

Bridgerule Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd October 2008 at 8:00pm in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present:

Chairman: Cllr. K. James

Councillors: Cllrs. J. Stoneman, G. Abbott, K. Chilton, J. Giles, J. Watkins, K. Davey and C. Seymour-Smith

In Attendance : Mrs. L. Packer - Parish Clerk in attendance

Mrs. M. Fenner – New Parish Clerk

Representing the Police : PCSO B. Harvey and Neighbourhood Watch Manager J. Shepherd

Member of the Public: Mr. J. MacDougall (Neighbourhood Watch)

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. G. Cooper

Cllrs. J. Kershaw and J. Davey. It was agreed that Cllr. Stoneman would contact both Cllrs and request letters of resignation from them.

14. ADOPTION AND SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF 24th SEPTEMBER, 2008

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th September, 2008 were recommended for approval by the Chairman. Cllr. Stoneman seconded the recommendation and this was unanimously agreed. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

The Chairman asked if there were any matters arising.

Item 11 ii – Cllr. Stoneman pointed out that this should read ‘to appoint Mrs. Maureen Fenner’ and the name ‘Fenner’ would be added by hand.

15. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

16. POLICE REPORT

Although not itemised on the Agenda, it was agreed to accept a Police Report presented by PCSO Beverley Harvey and Neighbourhood Watch Manager John Shepherd. PCSO Harvey reported that there had been no crimes recorded in Bridgerule for the month of October. However, there had been 3 incidents reported since May including False Representation and a Firearms Offence (no Licence held). John Shepherd brought to the Council’s attention the alarming rise in diesel and heating oil theft. The ease with which the thefts occur is almost certainly due to the locations involved; easily accessible by road and in isolated areas. The only solution available was for everyone to take reasonable precautions. Speeding in the village was discussed and also an irresponsible car driver in Littlebridge Meadows who was causing irritation to residents. As this is an unadopted road at the moment, the Police have no power, but this would change with the adoption of Littlebridge. The Police left the Meeting at 8.45.

17. FINANCE

Cllr. Stoneman reported to the meeting that the playground equipment was being installed and this should be completed on Friday, 24th October 2008. At this time an invoice will be presented and it was agreed that the amount involved (approximately £6,000+) would be transferred from the Reserve Account and the invoice paid immediately. This was agreed unanimously by the Meeting. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). Cllr. Stoneman will inform Mrs. Fenner of the exact amount.

Mrs. Packer informed the Meeting that the Precept Form had been received from TDC. She had previously circulated a draft budget and precept. The discussion and agreement of budgets and precept will be placed on the Agenda of the next Council Meeting in November. Mrs. Packer also asked Cllr. Abbott to supply a map of grass cutting to Mrs. Fenner.

i. Report on Cashbook Accounts

Cashbook entries up to 31.09.08 were presented to the Meeting by Mrs. Packer who had previously circulated these to Cllrs.

ii. Authorisation of payments due

Cllr. Stoneman presented an invoice, which was authorised for payment for refreshments supplied at the Parish Plan Meeting on 8th October, 2008. (Cheque no. 000376)

An invoice was presented and authorised for payment from Mr. M. Glover for hedge cutting from April 08 to September 08 (inc.). (Cheque no. 000377)

As a new Parish Clerk was now in place, a new cheque book was started.

18. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Packer presented correspondence received to the Meeting. She drew Cllrs. attention to:

- (a) Notice of Precept
- (b) Housing & Council Tax Benefit
- (c) DCC – letter regarding Commons Act 2006
- (d) CAB – letter thanking the Council for the donation of £50
- (e) NDC – Local Government Review of Devon
- (g) Peter Peter & Wright – Registration of the Parish Hall with the Land Registry. It was agreed that Mrs. Fenner would reply to this letter, confirming that the boundaries on the plan are an accurate reflection of the extent of the premises, authorising Mr. Smale (PPW) to proceed with Land Registry and enclosing a cheque in the sum of £110 in respect of the fee for Registration. Mrs. Packer confirmed this money forms part of 'contingencies' in the budget.
- (h) Michelle Davies S. 38 Inspector – confirming she is replacing K. Blackmore and confirming Mrs. Packer's conversation regarding the flooding in Little Bridge Meadows.

19. PLANNING

No applications/decisions had been received.

Littlebridge Meadows – The Chairman reported on a meeting he had attended with Mr. A. MacIntosh and Mr. C. Preece regarding this subject. A general discussion took place regarding this subject; Cllr. Watkins due attention to the fact that parking was almost certainly going to become a problem.

An unauthorised development outside Derril was discussed and the Chairman said he would be speaking to the Enforcement Officer about this.

20. HIGHWAYS

Mrs. Packer reported that she had e-mailed Mr. B. Pedrick, Highways DCC, reporting faults and requesting a meeting. Mrs. Fenner was asked to write to Highways, drawing their attention to potholes between the village and Newacott Cross.

21. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, CLERK AND COUNCILLORS

Mrs. Packer reported that the next Parish Plan Meeting would take place on 12th November at 7.30 p.m.; that the pub had agreed that display boards could be placed there for information for residents. The Chairman said he had already suggested to Mrs. Fenner that name badges would be an advantage and that a finishing time of 9.00 p.m. should be set. He also felt that after this 'self-contained' meetings, with a steering group taking forward the plan would be appropriate. Cllr. Stoneman reported that he a copy of Marhamchurch's Plan, which was very good, and could supply copies to Cllrs. on request.

Cllr. Stoneman presented a copy of a letter he had prepared to Tarka Housing regarding Mr. & Mrs. Goodman. The couple had approached Cllr. Stoneman requesting the Council assist/support them in gaining new accommodation in the Bridgerule area. Cllr. Giles declared a personal interest. The Meeting authorised the sending of this letter.

It was agreed that Mrs. Fenner, on behalf of the Council, send a letter to TDC, requesting them to donate £500 from the Discretionary Fund to Bridgerule Football Club. This would be used by the Club to help with the cost of fence supports, in the interest of safety.

Mrs. Fenner produced a sample of an aqua sac (see Item 5 of Minutes 24th September 2008). She explained how these work and gave costings. Cllr. James suggested that they might be of interest at the Parish Plan Meeting and Mrs. Fenner agreed to take one along.

22. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 19th November, 2008 at 8.00 p.m.

23. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signature

Date