

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 7.55.pm, at Bridgerule Village Hall.**

These minutes are provisional until signed by the Chairman at the next meeting.

**Present :**  Chairman: D Hale

Councillors, F. Cogdell, J. McDougall, S. Cholwill, K. James, M. Tape, S. Whatmore,

K. Bowditch.

In Attendance : Clerk.

Apologies :J. Morrish, J. Trayford, J. Philpott.

**Declarations of Interests:** The Chairman asked that interests be declared as they arise.

**Public Session :**  No questions raised.

**3315. Council Meeting Minutes :** Minutes of 16th April had been circulated to councillors. The Minutes were agreed by councillors present and signed by the Chairman as correct. Proposed 1st, FC, 2nd KB, all councillors in favour.

**3316. Matters Arising :** There were no matters arising.

**3317. Minutes of the EGM held on 9th May :**  Minutes of 9th May had been circulated to councillors. Clerk had prepared a potential response in letter form regarding the parish’s comment to DCC via the online portal and this had been circulated to councillors. After discussion, it was agreed that some amendments be made, to clarify and illustrate better the request for further 20mph road stretches . The area near Sunways would need to be included. FC and SW would help with this before submission by the due date of 23rd May, the end of the consultation period. Proposed, Minutes be accepted, 1st FC, 2nd, KJ, all councillors in favour and the Chairman signed as correct.

 **3318. To Receive Correspondence :** Clerk had received :

Letter from North Devon and District Council, review of playing pitch strategy, with survey for completion,

Letter giving details of Official Shop Opening and Invitation to be sent to councillors,

Letter from DAAT- Annual landing site safety survey to be undertaken on the 20th May,

**3319. Chairmans Report :**  DH had nothing further to add from the Annual Meeting report.

**3320. Accounts and Accounts due for payment –**  Finance sheets had been circulated to councillors,

Items due for payment this month were :

DALC annual subscription, £295.77, Gareth Pollard Accountancy Fees, £90.00

SC Garden Maintenance, £102.00, Playsafety- Annual inspection ROSPA, £108.00

To Approve and Authorise Picnic Bench to be donated to the Community Shop of £99.00

Proposed 1st, SW, 2nd MT, chairman asked for a show of hands, all councillors in favour.

Vat reclaim from HMRC had been received of £482.60 for the year ended March 2024.

Current Account Balance agreed as at £11,936.83

The transfer of £1000 from the current account to the reserve account had not yet been made. DH would contact Unity to re-instate ability to log in to authorise payments. Clerk suggested making two payments of £500 in the meantime, as both could be authorised by existing signatories. Proposed 1st, DH, 2nd FC, all councillors in favour.

**3321.** **Playpark :**  **To discuss Annual report received and authorise and arrange recommended repairs within,** the report had been circulated to councillors for information. FC had spoken to a representative from Playsafe, regarding raising the safety surface below the carousel and would report back. It was felt this may have sunk due to the water flooding in the park last year. He would also investigate the maintenance required for the swing bushes. All agreed the biggest remedial work would be the fence and its replacement. A local business had offered to donate the wood and timber required, but additional mesh would be needed, DH to source locally. Labour would be required for the fence installation and quotes for this work would be needed.

 **3322. Bus Shelter :** KJ has organised materials needed and FC has the roofing required. KJ will arrange for the costs of the repairs to be met from his TDC Councillor Grant Fund.

**3323. Highways, Vas Signs and Speedwatch :** SW reported that Vas 2 on Middle road, recorded passing vehicles for the month at 4945 of which 346 were travelling at speeds of over 30mph. This equates to 1 in 4.8, with a maximum speed recorded at 40mph. Sign 1 on Vicarage Hill recorded 4283 vehicles passing, with an average speed of 26mph. Maximum speed recorded was 45.3mph and notably excessive speeds had been noted between 05.00am and 7.00am . 1 in 4.8 vehicles had been recorded as passing exceeding 30mph.

**3324. Planning:**

FC declared an interest in this item and refrained from commenting or voting.

**For information only, application no: 1/0201/2024/FUL** –Erection of 1 no; dwelling , East View, Bridgerule,

Application granted permission.

**1/0396/2024/FUL- Retrospective erection of three antenna masts and wooden equipment shed on agricultural land,for amateur radio, Northwood, Marhamchurch, Bude.**

Council Consultee feedback comment to TDC, “ The Council support the application”. Votes for 7, 1 abstention.

**3325. Clerks Report :**  Clerk reported that some difficulties had been experienced whilst reporting potholes on the DCC portal. Changes to this had been made recently and more detail would be required from now on, to enable accurate reporting on the portal, ie, between which properties if known and street or road name, together with direction of travel. Holsworthy Rural Police parish workshops would resume monthly on June 17th.

Some stationery would be required in the next month, Minute Book and A4 paper and the annual Microsoft subscription is due shortly. Last years cost for this was £59.99.

**3326. Exchange of Information :**

Property at Newacott Cross, was there any update? KJ would enquire at TDC planning.

Directional sign for the village, Clerk had spoken to JM who had taken the request to County Hall and was awaiting further update and reply. Councillors felt a sign was important, particularly regarding the shop and some approaches had been made to private landowners to allow a sign to be placed giving directions to the shop. DH offered to permit a sign to be placed on his land near Lodgeworthy and the riverside,

Meadow View, the application to TDC for the swale had been rejected by DCC, KJ said he had advised the property owners to utilise the services of a structural engineer, to demonstrate that the swale as it is, is fit for purpose. It also seemed that the administrators of the frontage land or apron were holding on to for now and it had not been returned to the Duchy, which was an added complication for residents there.

A prospective resident purchasing a property at Southfields had made an enquiry whether they could lease the land owned by the council and maintain and improve the area, the item to be put on next month’s Agenda for discussion.

The unknown Tommys will be displayed on the Chapel gates by the beginning of June for the DDay celebrations, FC will arrange.

Holsworthy Ruby Country meeting, KJ and DH attended, presentation given by the new Practice Manager, the practice covers Hatherleigh, Black Torrington and Holsworthy and its rural boundary areas. A new telephone system has been implemented to help with appointments, bookings and contact with the practice. It was noted at the meeting that some problems or issues had been identified for patients using the onsite pharmacy, which was not part of the practice, but was an independent business. The practice premises were owned by former partners of the practice.

DH said that notification of a power supply interruption had been given, due to the replacement of the pole at the football field, he had been in contact with the company to see if the pole could be moved, at no cost to the council.

**3327: Meeting closed at 8.59pm.** Date of next meeting Tuesday 18th June at 7.30pm.

**Signed by Meeting Chairman : …………………………………………………………………………………..**

**Date of signing : …………………………………………………………………………………….**

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