



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st March, 2012 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

Councillors: Cllrs, J. Medland, J. McDougall, S. Sharp, G. Abbott, C. Seymour-Smith, A. Johnston, K. Davey and J. Giles

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

PCSO Beverley Bray

Member of the Public

688. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Haydon and Cllr. Parsons had sent apologies

689. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

690. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Mrs. Sheila Cholwill informed the Meeting that the Bridgerule Diamond Jubilee Celebration would take place on Tuesday, 5th June 2012. She asked if the Council would provide a donation to buy celebration mugs for the children of the village. The Clerk confirmed that money had been set aside in the Budget for 2012/2013 for such a purpose. Mrs. Cholwill asked if the Council would have any objection to a marquee being erected in the playground area outside the Hall; the plans encompassed a tea and a professional juggler who could provide a circus workshop. The time of the event, at the moment, would be approximately 3.30 – 8.00 p.m. Cllr. James said the Council would have no objection.

As PCSO Bray had not arrived at this point the Chairman changed the Order of Business to allow Item 5 of the Agenda to be heard next.

691. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Parsons was not present and a report was not available. However, he had asked the Clerk to let the Council know that he had attended a meeting with Phil Norrey, CEO of DCC and John Hart, Chairman of DCC, and had brought various subjects concerning Torridge to their attention.

692. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Bray reported that there had been various parking issues within Bridgerule, which had been dealt with. She had also been approached by a lady who would like to set up a Youth Club in Bridgerule. This was felt by Cllrs. to be a good idea. Cllr. James asked for any questions.

Cllr. McDougall asked if any progress had been made regarding a Community Speedwatch for Bridgerule. PCSO Bray confirmed that Cllr. Johnston had volunteered and all the relevant checks had successfully taken place and Cllr. Johnston would be included in the Community Speedwatch once it commenced. A short discussion took place regarding the suitability of more Cllrs. applying to be volunteers, and it was agreed, by both Cllrs. and PCSO Bray, that there was no reason why this would be seen as inappropriate.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith suggested that a possible Youth Club might wish to use the Village Hall, and PCSO Bray said she would pass this on to the person concerned.

693. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th February, 2012 had previously been circulated. Cllr. McDougall pointed that Item 2 of Correspondence Received (Item 683 of the Minutes) should read '23rd April' and not '2nd April'. This will be amended. Cllr. James proposed the Minutes be approved. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

694. MATTERS ARISING

Item 675 – The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had been arranged with Mike Newcombe, Safety Officer DCC Highways and Cllr. James outside the School on 27th March at 10.00 a.m. County Cllr. Parsons will also attend.

Item 680 – Highways – The Clerk confirmed that drains had been reported and cleaned. She had written to Simon Phillips as instructed (item 4 of Correspondence Sent) and his reply (Item 7 Correspondence Received) had been circulated to all Cllrs.

Item 681 and 686 – The Clerk confirmed that an article had appeared in the Buzz re. gritting and street lighting.

695. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were presented for payment:

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN MARCH 2012							
COUNCIL EXPENDITURE							-
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason	
21.03.12	M. Fenner	471	£156.43	£156.43		Salary (Feb)	
21.03.12	C & L Mail Order Ltd	472	£185.67	£154.73	£30.94	Production of Buzz - from P Plan	
29.03.12	M. Fenner	473	£156.23	£156.23		Salary (March)	
29.03.12	HM Revenue & Customs	474	£117.40	£117.40		PAYE	
TOTAL			£615.73	£584.79	£30.94		
Bank Accounts							
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>			
Balance at 19th January		3,656.87			£4,998.35		
BACS - 31.01.12 - Salt Gritter DC		£1,312.00			0.5 Interest June 11		
		£4,968.87			0.5 Interest Sept 11		
					0.5 Interest Dec 11		
		467	£156.43				
			£156.43				
Balance at 19th February			£4,812.44		£4,999.85		At 19 October - £185.67 P. Plan
					£4,813.18		Available to Council as Reserves

The Clerk pointed out that as the year end was 31st March, to assist with the accounting process, her salary (for March) and PAYE due to HM Revenue & Customs would be paid before that date. She did not require the two cheques to be signed immediately and would contact Cllrs. McDougall and Abbott when their signatures are required. She confirmed that the VAT reclaim of £582.40 had been received.

Cllr. McDougall proposed the payments be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Seymour-Smith and unanimously agreed. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

696. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM CLLR. ABBOTT RE. PURCHASING LAND TO EXTEND THE PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL PITCH AND AN UPDATE FROM CLLR. JAMES RE. THE EXTENSION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE RIVER BANK WALK.

Cllr. Abbott informed the Meeting that he had met with Sarah Taragon, who had suggested the format of a letter Cllr. Abbott would be circulating to individuals/organisations who could assist with funding. Cllr.

Abbott would be e-mailing a copy of the letter to the Clerk and Cllr. Parsons. There is still no progress re. the riverbank walk.

697. TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF A MINI-ROUNDAABOUT IN THE CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE

Cllr. Seymour-Smith had sent an e-mail to the Clerk re. his ideas on this subject. A discussion took place regarding the roundabout, not only one in the centre of the village at the village shop junction, but also at the School. Other ideas regarding the slowing down of traffic near the school were also discussed. The Clerk informed the Meeting that she had brought the subject of a roundabout up, with Simon Phillips DCC Highways, at the Highways' Surgery held in Holsworthy on 14th March. He had taken the details away with him, and had suggested that Cllr. Seymour-Smith attend the schedule meeting, with Cllrs. James, Parsons and Mike Newcombe, on 27th March outside the school. Cllr. Seymour-Smith made a note of the date. The Clerk also stated that as Mike Newcombe is the Safety Officer for DCC Highways, he would have ideas regarding the slowing down of vehicles.

698. PLANNING

The following permission had been received

1/0010/2012/FUL Solar panels on agricultural building (16 module 4KWP array)
Churchtown Farm
Bridgerule

699. HIGHWAYS

Potholes at Furze Cross and Borough Cross will be reported to Highways by the Clerk.

700. EMERGENCY PLANNING

Cllr. Sharp confirmed that most of the salt had not been used, and that kept in the correct conditions would be useable next winter. The machine would be maintained. Cllr. James thanked him for the work he had undertaken.

701. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith informed that Meeting that he had been advised, by CCD, that a grant could be available for design and planning work on the new Hall. The Committee is working on this, as the application has to be submitted by 13th April, 2012. Mrs. Cholwill confirmed that it is unlikely that the insurance company will accept a claim for work required on a drain beneath the Hall.

702. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received 15th February – 20th March

1. NALC – Prayers at Council Meetings
2. E. Pickles MP – Freedom to Pray
3. Various e-mails re. mini roundabout (from Cllrs)
4. DCC – info. re. Sport England and the FA (**forwarded to Cllrs. Abbott/Giles**)
5. DCC – 2013 national bus pass renewal
6. CCD – PCP's info. (**see sent 5**)
7. S. Phillips – reply re. road Burnards House – Bridgerule (**all Cllrs. circulated**)
8. Cllr. S-Smith – queries for C. Smale, solicitor re. constitution of Hall, etc.
9. C. Smale – response to item 8 above (**forwarded to Cllrs S-Smith and James**)
10. S. Phillips – further response re. item 7 above (**circulated to Cllrs**)
11. Plandscape – query re. Moles (**info. forwarded to Cllr. Giles**)
12. Rural Services – opportunities bulletin (**forwarded to Cllrs**)
13. TDC – Electoral register update (**file**)
14. Clerks & Councils Direct – monthly newsletter
15. M. Newcombe – possible dates for Meeting with Cllr. James – see 10 of sent
16. Safer North Devon – Probation Service and Initiative South West – maintenance of grounds etc
17. Rural Services – weekly newsletter
18. North Devon Healthcare – foundation trust feedback – membership
19. CCD – Village Green magazine – bulk oil buying
20. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs**)
21. DALC – Membership details 2012/2013 (being paid direct from Precept by TDC)
22. CCD – Membership 2012/2013
23. Rural Services – weekly newsletter (**forwarded to Cllrs**)

Highlighted items brought to Cllrs'. attention.

Correspondence Sent – 15th February – 20th March

1. DCC – cheque re. salt gritter (in finance sheet file)
2. B. Williams – cheque re. grass cutting (in finance sheet file)
3. S. Cholwill – article for Buzz re. gritting and street lighting
4. S. Phillips DCC Highways – road Burnards House to Bridgerule
5. CCD – reply re. PCP's
6. C. Smale – queries forwarded from Cllr. S-S
7. DCC – reporting drains Churchtown Hill to Mill Road (**ref. number provided**)
8. Plandscape – request for mole catcher info
9. M. Newcombe DCC – Safety Officer – request for appointment for Cllr. James
10. Cllr. James – dates to meet M. Newcombe/request for confirmation

Highlighted items brought to Cllrs'. attention.

703. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James reported that there are still 2 affordable houses available on the Canal Rise development and that he had been appointed Chairman of the Ruby Cycleway Committee. An apprentice scheme is being set up, by TDC in conjunction with Bicton College.

704. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reminded Cllrs. that before the next Council Meeting (18th April), the Annual Parish Meeting would take place, commencing at 7.30 p.m. She would be sending out the normal letters asking for reports on various organisations and a separate Agenda for the Parish Meeting.

705. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr. McDougall said that he had been approached by Mrs. Hallett regarding leaking water outside a bungalow along from Canal Rise and towards Jewells Cross. The Clerk confirmed that this had been reported some time ago. A short discussion took place.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported a possible drainage problem at the Borough Cross junction. The Clerk was instructed to write to Environmental Health regarding the possible drainage problem, which may be caused by a seeping septic tank.

Cllr. Giles confirmed that a mole had been captured on the playingfield/football pitch. However, it was likely there were more.

706. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Signature Date