



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 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, Alex  
Johnston, J. Giles, J. Medland and S. Cholwill

In Attendance: Parish Clerk  
County Cllr. Barry Parsons

**1053. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received.

**1054. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

**1055. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

**1056. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Cllr. James proposed the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 be approved. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 3 Abstentions). Cllr. James signed the Minutes.

**1057. MATTERS ARISING**

Item 1038 – Rubbish Bin – The PC asked Cllr. James if there was any progress on the processing of his grant of £67.50 towards the bin. Cllr. James told the Meeting that he had been informed that Town and Parish Councils are excluded from receiving grants from District Councillors and it was agreed the money would be raised by some other means.

Item 1038 – Bus Shelter - Cllr. James also said that he would be speaking to Malcolm Fraser and that, with the assistance of Cllrs. Abbott and Giles, the bus shelter will be completed.

Item 1038 – Derelict Housing – The PC asked Cllr. James if he had received the report from Sue Southwell. Cllr. James confirmed that he had not received a report, and felt that the whole exercise was a waste of time and money. The PC was instructed to write to Ken Miles, Solicitor at TDC, to enquire if any action could be taken with regard to empty properties, which are falling into disrepair and where, apparently, Council Tax is not being paid.

Item 1024 – Compensation from SW Water – The PC has sent a further e-mail to Mr. Leigh, SW Water, asking him if any progress has been made in sending a cheque to the Council.

Item 1046 – Highways – The PC confirmed she had written (and reported on the DCC website) to Mr. Phillips. She read out his reply, which indicated that there is a large backlog in clearing the drains and little funding for this type of work. He stated that the ditch/stream outside Short & Abbott is the responsibility of the Environment Agency; he confirmed that DCC had jetted a section last year and that the ditches have been cleaned out, but commented that he isn't sure that it will solve everything at this location.

Item 1051 – Rural Transport – The PC had circulated the response to her letter to Holsworthy Rural Community Transport, together with details of the services available. She also pointed out the e-mail received from DCC, which states that the only change to the bus service to Bridgerule is a change in the bus company – this will now be operated by Stagecoach.

**1058. POLICE REPORT**

A Police Report was not available.

Although not an Item Agenda, the Chairman allowed Cllr. Parsons to give a brief report as County Councillor.

**1059. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr. Parsons expressed his pleasure at the improvements that have taken place within the Hall. He reported that he had been in contact with Simon Phillips, DCC Highways, regarding the problems being encountered by the road closure from Burnards House to the Red Post, with heavy traffic using the roads in and out of Bridgerule and not the designated diversion route. Mr. Phillips had indicated that Highways cannot stop traffic using Bridgerule as an alternative route. Cllr. Parsons suggested that Members of the Council could meet Mr. Phillips before the next Highways' Committee Meeting, which is held by Holsworthy Town Council, to discuss all Highways' concerns Bridgerule Parish Council might have. The PC informed the Meeting that the next scheduled Committee Meeting is on the 20<sup>th</sup> January. It was agreed that the PC would arrange for Cllr. James and herself to meet with Mr. Phillips on that day. Cllr. Parsons informed the Meeting that there is a backlog of work (Highways) because of the recent weather.

Cllr. Parsons expressed his concerns about the proposed reduction in opening hours at the recycling centre at Anvil Corner (the proposal is to open only at weekends – see Item 13 of Correspondence Received). This may form part of many reductions in services provided by DCC because of expected financial constraints in 2014/2015. He has spoken to the Cabinet Member at DCC responsible for this subject, suggesting that the proposal could be amended to include opening on Wednesdays, as well as Saturdays and Sundays. The Cabinet Member said he would take this back to a meeting of the full Cabinet. A general discussion took place regarding this subject, including the cost of an increase in fly tipping falling back onto TDC, the contractor at Anvil Corner and the fact that some areas are looking to charge organisations, such as charity shops and schools for using recycling centres. Cllr. James asked Cllr. Parsons how the financial situation at Anvil Corner affected DCC since a contractor is running the site. The explanation was unclear.

Cllr. Parsons further reported that he will be attending a Meeting in London and will be speaking on Welfare Reform, particularly with regard to housing. Cllr. Parsons left the Meeting.

**1060. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT**

<b><u>BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN NOVEMBER 2013</u></b>							
							-
<b><u>COUNCIL EXPENDITURE</u></b>							-
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason	
20.11.13	Cash	535	£27.59	£27.59		Petty Cash	
20.11.13	M. Fenner	536	£156.43	£156.43		Salary - November	
21.11.13	Bude DIY Ltd	537	£134.94	£134.94		Materials re. bus shelter	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£318.96</b>	<b>£318.96</b>	<b>£0.00</b>		
<b>Bank Accounts</b>							
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>			
Balance at 19th October		£5,069.84		£7,360.17		Balance at 19th September	
BACS Locality Grant re. litter bin		£67.50		0.73		Interest 30th September	
			£5,137.34				
	529		£150.00				
	530		£162.00				
	531		£156.23				
	532		£1,000.00				
	533		£50.00				
	534		£50.00				
Balance at 19 November			£3,569.11			£7,360.90	

	<u>Playing Field Project Bonus Saver Account</u>		
-			
	Balance at 12th September 2013		£3,016.00
	quarterly bonus - June	September	£4.55
	Interest		0.22
	Balance at 31st July 2013		£3,020.77

Cllr. James proposed the accounts be approved for payment. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**1061. TO DISCUSS AND RATIFY THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015**

Copies of the proposed Budget and Precept had been circulated with the Agenda.

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that it is possible that TDC, along with all principal authorities in the country, will not be passing on, to Parish and Town Councils, the Council Tax Benefit Support Grant. This will have an impact on the precept. However, if Parish Councils decided to increase the Precept to cover this, Ministers could then criticise the consequent increase and may then consider capping any such increase.

Cllr. Johnston proposed that the Budget and Precept for 2014/2015, as presented, be accepted and approved. Cllr. Elliott seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**1062. TO AUTHORISE THE TRANSFER OF £2K FROM THE RESERVE ACCOUNT TO THE PLAYINGFIELD PROJECT BONUS SAVER ACCOUNT**

The PC had prepared a letter of authorisation, to be signed by two signatories, regarding this. Cllr. Elliott proposed that £2K be transferred from the Reserve Account to the Playingfield Project Bonus Saver Account. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). Cllrs. James and McDougall duly signed the letter of authorisation.

**1063. TO DISCUSS AND RATIFY A LETTER, TO MR. & MRS. HALE, REGARDING THE LEASE FOR THE EXTENDED RIVER WALK**

Cllr. James had prepared a document regarding an informal lease re. this subject, which he read out. Cllr. McDougall proposed that the document be ratified. Cllr. Giles seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). The PC will prepare the document for signing by the Chair and Deputy Chair, together with Mr. & Mrs. Hale. This will be given to the Chair at the December Meeting of the Full Council.

**1064. PLANNING Applications**

1/0081/2013/FULM Installation of a single wind energy generator 57m to tip with associated  
Holladon Farm infrastructure  
Bridgerule

Interest: None  
Recommendation: Cllr. James proposed that TDC Planning Department be informed that Bridgerule Parish Council has no objections to the application. Cllr. Abbott seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 1 Abstention).

1/0807/2013/FUL Conversion of existing outbuilding to form new residential garage  
Pale Park, Marhamchurch  
Bridgerule

Interest: None  
Recommendation: Cllr. James proposed the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Interest: None

Recommendation: Cllr. James proposed the application be recommended for approval. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 10 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

#### 1065. HIGHWAYS

It was agreed that the PC would write to Simon Phillips, DCC Highways, expressing the Council's concerns regarding the use of Bridgerule, by vehicles, as an alternative to the authorised diversion because of the road closure mentioned in Item 1059 above.

#### 1066. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith informed the Meeting that the blinds for the windows would be put up shortly; a recent table top event had been successful and bookings for the Hall are being made by new users. Preparations are being made for the work to be carried out in the New Year.

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he had received a letter from FOBS, (Friends of Bridgerule School) asking if a cycle rack could be placed inside the entrance to the Playingfield. The PC will acknowledge the letter and it will be placed, for discussion, on the Agenda for the December Council Meeting.

#### 1067. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

##### Correspondence Received 16<sup>th</sup> October – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013

1. TDC – Emergency Planning
2. DALC – Healthwatch Update
3. Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd. - thank you for grant
4. DCC – Mobile Library public consultation (**circulated to Cllrs**)
5. DCC – Highway Safety Awareness Training (**forwarded to Sam Sharp**)
6. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
7. TDC – Weather Message re. heavy rain 21 October
8. DCC – newsletter October (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
9. DCC – Weds. Bus service not to be cancelled – to be operated by Stagecoach (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
10. TDC – Community Resilience – flooding, gales, etc.
11. DCC – new leaflet Travelling in Winter
12. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
13. DCC – proposal to restrict opening at Anvil Corner Recycling to weekends from April 2014
14. Clerks & Councils Direct – November edition
15. DALC – November newsletter
16. SW Highways – road closure Newacott Cross to Bevill's Hill – 11th – 15th November
17. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
18. Cllr. Parsons – re Road Closure and comments from Simon Phillips re. necessity to close road (see 16 above)
19. DCC Highways – Capital Development and Waste Management (**circulated to Cllrs**)
20. DALC – November newsletter Part 2
21. A. Beat – blocked drains (see reply item 7 of Sent)
22. S. Phillips – reply re drain and ditch cleaning
23. Rural Services weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with internet access**)
24. M. Prentice – Rural Transport – Detailing transport facilities for Bridgerule

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

##### Correspondence Sent – 16<sup>th</sup> October – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013

1. P. Hunter – Register of Interest form in respect of Cllr. Cholwill
2. CAB – grant cheque
3. Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd – grant cheque
4. Holsworthy Family Workshop – grant cheque
5. M. Prentice – Rural Community Transport – service in Bridgerule query

6. S. Phillips – request for work from Churchtown to Chapel Cross (drains etc.)
7. A. Beat – confirmation of reporting request for drain clearance
8. DCC Highways – again reporting drains/potholes/gulley clearing from Churchtown to Chapel Cross
9. S. Phillips – asking for a response to 6. above
10. M. Prentice – chaser re. info. see item 5 above

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

**1068. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman reported that he and Cllr. Abbott had attended an 'open day' event organised by CCD, primarily to find out ways of proceeding with funding to purchase the playing field and a possible sports hall. He informed the Meeting that Pyworthy's pre-school only has 5 attendees and this could have an impact on the future of the Primary School. He feels that it is imperative that Bridgerule sets out to create a culture and system to get youngsters involved in village life. A project to get a Sports Hall built on the playingfield would go a long way in helping, not only the School, but the entire community, particularly youngsters.

The Chairman informed the Meeting of the possible cuts, in Holsworthy, to services provided by TDC in the coming financial year.

**1068. CLERK'S REPORT**

The PC had circulated the calendar of Meetings for 2014 prior to the Meeting. She asked that Cllrs. inform her if they are going to be unable to attend the Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December, to ensure this will be quorate.

**1069. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

Cllr. McDougall informed the Meeting that Mr. & Mrs. Langley's plans for the reservoir are progressing slowly. He also informed the Meeting that Mr. Hilliard had complained that the recycling collection is still leaving rubbish on the highways after collection. The PC will report this to TDC.

Cllr. Haydon informed the Meeting that the verge outside 'Wits End', Jewells Cross, is being turned into a 'mud bath' because the residents are driving over the verge.

Cllr. Abbott confirmed he had checked the salt and the PC said that she had e-mailed Mr. Sharp to ensure he was still happy to do the gritting. She has not received a reply as yet.

Cllr. Giles informed the Meeting that the School has requested that the area near the Football Clubhouse be used as a 'Fire Meeting Point'. He also referred to the request mentioned in Item 1066 re. a cycle rack and Cllr. James will meet with him to look at possible areas around the Football Clubhouse.

**1070. CLOSE**

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signature ..... Date .....