



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 24th July 2013 at 8.00 p.m. in Bridgerule Village Hall

Present: Chairman: Cllr. K. James
Councillors: Cllrs., G. Abbott, C. Seymour-Smith, Pat Haydon, K. Elliott, J. Giles, A. Johnston and J. Medland

In Attendance: Parish Clerk

986. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. McDougall and PCSO Bray had sent apologies

987. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman requested that interests be declared as matters arose.

988. PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present.

989. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Bray had sent her apologies. She reported that she would be attending the Primary School on Monday, 22nd July to speak to the children before the summer break begins. She is also dealing with issues regarding parking in Littlebridge Meadows.

Cllr. McDougall had reported to the PC that an individual had walked into a cottage, he believes opposite the pub. The owner was present and challenged the person, who said he had made a mistake and thought it was the pub. Chris Hitchings, Neighbourhood Watch, has reported the incident to the Police.

990. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Cllr. James proposed the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th June, 2013 be approved. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried. (Vote 7 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions). Cllr. James duly signed the Minutes.

991. MATTERS ARISING

Item 974 – SW Water – The PC had received a reply to her chaser e-mail to Mr. Hocking, which she circulated to Councillors (Item 11 of Correspondence Received). Cllr. Johnston brought to the attention of the Council the fact that manhole covers on the site were not in place, with possible health and safety issues. The TC will contact Peter Hocking regarding this.

Item 974 – Telegraph Pole – The PC informed the Meeting that Tony Curtis had confirmed that he has reported this to BT (a Section 81) and will keep an eye on progress of work. (Item 5 of Correspondence Received).

Item 974 – Replacement Rubbish Bin and Item 963 – Play Equipment – The PC asked Cllr. James and Cllr. Abbott for an update. The Cllrs. will progress this and report back to the next Meeting of the Council.

Item 976 – Grant to Bridgerule Early Years – The PC confirmed that the grant of £100 had been sent, with a request that a report is submitted to the Council once the improvement/purchase of equipment has taken place, together with sight of related invoices. A letter acknowledging receipt of the cheque has been received

Item 985 – Bank opposite Canal Rise – Cllr. James informed the Meeting that work had not yet started and he would be chasing Ian Sorenesen.

Cllr. Giles arrived at 8.10 p.m.

992. ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT

BRIDGERULE PARISH COUNCIL - INVOICES PAID IN JULY 2013						
						-
COUNCIL EXPENDITURE						-
Date	Pay To	Voucher	Gross	Net	VAT	Reason
24.07.13	M Fenner St. Bridget's	522	£156.43	£156.43		Salary - July
24.07.13	PCC	523	£500.00	£500.00		Grant
TOTAL			£656.43	£656.43	£0.00	
Bank Accounts						
<u>Current Account</u>				<u>Reserve Account</u>		
Balance at 19 July		£3,274.63			£7,358.79	at 19th March 2013
	522		£156.43			0.67 Interest March
	523		£500.00			0.71 Interest June
				£7,360.17		
				£400.00		Transfer to Current/ac
			£656.43			
Balance at 19 August			£2,618.20	£6,960.17		Balance at 19 July
				<u>Playing Field Project Bonus Saver Account</u>		
				Balance 31 October 2012		£2,007.72
				quarterly bonus		£4.02
				Balance at 30 april 2013		£2,011.74

Cllr. James proposed the account be approved for payment. Cllr. Medland seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

A request for a grant has been received from St. Bridget's PCC. After discussion, Cllr. James proposed that a grant of £500 be awarded to St. Bridget's PCC. Cllr. Giles seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously. (Vote 8 For. 0 Against. 0 Abstentions).

993. **PLANNING**

Permissions

1/0442/2013/FUL Partially demolish existing blockwork and stone walled calf house and replace with new parlour and silo/feed storage bin
Elm Park
Bridgerule

Refusals

1/0005/2013/OUT One open market and one affordable dwelling (both semi-detached)
Rear of Linthan
Bridgerule

994. **HIGHWAYS**

No Highways' problems were brought to the Meeting.

995. PARISH HALL

Cllr. Seymour-Smith informed the Meeting that Bridgerule Village Hall Ltd. had received a grant of £4K from The Trusthouse Charitable Foundation.

996. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Received 19 June - 23 July 2013

1. T. Curtis – re. telegraph pole

Above dealt with in Matters Arising June Meeting

2. TDC – Electoral Register update (**in file**)
3. DCC – Emergency Management June newsletter
4. TDC – TAP Fund 2013/2014
5. T. Curtis – DCC – copy of report to BT re. telephone post road from Newacott Cross to Bevill's Hill
6. TDC – notification of no request for election re. vacancy
7. DALC – Healthwatch Devon – new independent consumer watchdog for health and social care.
8. Rural Services – newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with Internet Access**)
9. DALC – July Newsletter
10. Connecting Devon & Somerset – Superfast Broadband update – coming to Holsworthy area by end of year
11. P. Hocking – reply re. request for info. on sewage, flooding and work at Bridge
12. Rural Services – newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with Internet Access**)
13. P. Hocking – copy e-mail he sent to May Gurney re. moving fences at Bridge
14. Grant Thornton – Annual Return signed off (2012/2013) (**in file**)
15. B. Beadle – co-option application (**to be discussed at August meeting**)
16. S. Cholwill – caption application (**to be discussed at August meeting**)
17. Bridgerule Early Years – acknowledging receipt of grant
18. TDC – Hls Area Advisory Group – agenda 22nd July Meeting
19. Rural Services – newsletter (**circulated to Cllrs. with Internet Access**)
20. DCC – Highways' Conference – Tiverton 14 September

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

Correspondence Sent – 19 June – 23 July 2013

1. T. Curtis – chaser re. work on telegraph pole

Above dealt with in Matters Arising June

2. Bridgerule Early Years – donation and request for report and sight of invoices relating to this
3. Bridgerule Primary School – congratulations on achievements
4. P. Hocking SW Water – chaser re. reply to queries re. sewage, flooding etc.
5. P. Hocking SW Water – request re. fences at Bridge and Revel Week
6. B. Beadle – acknowledging receipt of co-option application
7. S. Cholwill – acknowledging receipt of co-option application

The Highlighted items were brought to Councillors' attention.

997. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that he had concerns about 'derelict' buildings in the village and asked Cllrs. for their views. After discussion it was agreed that the PC write to Liz Steele, Housing Officer (Private Sector) at TDC with the Council's concerns about several buildings in the village. The letter to be copied to Cllr. D. Lausen.

Cllr. James informed the Meeting that an individual had commented to him how good it was to see younger people moving into the village. Cllr. James went on to say that it was very encouraging and the way forward, to not only enhance the life of the village but also to support the Primary School. A lengthy discussion then took place regarding the School, in connection with belonging to the Federation. It was agreed that the PC write to County Cllr. Parsons with the Council's concerns regarding the future of the School and the leadership.

998. CLERK'S REPORT

The PC reported as follows:

- TDC had confirmed that an election had not been requested, and co-option posters had been placed in the shop, in the pub noticeboard and on the website. The closing date for applications to be received by the PC is noon on 29th July. Applications will be discussed at the Full Council Meeting on 21st August. To date, two applications have been received and the PC has acknowledged these and invited the applicants to attend the August Meeting.
- The PC is liaising with Cllr. Parsons re. the promised grants from him (2012/2013) which did not materialise (£1K re. the playing field expansion and £400 re. the self-build bus shelter). The PC is endeavouring to meet with Cllr. Parsons to complete grant forms for 2013/2014.
- Cllr. Parsons had sent the following report in the event he could not attend the Meeting: 'Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) Broadband' is well under way with a view to 100% coverage of at least 2Mbps Broadband for all premises in the CDS area and should be completed by Dec 2016. 90% of premises will be covered by Superfast Broadband (360 000 premises (including 26 000 businesses)). Project funding £94m of which Devon County Council has committed £10m. It is the largest project of its type in England with 7 rural towns and villages recently named as the first to benefit – HOLSWORTHY is in that list of 7! Sofie Francis (sofie.francis@devon.gov.uk) is the DCC Team Leader for the project and who spoke at Holsworthy's MCTI last night should anyone have questions/comments they may wish to make.

The Agri-business Centre is well under way. Contractors are on site and progressing very quickly as a consequence of such fine weather of late.

DCC has a further £100m to find over the next 4 years as a consequence of the recent Spending Review by Central Government. Whilst a great deal of work has been done on the roads there is in excess of £600m backlog in road maintenance in the county. In March 2013 DCC Cabinet approved the Highways Asset Management Plan which explains the widely adopted approach to investment in highway assets. One of the key principles is the adoption of a preventative maintenance strategy - effectively, targeting investment and interventions to protect roads before they become very costly to maintain. For example, by timely maintenance to repair the surface of a road more expensive works involving full depth reconstruction of the road in the future can be avoided. There is significant pressure here and central government is being lobbied heavily to provide for our ageing Highways network in rural areas.'

999. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Cllr. Elliott asked if the number of Cllrs. sitting on the Council could be altered. Cllr. James informed her that the number of Cllrs. is set by the District Council and cannot be altered.

Cllr. Abbott reported that the path, from the main pavement down to the garages near The Green, is overgrown with weeds, etc. The PC will contact Mike Crocker at TDC to see if 'Grimebusters' can come out and clear it.

Cllr. Abbott asked for volunteers to help clearing the path on the planned extended river path. Several Cllrs. volunteered to help.

1000. CLOSE

There being no further items of business the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signature Date