting that she had received notification of a road closure from the village shop up to the right hand turn to Canal Rise. This is for surfacing works on 12th – 13th March 2013.

Cllr. McDougall asked why 30mph signs are located where they are. After discussion, it was agreed that the PC would write to DCC Highways asking for its explanation. Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported the amount of water (causing dangerous ice conditions) running down the B3254 road from Newacott Cross. The PC will write to DCC Highways asking if there is a permanent solution to this.

Cllr. McDougall enquired about an agenda item for Emergency Planning. The PC informed the Meeting that she had e-mailed Sam Sharp to see if he could give the Council an update on gritting etc. She has not received a reply, but will try and contact him again.

870. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith asked the Chairman if Mr. Hitchings could speak.

Cllr. James proposed that Standing Orders be suspended. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Mr. Hitchings informed the Meeting that the Hall Committee had been informed that its application for a grant from the Prince's Countryside Trust had been unsuccessful. This source will be applied to again in the new financial year and other applications will be made from other sources.

Cllr. James gave brief information on grants which are, apparently, readily available for projects such as sports halls.

871. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received 21st November – 18th December 2012

1. Bridgerule Early Years – request for grant
2. C. Smale – invite to Cl. Meeting January – reply
3. Holsworthy Motor Club – Chairman's Trophy event 24th February 2013
4. Zurich insurance – replies re. bus shelter
5. DCC Highways – re. bus shelter and restrictions/planning
6. TDC – electoral register update (**file**)
7. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
8. Rural Services – funding opportunities, etc. (**circulated to Cllrs**)
9. DALC – newsletter (**circulated to cllrs**)
10. DCC – Kents View T. Curtis requests salt bag be placed
11. DALC – localisation of council tax support
12. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

Correspondence Sent – 21st November – 18th December 2012

1. T. Curtis – requesting confirmation of DCC being responsible for grass/hedge at bus stop and bus shelter

2. C. Smale – invite to January 2013 meeting re. lease etc. with Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd.
3. T. Curtis – queries re. proposed self-build bus shelter on land at hall.
4. Zurich Insurance – queries re. insurance implications re self-build bus shelter.
5. Mr & Mrs Beadle – confirming Council’s acceptance to maintain grass/hedge/shelter near bus stop
6. T. Curtis – confirming County Cllr. Parsons offer of capital grant for bus shelter
7. Zurich Insurance – confirming details
8. C. Smale – confirming Jan. meeting
9. Zurich Insurance – further info.
10. DCC – reporting water/ice Kents View

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors’ attention.

872. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Cllr. James reported as follows:

Mr. Clarke has made enquiries of various councils as to whether they have a complaints’ procedure in place. Bridgerule, as with many rural councils, does not, and after discussion with Mr. Ken Miles, TDC, Cllr. James’ advice to anyone wishing to make a complaint is to write to Mr. Miles, Solicitor, at TDC.

The tenants of the Village Shop and Mr. Marsh (owner) have agreed to a further one year lease, which will mean that the shop/post office will not close. During the year it is envisaged roofing and other external work will be carried out. Cllr. James also understands that the Post Office would like to upgrade Bridgerule Post Office and he will forward any information as and when it is available.

873. CLERK’S REPORT

The PC informed the Meeting that she feels it would be a good idea if the Council purchased a new noticeboard, with the location being outside the Village Hall. She explained that during the year certain legal items, as well as Agendas, have to be available for public information and it is proving difficult to get all documents in the noticeboard outside the pub. After discussion it was agreed that the PC would investigate costs and report back to the Council.

874. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr. Haydon enquired about old buildings at the entrance to Canal Rise. Cllr. James confirmed that a new directive from Central Government means that all developments have to be looked at and any buildings kept safe and tidy. He is aware that an Officer from TDC will be visiting this site shortly. An Officer will also be inspecting the grass verge opposite the entrance to Canal Rise, as this should be a pavement.

Cllr. McDougall mentioned a BBC Spotlight programme which had mentioned Big Lottery funding in Somerset.

875. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Signature Date