

# Bridgerule Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2011 at 8.00 p.m. in  
Bridgerule Village Hall

## Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. Davey

Councillors: Cllrs. K. James, J. Medland, C. Seymour-Smith, J. McDougall, P. Haydon, S. Sharp, A. Johnston and J. Giles

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

Cllr. B. Parsons

Member of the Public

As Cllr. James had sent apologies for possible lateness, Cllr. Davey took the Chair

## 575. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Abbott had sent apologies. Cllr. James sent apologies for possible lateness.

## 576. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

## 577. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Mr. B. Williams asked the Council if anything could be done about the speed limit (60mph) from Burnards House to Bridgerule. He explained that several accidents had occurred close to his home, due to the speed of vehicles and the one lane road. He said he thought it only a matter of time before a fatality occurred. After discussion, Cllr. Parsons suggested that the Parish Clerk write to him detailing the problem; this would enable him to take the problem up with DCC Highways. Cllr. Davey proposed the Parish Clerk write to Cllr. Parsons highlighting the potential serious problem due to speeding vehicles between Burnards House and Bridgerule. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was unanimously carried. (Vote 6 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

## 578. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Harvey was not in attendance. Cllr. McDougall explained that he had only received the crime figures in respect of the first two weeks of August (in his capacity as the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator) – in Holsworthy rural 6 crimes were detailed.

## 579. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Parsons reported on activities within TDC; it had been an extremely busy period, focussing on Planning; obtaining information from different Areas and pulling the information together; the aim is the regeneration of the Planning Department. He brought to Cllrs. attention an article in The Daily Telegraph which had cited Holsworthy as one of 20 market towns in the country people wished to live in; the only one in Torridge. He confirmed that TDC has the greatest number of parishes in Devon.

Cllr. Giles arrived at 8.15 p.m.

A discussion took place concerning the old cattle market in Holsworthy and the proposed new cattle market/agri-business. Cllr. Parsons reiterated that consultations, with residents and many organisations, had taken place over the last 4 years; that the old cattle market was not viable, being outdated. The finance for the new market could only come from selling the old cattle market land and again consultations had suggested that another supermarket, as an alternative to Waitrose, was required. Cllr. Parsons went on to inform Cllrs. that it is hoped that TDC will be entering into shared services with North Devon District Council; a Declaration of Intent having been signed by both Councils. It is planned that a new Head of Planning would be appointed across both authorities.

Cllr. Parsons gave a brief report on DCC – a joint bid, with Somerset, for £30M to look at rural broadband; out of his Locality Grant he was purchasing 5 gritters (one earmarked for Bridgerule) and he thanked Cllr. Sharp for his help in investigating various aspects of a parish taking over a gritter. A further 2 hand gritters would be made available to Bradworthy and Holsworthy. The Clerk asked Cllr. Parsons about potential problems that had been highlighted by a Highways' Engineer to her; maintenance, etc. Cllr. Parsons handed the Clerk a document produced by DCC's Environment

Directorate regarding an evaluation done on the highway salt spreader. He gave details of the amount of salt required and cost. One 'fill' of the gritter would take 250 kg at a cost of £26.70 which would treat 1.1km (this is based on 10 x 25kg bags costing £2.67 per bag). The sand, in bags, must be kept dry; it would be necessary to look at storage for both salt and the machine. The delegated snow warden (driver) would have to undergo training (carried out by DCC); have an appropriate licence for towing or an exemption; hold the required motor insurance. The Clerk asked if Bridgerule would be 'sharing' the gritter with another parish. Cllr. Sharp said that he had approached Pancrasweek who did not want to be involved. Cllr. Parsons said he is expecting the gritters to arrive during October. Cllr. Parsons left the Meeting.

**580. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 had previously been circulated. Cllr. Johnston proposed the Minutes be approved. Cllr. McDougall seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**581. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**582. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT**

The Clerk read out a letter received from the Friends of Bridgerule School (FOBS). After discussion, Cllr. Seymour-Smith proposed that a grant of £100 be provided to FOBS. Cllr. Johnston seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The following accounts were presented for payment.

<b>BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID</b>						
<b>IN SEPTEMBER 2011</b>						
<b>COUNCIL EXPENDITURE</b>						
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
21.09.11	M. Fenner	451	£156.23	£156.23		Salary August
21.09.11	Short & Abbott Ltd	452	£50.00	£50.00		Hedge cutting - playing field
21.09.11	C&L Mail Order Ltd	453	£461.09	£384.24	£76.85	Production of Buzz - from P. Plan
21.09.11	B. Williams	454	£780.00	£780.00		Grass Cutting
21.09.11	F.O.B.S.	455	£100.00	£100.00		Grant - pre-school playgroup
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£1,547.32</b>	<b>£1,470.47</b>	<b>£76.85</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>						
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>		
Balance at 19th July		4,018.60				£4,998.35
		449	156.43			0.5 Interest June 11
Balance at 19th August			3,862.17			<b>£4,998.85</b> At 19 June 11 - £570.01 P Plan
						<b>£4,428.34</b> Available to Council as Reserves

The amount of £384.34 will be deducted from the £570.01 Parish Plan reserve leaving a total in the Parish Plan of £185.67

Cllr. Davey proposed the payment be approved. This was seconded by Cllr. Seymour-Smith and unanimously agreed. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

Cllr. James arrived at 8.45 p.m.

**583. TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/2013**

The Clerk circulated the draft budget. She went through the budget and answered various queries. She pointed out that a figure must be put in regarding maintenance of the salt gritter and supplies of salt. After discussion, a figure of £1K was added to the budget under 'special projects'. The Clerk explained that, as legally, required the subject of the Budget for 2012/2013 would stand adjourned until the next meeting of the Full Council. Cllr. James proposed that the subject of the Budget, as agreed, for the year 2012/2013, be adjourned until the next Meeting of the Full Council on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2011. Cllr. Davey seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 for. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

**584. 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. James reported that a letter compiled by Cllr. Abbott had been sent to TDC regarding funding for the purchase of land to extend the playing field. He reiterated that no progress can be made on the river bank walk until Mr. Hale sells his land.

**585. PLANNING**

The following applications were considered:

**Applications**

1/0823/2011/AGR          Erection of an agricultural building  
Little Bridge Farm  
Bridgerule

**Already given permission by TDC** – our comments not required

1/0846/2011/FUL          Extensions and refurbishment of dwelling  
Little Bridge Farm House  
Bridgerule

*Interest:*                      *None declared*

*Recommendation:*        *Cllr. Davey proposed the application be recommended for approval.  
Cllr. James seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0  
Abstentions).*

1/0855/2011/FULM        Retrospective application for rebuilt of derelict warehouse and  
Merrifield Holt            conversion to live/work unit  
Bridgerule

*Interest:*                      *None declared*

*Recommendation:*        *Cllr. Davey proposed the application be recommended for approval.  
Cllr. James seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0  
Abstentions).*

**Permissions**

1/0531/2011/FUL          Extension of building and erection of building between existing  
Holladon Farm            buildings for cubicles and feed area  
Bridgerule

1/0599/2011/FUL          4kW solar photovoltaic panels ground mounted on steel frame  
Moorside  
Bridgerule

1/0823/2011/AGR          Erection of an agricultural building  
Little Bridge Farm  
Bridgerule

**586. HIGHWAYS**

No matters arose

**587. EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Cllr. Sharp commented this subject had been covered under County Councillor's Report and the discussion regarding the Budget for 2012/2013.

**588. PARISH HALL**

Cllr. Seymour-Smith reported that the Committee would be going down the Charity Status route; forming a company limited by guarantee and applying for charity status. He said that Pearce Construction had been consulted and it appeared that the best plan would be to renovate the existing building. A general discussion took place. Cllr. Seymour-Smith said that the Parish Hall Committee would like to go ahead with the Trust Deed and the Lease, and would like the Council's approval for this. Cllr. James pointed out that, at the moment, the Council are the Trustees of the Hall and, in effect, would be handing this over to the Parish Hall Committee. He said that until a concrete proposal was received by the Council (i.e. what the plans for the Hall are, how the plans are to be funded, etc.) it would not be able to have a discussion or make a decision.

**589. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE**

**Correspondence Received - 17<sup>th</sup> August – 21<sup>st</sup> September**

1. Community First – Premium for salt/grit distributor
2. MCTi – Minutes July Meeting
3. DCC – monthly newsletter
4. MCTi – Minutes August
5. Rural Services – weekly newsletter
6. Police Authority – newsletter
7. TDC – Register of electors update (**file**)
8. Rural Services weekly newsletter
9. DCC – Emergency Planning newsletter
10. B. Williams – grass cutting 2012/2013 – price the same
11. Clerks Direct – monthly issue – (Diamond Jubilee mugs)
12. Cllr. Parsons – copy e-mail re. cancellation of bus service (**sent to all Cllrs**)
13. DALC – Annual Report **In file**
14. CCD (Community Council of Devon) – Annual Review
15. Village Green – Autumn edition
16. Rural Services – weekly newsletter
17. M. Harris – TDC – Village SOS
18. DCC monthly newsletter
19. DCC – public meetings (**nearest Gt. Torrington 17 November**)

Highlighted items brought to Cllrs' attention

**Correspondence Sent 17<sup>th</sup> August – 21<sup>st</sup> September**

1. Community First – request for quote for premium on salt/grit distributor
2. Community First – acknowledge receipt of above.
3. TDC Planning – decisions taken at August meeting (**file**)
4. Community First – answering request for PAYE ref. no. re. Employer's Liability (**e-mailed**)
5. B. Williams – acknow. of confirmation of price for grass cutting 2012/1013

Highlighted items brought to Cllrs' attention

**590. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr. James had nothing to report.

**591. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had nothing to report.

**592. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

There was no exchange.

**593. CLOSE**

There being no further items of business the Chairman (Cllr. Davey) thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 10.27 p.m.

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