

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Bridge Parish Council held on Thursday 8th April at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Dobson, Edmonds, Esdale (chairman), Gulvin, Hill and Lewis

210. Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

211. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2004

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2004 were confirmed and signed by the chairman

212. Disposal of Business from the last meeting

- a. It was agreed to make a grant to the Allotment Association for the insurance of sheds at the allotments of £247. It was agreed that should a claim be made any excess costs would be passed onto the Allotment Association.
- b. It was agreed to repair the side panel of the bus shelter outside of the post office. It was agreed to request a revised quotation from JK Property Services.
- c. It was agreed to write a letter of support to Bekesbourne with Patricbourne Parish Council about the proposed reduction in train services and to carry out an internet survey, along the same lines as the Bekesbourne survey regarding train use. It was agreed to write to the SRA, and Canterbury City Council about the concerns of Bridge Parish Council of reducing rural train services at the expense of running a faster service to London.
- d. It was agreed to defer a decision about undertaking weekly checks of the recreation ground and playground until further information has been obtained from Allianz Cornhill. It was agreed to review the Parish Insurance at the next meeting.
- e. It was agreed to purchase a grit bin for Bridge Down, subject to carrying out a survey of Bridge Down to ask if local residents would like a bin and where it could be positioned.

213. Reports from Representatives to outside bodies

- a. **Bridge In Bloom:** Cllr Edmonds reported that i) all of the businesses in the High Street have been given a reminder about the Bridge in Bloom competition ii) a paragraph will be in May's Parish Magazine and also in the gazette Bridge news at least twice before the judging date Bridge in Bloom.
- b. **Little Stour and Nailbourne River Management Group:** Cllr Gulvin reported that the River Management Group will meet again in May and that the group is waiting for the results of a search through the sewer.
- c. **Art in Bridge Group:** The Parish Council received a report from Cllr Corfield on behalf of the Art in Bridge Group. Cllr Corfield reported that the Art exhibition this year would take place on 16th and 17th October.

214. Notice of Proposed work to trees in a conservation area for which a tree preservation order has been served:

- i. Notice of Proposed work to trees in a conservation area for which a tree preservation order has been served: 8 High Street Bridge - trim back Leylandii back to the boundary

215. It was noted that Simon Knights has resigned as tree warden. It was agreed to write and thank Simon for his work as a warden.

216. It was agreed to amend point 13 of the allotment tenancy to match point 12 of the Cantley agreement.

217. It was agreed to ask Kent Police to undertake a speed survey through the village at the following locations, Bridge Hill, Town Hill and Patricbourne Road. It was also agreed to request a copy of the raw data from the survey.

218. It was agreed not to apply for funding from the Kent and Medway Rural Transport partnerships for more cycle hoops, but to instead to apply for funding to repair the post office bus shelter.

219. It was agreed to set the level of fees for Bridge Juniors FC at £50 per year to use the recreation ground.

220. It was agreed to ask Canterbury City Council to take over the street lighting in Bridge. It was agreed to ask KAPC about the legality of the Parish Council cancelling the Seeboard energy contract and suggesting to Seeboard Energy that Canterbury City Council would pay any future bills. It was agreed to alert KAPC to the situation and ask if they have any suggestions of what to do next.

221. It was agreed to offer Wragge and Co Solicitors the same amount as Canterbury City Council to settle the bill for the Bifron's street light easement. It was agreed to remind Wragge and Co. 1) of their duty of care and ii) their bill to date is more than the costs of the actual streetlight.

222. It was agreed to make a one off contribution for maintaining the trees at the Whitehorse of £100.

223. It was agreed to pay the KAPC subscription for 2004/5 and to continue to order the Local Council Review and Parish news.

224. It was agreed to approach previous clerks with regard to covering the Tina Burchell's maternity leave. It was agreed to ask KAPC whether it was lawful for the council to hold meetings without a clerk. It was agreed that the clerk would work until the end of June. It was agreed to pay statutory maternity pay, which can be claimed back in full from the Inland Revenue for six months and then for the clerks to continue unpaid leave for up to six months.

225. It was agreed not to purchase a 2-drawer filing cabinet for the History Society. It was however noted that it is necessary to resolve the long-term problem of storing parish records. It was agreed to ask the parish plan group to consider the long-term storage of parish records in the parish plan.

226. It was agreed to contact the Shirley family about naming the pathway between Union and Filmer Road Laurie's Path in honour of the late Lawrence Shirley. It was agreed to ask permission from Canterbury City Council to name the alleyway.

227. It was agreed to write to the City Council to protest against the proposed reduction to rubbish collection. It was however agreed to point out that the parish council was actually split on this decision.

228. It was agreed to object to Kent County Council plans to allow lorries to use Cold Harbour Lane as an access road to the Ovendon Landfill site. The Parish Council agreed with the Kent County Council (Cold Harbour lane, Bekesbourne (Width restriction) Order 2004 and requested that vehicles serving Ovendons should not be exempt from the order.

229. It was agreed to thank Interroute for responding to Mrs Parmiter's letter about the loud banging noise that can be heard when traffic uses the A2 Bridge over Patricbourne Road. It was agreed to express the concern of the Bridge Parish Council over structural safety of the bridge and to ask if Bridge Parish Council can be notified when a date has been agreed to undertake the repairs.

300. It was agreed to write to SERCO to ask if they are able to provide a more suitable bin outside of the recreation ground along Patricbourne Road, as the current bin liner is often thrown in the river.

301. It was agreed to defer a decision about apply for planning permission to build a crossing to enter the allotments until further information has been received from Kent Highways. It was agreed that allotment holders should not park on the allotment at the present time.

302. The receipt of £300 from Exiles at Bridge in respect of the fees for 2004/5 and £350 from Broomfield in respect of 2003/4 fees was noted.

303. It was noted that Canterbury City Council has advised that Bridge Parish Council cannot retain the remainder of the capital funding bid for 2003/4 of £359.

304. Sealing of Documents

The chairman signed the Bridge Parish Council's standing orders, the Exiles at Bridge agreement for 2004/5 and the Broomfield United FC agreement for 2003/4

305. It was noted that the Audit Commission has requested the return of the annual audit form by 1st June 2004.

306. Authorisation of the following items for payment.

PAYEE	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Seeboard Energy	£99.83	Lighting costs February 2004 (paid at March meeting)
Tina Burchell	£369.08	Clerks salary and office allowance March 2004
Cash	£22.10	Petty cash up 31 st March 2004
Seeboard Contracting Services	£2049.26	Bifron's streetlight
Seeboard energy	£99.83	Lighting costs March 2004
JK Property Services	£264.38	Bus shelter adjacent to Bridge, High Street
JK Property Services	£204.45	Whitehorse notice board
JK Property Services	£229.13	Bus Shelter opposite Higham Court

Plough and Harrow	£37.43	APM refreshments
BT	£50.94	Clerks phone line rental and calls
Seaboard Contracting Services	£120.36	Maintenance April
KAPC	£394.60	Membership, Parish News and Local Council Review