

Bridgerule Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st April, 2010 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. Davey
 Councillors: Cllrs. G. Abbott, J. Giles, C. Seymour-Smith, J. Medland, K. Chilton, J. Stoneman, A. Linney and J. McDougall

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr. K. James, Cllr. Davey took the Chair.

Cllr. Seymour-Smith asked if any Cllrs. had objections to Mrs. Rose Hutchins taking photos of the Meeting, for inclusion on the website. There were no objections.

309. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr. K. James. County Cllr. Parsons.
 Cllr. Giles had sent apologies for possible lateness.

310. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

311. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Mr. A. Weekes, of Littlebridge Meadow, raised the following queries:

- Would it be possible for the 'Littlebridge Meadow' sign at the entrance to incorporate an indication that this is a cul de sac. The Parish Clerk will contact DCC Highways regarding this and also about road markings in that area.
- Cars are parking on the pavement of Littlebridge Meadows, this is causing problems for pedestrians. The Parish Clerk will contact PCSO Beverley Harvey and ask for her assistance to rectify this.

The Clerk will contact Mr. Weekes, by e-mail, to keep him updated.

312. POLICE REPORT

There was no Police Report. Cllr. McDougall reported a latest telephone 'scam' to try and obtain individuals' bank details. There was a general discussion regarding the 'roly poly' near Furze Cross. It was agreed that, as this is a 'highway' no obstacle can be placed to stop cars using the 'road'.

313. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th March, 2010 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Davey proposed the Minutes be approved. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 5 For. 0 Against. 3 Abstentions).

314. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk again asked whether there was any progress regarding replacing the swing seats and the fencing at Southfields. Cllr. Abbott assured her that this work is in hand.

315. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Parsons had sent his apologies.

316. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were presented for payment:

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN MARCH/APRIL 2010						
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUNCIL EXPENDITURE						
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
23.03.10	Short & Abbott Ltd	417	£306.44	£260.80	£45.64	Fencing for open Space S'fields

21.04.10	D.J. Vaughan	418	£47.00	£40.00	£7.00	
TOTAL			£353.44	£300.80	£52.64	
Bank Accounts						
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>		
Balance at 17th March 2010		1,519.56		£5,072.63		of which £2241.57 is Parish Plan Grant
	<u>Payments</u>				0.5	Interest - June
	414		£1,175.00		0.51	Interest - September
-	417		£306.44		0.51	Interest - December
-					<u>£158.77</u>	VAT repayment
-					£5,232.92	At 19th February 2010
-						
-						
-						
-			£1,481.44			
-	Transfer from Reserve					
-					<u>£1,408.59</u>	
						Parish Plan Grant remaining £832.98
					£300	Transferred to Current A/C 17.03.10
Balance at 17th April 2010			£38.12		£4,932.92	of which £832.98 is Parish Plan grant

Cllr. Chilton proposed that the accounts presented should be paid. This was seconded by Cllr. Abbott and unanimously agreed. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

317 TO DISCUSS AND ADOPT FINANCIAL REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL

Copies of the proposed Financial Regulations had previously been circulated. The Clerk explained that she had been unable to locate previous Financial Regulations relating to Bridgerule Parish Council, and that it is a requirement that all Councils have such regulations. She thanked both Cllrs. Chilton and McDougall for their input. After a short discussion Cllr. McDougall proposed that the Financial Regulations, with the amendments discussed, as presented should be adopted by Bridgerule Parish Council. Cllr. Chilton seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Cllr. Giles arrived at 8.35 p.m.

318. TO DISCUSS AND ADOPT AMENDED STANDING ORDERS IN RESPECT OF BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL

Copies of the amended Standing Orders had previously been circulated. The Clerk explained that the Standing Orders had not been reviewed since 2007. The Audit Commission, as part of an Intermediate Audit carried out on 5% of Councils (Bridgerule being part of this 5% for the accounting year 2009/2010), had requested evidence that confirms both Standing Orders and Financial Regulations had been reviewed and updated. In accordance with guidelines set out by the Devon Association of Parish Councils (now the Devon Association of Local Councils) the Clerk had produced amended Standing Orders. She explained that to ensure that all mandatory issues were met, she had adapted the DAPC's model Standing Orders. She thanked Cllr. McDougall for his input. After a short discussion Cllr. Davey proposed that the amended Standing Orders be adopted by Bridgerule Parish Council. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

319. TO RECEIVE AND AGREE THE INTERNAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS, THE ANNUAL AUDIT RETURN AND THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT DETAILED IN THE ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010 PREPARED BY DAVID VAUGHAN, ACCOUNTANTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Clerk had previously circulated the accounts. She asked if Cllrs. had any queries, there were none. Cllr. Davey proposed the internal audited accounts for the financial year 2009/2010 be agreed. Cllr. Chilton seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). The Clerk reported that D. Vaughan had suggested the insurance covering the playground equipment should be increased from £5000 to £6500. The Clerk had obtained a quotation from Community First for this increase. After a brief discussion Cllr. Chilton proposed that the quotation for Insurance cover for Bridgerule Parish Council, as detailed in the Policy Schedule provided by Community First, be accepted. Cllr. Abbott seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The Clerk explained the Annual Return; she said that all variances would be explained, to the Audit Commission, in a detailed breakdown. After discussion, Cllr. Chilton proposed that the Audit Commission's Annual Return for the financial year ended 31st March 2010 be agreed. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

320. The Clerk explained the Annual Governance Statement. Cllr. Davey proposed that the Annual Governance Statement detailed in the Audit Commission's Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2010 be agreed. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The Clerk explained that the Audited Accounts, Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement had to be signed by both herself, as Responsible Financial Officer, and Cllr. Ken James, as Chairman of Bridgerule Parish Council. Cllr. Davey proposed that the Clerk arrange a meeting with Cllr. James to sign the papers. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

321. PLANNING

The following application and permission had been received:

Applications

1/0213/2010/FUL Two storey side extension & single storey rear extension
Hollybank
Bridgerule

Interest Declared: Cllr. Linney prejudicial
Recommendation: Approval

1/0306/2010/FUL Extensions to dwelling
Canna Park
Bridgerule

Interest: Cllr. J. McDougall
Recommendation: Approval

1/0262/2010/FUL Proposed extension
The Forge
Bridgerule

Interest: None
Recommendation: Approval

Permissions

1/0155/2010/FUL Erection of agricultural building

Kents View
Borough Hill
Bridgerule

All applications were discussed and Cllr. Davey proposed that Bridgerule Parish Council recommend approval. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed. (Vote 9 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

322. HIGHWAYS

The Clerk confirmed that a Highways Surgery had taken place in Holsworthy on 14th April, 2010. Mr. Bruce Pedrick and Mr. Tony Curtis, DCC Highways, had confirmed that potholes were being dealt with as quickly as possible.

323. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received from 18th March – 20th April 2010

1. Minutes of MCTi Meeting
2. Torridge View – Spring edition
3. Devon Home Choice – copy of newsletter – properties available to rent
4. Rural Services – weekly newsletter
5. Audit Commission – Return etc. for completion by 21st June (in audit file)
6. V. Thorne – TDC – gypsy and travellers allocations policy.
7. Cllr. Chilton – finance regs. (copied to all Cllrs)
8. TDC - Update of electoral register
9. Policing Newsletter – March
11. Mr & Mrs Cameron – declining invite to Annual Mtg
12. Devon In Touch – March edition
13. Notice of Parliamentary Election
14. M. Bailey – A Orchard property (1)
15. M. Bailey – A. Orchard property (2)

The Clerk brought the highlighted items to the attention of the Meeting.
Items 14 & 15 – The Clerk explained that she had contacted Maria Bailey, TDC, to try and obtain an update on any progress relating to planning applications from A. Orchard. Mrs. Bailey had indicated that a full update should be with the Clerk before the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

Correspondence Sent From 18th March – 20th April 2010

1. TDC Planning – re. application Hollybank
2. Vanessa Thorne – Devon Home Choice
3. Town's Mtg. invites to organisations
4. Memo – All Cllrs. – Finance Regs.
5. Cllr. Chilton – reply to his e-mail (7 of received)
6. Community First Insurance – requesting quote for upping cover for play equipment
7. M. Bailey – request for update on A. Orchard's property

The Clerk brought the highlighted items to the attention of the Meeting.

324. PARISH PLAN

Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported that the Parish Plan Group had met on 14th April. The Plan is being put together, as detailed at last month's Council Meeting. An action plan for items highlighted in the Plan will be looked at in the coming months. He reported that Cllr. James had donated (as part of his District Councillor's fund) £250 to 'The Buzz'.

325. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James was not present at the meeting.

326. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk had nothing to report.

327. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION.
There was no exchange of information.

328. CLOSE
There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Signature Date