

Minutes of the meeting of Bridford Parish Council held on Monday 5th June 2023, 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present – Cllr. Padgham (Chairman); Cllr. Topley; Cllr. Marriott; Cllr. Purser; Cllr. Gallagher; Penny Clapham (Locum Clerk); 4 members of the public.

1) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes. (Standing Orders 3e and 3f).

Reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee. None.

2) Apologies For Absence: none received.

3) Declarations Of Interest: In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

4) District and County Councillor Reports – report received from District Cllr. Purser . The new executive have been appointed at Teignbridge with Cllr. Martin Wrigley the leader. Teignmouth Lido has reopened after extensive renovation. There are £100 vouchers available for those residents who want to take part in a study on climate change – see the website for detail. Happy to answer questions.

5) Minutes – the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th May 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6) Budget for 2023/2024 – to re-consider the budget for the current financial year in view of changed workings, presented by Cllr. Padgham. Clerk presented 3 sheets of workings for consideration. The expanded workings were considered and noted together with a slightly amended budget for the current financial year. Cllr. Padgham proposed acceptance of the re-considered budget. Resolved. All in favour by show of hands.

Cllr. Padgham thanked Cllr. Purser for his past work checking the reconciliation of the banking to the cash book.

7) Asset Register – to resolve to agree the updated asset register. Not all questions could be resolved so the asset register is to be re-considered at a later date – agenda for July for further updates.

8) Village Hall – to consider ownership of the village hall as the deeds have been located. Cllr. Padgham informed Council of the background, briefly as follows -November 1949 the hall was the village school and deemed to be redundant. The parish council had the opportunity to purchase the school for £500; a government scheme, the redundant school to be held in trust for use as a village hall. February 1951 village hall purchased by parish council– wording of trust deeds debated for several years, before becoming a registered charity in 1956. The hall is not registered with the Land Registry. Cllr. Padgham proposed to undertake the process of registration of the village hall with the land registry. Resolved, all agreed by show of hands. Cllr. Gallagher wanted to know if the boundaries are clear – the deeds have a proper plan attached.

In terms of the village hall committee, there are three recent key dates; 2013/15/17. 2013 Village Hall AGM by special resolution the village hall committee informed that the parish council are the owners of the hall and one parish councillor was to be co-opted annually to serve on the VH committee.

This was changed in 2015 according to the Parish Council minutes of the 6th July; the minutes stated that the parish council were being invited to send a representative to village hall meetings and that the representative was to be an observer only.

In 2017 the village hall committee changed their constitution establishing a management committee as a sub-committee of the Committee of Trustees.

The Charity Commission website states that the village hall management committee as a charity does not own or lease any property.

Cllr. Padgham will get in touch with the village hall committee requesting to attend their next meeting to explain Council's actions. Council approved these actions.

9) New Clerk – to agree moves to appoint a Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer for Bridford Parish Council. To agree actions and associated expenditure.

Cllr. Padgham referred to a job description/person specification as used by another council. Clerk to send documents to Cllr. Gallagher for checking and to agenda for September for an update. Proposed the Locum Clerk edits the application documents in the first instance. Proposed by Cllr. Marriott – all agreed by show of hands.

10) PLANNING

Planning Applications - Dartmoor National Park has asked for observations from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

a) 0223/23 Siting of temporary rural workers dwelling; erection of agricultural building and yard (revised proposal) Coombehead Farm, Bridford.

Council feel they are unable to form a proper observation on the validity of this application due to the lack of information regarding the functional and financial test - Council feel this application is unchanged from the previous one

Planning Decisions none received.

11) FINANCE

Expenditure	Locum Clerk Expenses May	£217.95
--------------------	--------------------------	---------

Bank Reconciliation and Statement – currently not available.

Council resolved to accept the accounts. Proposed by Cllr. Gallagher, all agreed by show of hands.

12) Policies – to resolve to adopt the following policies

- i. Scheme of Delegation Resolved, proposed by Cllr. Gallagher
- ii. Statement of Internal Control Policy. Resolved, proposed by Cllr. Purser.

13) Liaison roles for Councillors – to agree liaison with outside bodies. Hold in abeyance until full complement of councillors available.

14) Bridford Fete – for discussion and action. Council will have a stall at the fete 8th July. This will be an information stall, manned by Cllr. Marriott and Cllr. Topley.

15) Clerk's report –

- i. Change of bank has been initiated. Next steps to send in proofs of identity for the nominated councillors.

- ii. A list of policies to be updated has been circulated to Councillors for their information.
- iii. Representatives on DNPA are Michael Jeffery, Moretonhampstead and Peter Smerdon, Rattery.

Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only)

Cllr. Topley – Friday 21st July, village garden party. Cleaning of the MUGA. Shackle on the swing being checked regularly. Risk assessment forms will be reviewed regularly.

Cllr. Marriott showed the design for the new noticeboard. Good to have an opening ceremony probably in September. A big thank you to Sean Marriott for his design work on behalf of the Council.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed..... Date.....

Items for Information - The next council meeting will be on Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Email circulations during the past month

DALC Bulletin 19 (sent 16/05)