



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 7.45 pm. at Bridgerule Village Hall.

Present: Vice-Chairman: Cllr K. James
Councillors: Cllrs D Hale, J. McDougall, S Cholwill, S. Hillier-Cholwill, C. Houghton, B. Beadle, F. Cogdell,
K. Bowditch.
In Attendance: Clerk. County Councillor J. Morrish.
Public x 1

Apologies: Cllr. J Philpott, PSCO M. James.

Declaration of Interests: The chairman asked that interests be declared as they arise.

2841. Public Session: A member of the public raised a question regarding the proposed Sports Hall and asked if the planning permission had elapsed and what were plans for it in the future. A council discussion followed, the planning permission had expired, as the proposal had been put on hold due to Covid. KJ said it was hoped to finish the playing field when weather conditions allow, and the Hall proposal could be revisited. TDC planning had been contacted re the 106 money and a meeting could be arranged with Sport England to discuss further. The option of using the carpark for the school was discussed and S H.C said there had been several comments from parents of schoolchildren. CH said that car owners had been parking with no consideration for other car users, schoolchildren or pedestrians at certain times, school hours. JM felt that parking at the school was an issue on the grounds of safety. S HC said that the school had emailed parents to ask for co-operation when collecting their children. County Councillor said he would attend a meeting to assess the parking problems near the school with other councillors, at drop off or collection times. He would enquire whether any funding may be available from DCC towards improving parking arrangements at the school. KJ to arrange the meeting at the school site. S HC said that the Sports Hall Committee had not progressed with plans and that some members of the original Sports hall Committee had now resigned. DH said that one of the problems faced with the playing field and potential future plans, was the existence of an electricity pole in the bank and re-siting of this by Western Power would be expensive as the pole supplied some of the village. KJ said the land had been gifted by the owners with conditions, which would need to be complied with. Costs for completion of the playing field would need to be sought by a minimum of 3 contractors.

2842. Police Report: One crime of Harassment without violence had been reported in Bridgerule.

2843. County Councillors Report. Over 2.1 million Covid vaccinations had been given to date within Devon. He reported on staffing throughout the pandemic and its effect on County Hall. There had been correspondence received from 16 residents in the parish since the 1st December. DCC has a budget decrease of £8 million for the next financial year. Some reserves had been ring fenced to provide for Adult and Child Social care. The Holsworthy Link Project, which had to close during the pandemic had been offered to merge with a similar project in Bude but had now secured funding to run independently in Holsworthy for the next 4 years. Some of those involved with the Youth Centre will assist with the running of the project. He passed on best wishes from his predecessor, County Cllr Parsons to the council.

2844. District Councillors Report : KJ commenced his report on the building site at Borough Cross. Cllr Morrish declared an interest and refrained from discussion. KJ said he had received reports of OOH working and between 10-20 vans parked along the road each day. He said the OOH working had now seemed to have stopped. TDC and planning

have said that parking is a police issue. He would write letters to Torrridge police to report these issues. BB said that litter was being created in the nearby hedges by the workforce and CH said there were 26 vehicles parked along the road that afternoon. The number of vehicles is causing difficulties to other users of that road and narrowing the road for the buses that operate along there.

JM said that the road from Furze Cross to Dux is full of holes, Cllr Morrish would take this back to highways at DCC.

KJ mentioned potential possible planning applications for 17 properties at Bridgerule.

County Councillor Morrish left the meeting at 8.25pm.

A meeting has been scheduled on Leisure building refurbishment within the Torrridge district.

2845. Council Meeting Minutes : Minutes of 14th December 2021 agreed by all councillors and signed by the Vice-Chairman as correct. Proposed 1st Cllr Hale, 2nd Cllr .Bowditch.

2846. Matters Arising : Re-naming the account the Playing Field Account as the Sports Hall account, this would not be possible as the actual account is named as such at the bank and cannot be altered. It can however have the Sports Hall added to it when listed and referred to on the finance sheets, for clarity for councillors.

2847. Accounts and accounts due for payment: Finance sheets had been given to all councillors.

Items due for payment this month were £14.88 for Stationery, stamps and office supplies,

Clerks additional hours worked for Nov and December, hours of 8.5, £86.53.

Current account balance agreed as at 20th December 2021 of £7921.38

Proposed 1st KJ, 2nd S HC. All councillors in favour.

Clerk mentioned upcoming courses and a webinar being run by DALC which may be beneficial to the new Councillors at a cost of £36.00. FC and KB to be booked and invoice from DALC will follow.

2848. Correspondence : Had been received from two residents and Westward housing regarding the planting of trees for the Jubilee. It was agreed by all councillors that one of the trees would be planted on the land adjacent to Southfields, when cleared, as the council own the land. A letter to be sent to DCC asking if the other could be planted on land owned by them near to the Bus stop.

A letter of resignation from a member of the Sports Hall committee,

Devon Highways regarding a defective sign to be replaced and reported parking issues at Borough Cross.

2849. Precept and budget: Clerk had prepared projected budget requirements for the coming financial year, was discussed and the precept request was set for the year of £35.00 per Band D property, equating to an increase of 1.77%. Precept total for the year would be £9783. Proposed 1st CH, 2nd KB, all councillors in favour. AC2 form signed by Chairman and to be sent to TDC.

2850. Charitable Grants : Funds allocated and approved for the year were £2250.00. 5 applications had been received. After discussion it was agreed as follows, Village Hall £1000.00, Bridgerule Parochial Church Council £600.00, Bridgerule School FOB, £600.00 and Devon CAB £50.00. The application from Bridgerule Football Club would be funded via Torrridge District Councillors Grant Fund, KJ to arrange. Proposed, FC, 2nd KJ. All councillors in favour.

2851. Bench in Memory of E. McArthur : A site meeting had been held at land down by the river, by DH and KJ. It was suggested the best place to plant the Willow Tree would be in the middle of the area, allowing room for the bench, when purchased and would be far enough away from the existing dog bin.

2852. Sports Hall Project: Was discussed generally. It was felt that what needed to be done initially was to get the soil in to finish the pitch when conditions allowed and improve car parking facilities. This project to re-visited and discussed further on what future development for the site would be. Land Registry details to be located, and costs already spent to be confirmed.

2853. Playpark Update: The new equipment had been ordered and the invoice for 50% of costs had been received. S HC to send the equipment itinerary summary listing on to clerk.

2854. Village Hall : Nothing to report. KJ said that Torrridge had announced details of a new ARG fund which may be applicable to the hall. Link to be sent by clerk to SC.

2855. Highways : Had already been discussed in the presence of County Councillor.

2856. Chairmans Report: Nothing to report.

2857. Clerks Report: Clerk had been consulting with A Foster re the new website, hopefully becoming live at end of January. Comments regarding photos had been noted and alternatives to be sourced.

2858. Exchange of Information:

S HC asked about future plans for the Sports Hall. Could an outdoor sports pitch be considered as an alternative, which could be floodlight ? A brochure was shown for councillors to view. To agenda for next meeting.

2859. Meeting Closed. 9.27 p.m.

Date of next meeting : Tuesday 22nd February 2022.

Signed by Meeting Chairman :.....

Date of signing :