

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th August 2024 at 7.30.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, M. Tape, S. Whatmore, K. Bowditch,

In Attendance : Clerk.

Apologies : J. Trayford, K. James

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

**3356. Public Open Question Time :** No questions raised.

**3357. County Councillors Report :** No report received.

**3358. District Councillors Report :**  No report this month.

**3359. Council Meeting Minutes :** Minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2024 had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and were agreed by all present and signed by the chairman as correct. Proposed 1st FC, 2nd, KB, all councillors in favour.

**3360. Matters Arising :** The Insurance policy had been checked regarding Public Liability cover for the area at the Riverside, particularly regarding the rope swing that had been placed there by persons unknown. Cover would be effective providing proof of ownership, ie lease or licence could be produced. Clerk had been unable to trace any such document to date, DH would also look through paperwork he held. The rope swing had now been removed and councillors would continue to monitor the area.

No update on the request to TDC to re-site the general rubbish bin at the Bus stop, after discussion, councillors felt it might be beneficial to move the bin if permitted, although other nearby residents may need to be contacted regarding this. It was agreed that although not desirable, dog waste can be placed in general rubbish bins. Clerk to contact refuse at TDC to discuss options and report to councillors next month.

**3361.**  **To Receive Correspondence :** Received, Minutes of Parish Council’s Collaborative Working Meeting at Winkleigh Community Centre of 6th August, next meeting to be held on 18th September at Langtree Hall,

Letter from TDC Enforcement, case at Newacott now closed,

PKF Littlejohn- auditors, Annual AGAR and exemption from Audit had been accepted,

Unity Bank, Current account charges to become monthly from September,

Invitation to Holsworthy rural transport Coffee morning on 18th September,

Sent, multiple potholes and poor road condition, defective manhole covers to DCC Highways.

**3362. Chairmans Report :** Nothing of note to report this month.

**3363. Accounts and Accounts due for payment –**  Finance sheets had been circulated to councillors,

Items due for payment this month were :

A Harvey, clerks stationery expenses and Ink, £33.58 and SC Garden Maintenance, £204.00,

Current Account Balance agreed as at 31st July £7,491.43. Proposed 1st SC, 2nd JMD, all councillors in favour.

**3364. Highways, Vas Signs and Speedwatch :** .

SW reported the following Vas data, from 14th July to 17th August, Sign 1 Vicarage Hill, 7192 passing vehicles recorded with 1 in 6 travelling over 30mph. Maximum speed recorded 52.7mph with average speed of 25.6mph. Sign 2, Middle Road, from 14th July to 17th August showed 7517 passing vehicles with 723 travelling over 30mph which equates to 1 in 10.5 Maximum speed recorded 47.6mph with average speed of 22.6mph.More traffic has been noted over the last two months and batteries have needed recharging sooner, due to this fact. With only one charger currently in use, recharging was taking 2 days, as both signs have two batteries in them and there are no spares. Councillors discussed costs of spare batteries and purchasing an additional charger, SW would contact Stocksigns and obtain a quote for next months meeting. This to be an Agenda item for discussion.

No Speedwatch update this month.

Proposed road closure – Littlebridge Cross to Chapel Corner, between Court Cottage to the Forge, for South West Water from 26th to 28th November.

**3365. Land at Southfields Open Space :**  DH asked if all councillors had received all documents and emails regarding the above prior to the meeting, those present confirmed they had. DALC had advised that future dealings regarding the above should be done with appropriate legal advice and a reply had been received from the NALC legal team, who detailed the legal requirements of the land and councils’ obligations to uphold the land as a Public Open Space and confirmed that the lawful use of the land is to be as such, unless an application is submitted to TDC for a change of use. See Appendix 1 : copies and extracts from DALC and NALC legal team.

DH had requested a quote for the legal advice from Coodes, which was in the region of £750, plus vat. He had also obtained a quote from Kivells, who could prepare a licence to use, at a cost of £150, plus vat. There would also be a requirement for the council to advertise its intentions and the possible licence granting, in a local newspaper, the Holsworthy Post. KB said he thought the cost of a legal notice could be around £150 and the day for submission for inclusion in edition is usually Mondays. A notice would also need to be displayed on site and 15 days needed to be allowed for any objections to be submitted. A long discussion followed. It was agreed to action the following initially, clerk to prepare a letter for sending to resident, informing him of the requirement to uphold the lawful use of the land and enquire if he would still like to use the land under licence, with its conditions of Public Open space and that the land must be accessible for this purpose and not restricted in any way. When the reply had been received and the resident had confirmed his intentions, the public notices could be prepared if applicable. Proposed letter to be sent to resident 1st FC, 2nd KB. All councillors in favour. FC asked if there could be any alternatives for the area, such as a committee for the upkeep , with some councillors and potential interested parties forming this. DH asked that the item be on the Agenda again for next month.

**3366. Ditches at Mill Road:** These have become overgrown with vegetation and are no longer cleared by a local resident. A reply had been received from Highways to inform that roadside water ditches were the responsibility of the adjacent bordering property or land and not DCC. FC said that the problem was from Short and Abbotts property down to Macarthur Close, he would inspect the area.

**3367. Ripple Energy Community Benefit Fund:** A representative from the company overseeing the fund had contacted SC and asked for 3 councillor representatives from Bridgerule, and also 3 from Pyworthy to attend a meeting to discuss potential and possible grant funding for the two parishes next year. After discussion, it was agreed that the three would comprise of SC, KB and FC. Proposed 1st, MT, 2nd, JMD, all councillors in favour.

**3368. Planning : For information only, application no: 1/0127/2024/FUL –** Construction of containerised battery Energy Storage system, Land at Grid reference 228852 100624, Pyworthy. Application granted permission.

**3369.** **Village Hall/ Shop Update :** The hall continues to operate successfully, and quotes are being sought for decorating. The electrical upgrades have been completed. The shop continues to do well and of note, has sold over 2000 eggs and 800 pasties since its opening. KB has applied for a licence to sell alcohol to TDC, and subject to no objections being received should hopefully be granted at the end of September. This will enable the shop to add selected alcoholic drinks to its range of goods available.

**3370. Clerks Report :** Some points of note from the LEVI workshop run by DCC on the 6th August. If parishes have not heard anything from the scheme, their application should still be under consideration. The landowner will receive any share of profits from the charging scheme and Councils need to include the points in their own Insurance schedules. Any new connections to the grid if needed will be covered by the LEVI scheme and DCC. Typical sites will have two connections. 3G or 4G internet will be required. Next workshop due in Mid- November.

Electoral role changes this month, 19 creations, 3 amendments and 1 deletion. Next Police and Parish teams meeting is on 10th September.

**3371. Exchange of Information :**  Is there any update on the proposed 20mph? No further information available at present on the DCC site and DH had asked JM to investigate for the parish.

Playpark- the fencing needed to be replaced and the safety matting surface at the carousel needed repair due to the flooding water damage. There were other repairs and adjustments highlighted by the ROSPA inspection, so the item to be on next month’s agenda.

Bude’s Under 16s Girls Football team will be using the Football Pitch during this season,

MT will not be able to attend monthly meetings for the next few months for health reasons,

SW will circulate the quote from Stocksigns on the Whatsapp group for information when received.

**3372: Meeting closed at 8.37pm.** Date of next meeting Tuesday 17th September at 7.30pm.

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

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

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