

**DRAFT Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th April 2008 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Gulvin, Hill, Lewis and Wilmshurst also City Councillor John Anderson to item 143b..

- 137/07-8. Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Esdale and KCC Cllr Northey
- 138/07-8. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.
- 139/07-8.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th March 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

140/07-8. Disposal of business from the last meeting

a. Recreation ground – Cllr Lewis offered to remove the large stones which had appeared near the tennis court and about which complaints had been received from a resident.

Action; Cllr Lewis

It was reported that children had been climbing on the pavilion roof again. Concern was expressed that the newly emerging bulbs had been mown over when the grass was cut despite Cllr Beinder having given Kent Landscape Services a map of the planting earlier in the year. It was agreed to remind KLS early next Spring that the areas of bulb planting should be left uncut for 6 weeks. Cllr Esdale had replaced the second sign on the recreation ground. Bad weather had prevented him from replacing the platform on the small slide.

Action; Cllr Esdale

Cllr Gulvin would discuss the small holes that needed to be filled in on the recreation ground with Mr Glew.

Action; Cllr Gulvin

Cllr Lewis offered to remove the old road signs, whose ownership could not be traced, and recycle them.

Action; Cllr Lewis

b. Judicial Review of 24 High Street Decision – Richard Honey, barrister, had advised that the High Court had given permission for Bridge Parish Council to apply for a Judicial Review of Canterbury City Council's decision to grant planning permission for the development in the garden of 24 High Street, Bridge. A letter had been sent to Canterbury City Council on the matter and a reply was awaited. There would be no further discussion on this until the May Parish Council meeting, by which time it was expected that a reply would have been received from the city council.

A payment of £180 had been authorised to HM Court Services to enable the court process to proceed.

141/07-8 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

There were no reports from representatives to outside bodies

142/07-8 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposal was noted;
Silver Birches, Patricxbourne Rd, Bridge
Remove a rowan tree, prune two silver birch trees, prune one holly tree.

143/07-8 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Youth Group** – David Edmonds reported on the problems being experienced by the Youth Group. There were currently only seven regular members. Advertisements in the Parish Council Newsletter and 'On the Nail' had failed to bring in any more members. Membership had fallen off since a decision was taken in September to stop indoor ball games as they were too disruptive in a

small space. The city council was now providing a regular Youth Leader who emailed his programme in advance and brought an assistant to the meetings. The Committee had met on 18th March and felt it was not viable to continue with such small numbers, in view of the expense to the parish council of paying for the Youth Worker and for the hire of the hall. After some discussion it was agreed to suggest to the committee that the group should continue until July, the end of the current session. Meanwhile the possibility of transferring the group to the Mill Centre in September would be explored. This venue would enable ball games to be resumed as well as allowing for a space in which quieter activities could take place. Mr Edmonds agreed to put this proposal to the committee.

Action ; Clerk

- b. **Highland Court Business Park Application CA/08/00322/BEK** – Cllr Gulvin had received paper copies of the plans for this development from Bekesbourne Parish Council. Cllrs Gulvin and Wilmshurst had also attended an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting in Bekesbourne to discuss the plans earlier in the week. Cllr Gulvin explained that Canterbury City Council's District Local Plan First Revision July 2006 had designated land at Highland Court for employment B1, B2 and B8 – light industrial and office use. Outline planning permission for the development was being sought and it was likely that this would be approved. A condition for approval was that a comprehensive plan be put forward for the development of the whole site, of which there were currently three components; one owned by Sheardown Co and two by Highland Court Investments. There would be an increase in sheds at sites A & B, office units would front the access road and utilise site C. There would be a redevelopment of the model farm. Parking for an additional 350 cars was planned together with a shop and café for employees.

It was felt that there were several issues that needed to be resolved over which the developer, Sheardown, would have no control. These included tree screening of the site, improvement Coldharbour Lane junction and signage. The parish council agreed to write to the city council pointing out their reservations about the plans. It was also agreed to ask Canterbury City Council for an extension to the deadline of 11th April for comment on the plans and to ask the Bekesbourne with Patricxbourne Parish Clerk send the parish council a copy of their response letter to the city council.

It was also agreed to write to Kim Bennett, Head of Development Services, to complain that Bridge Parish Council had not been sent copies of the plans and had had to rely on Bekesbourne Parish Council and the developers for information. This was contrary to his assurance, given some years ago, that Bridge would be fully informed of any major developments that could affect the village, even if they did not lie within its parish boundary.

Action; Cllr Gulvin & Clerk

- c. Item deferred to next meeting
- d. **Annual Parish Meeting** It was agreed to ask Canterbury City Football Club to give a brief presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th May to enable residents to meet officials and hear about their first year in Bridge and future plans. Cllr Gulvin agreed to speak about the proposed village hall alterations and Cllr Beesty would speak about the Youth Shelter. Cllr Beesty would also arrange for equipment to be available for Power point presentations. **Action Cllrs Beesty & Gulvin & Clerk**

144/07-8 Correspondence - Noted

145/07-8 Transfer – The transfer of £4,000 between Parish Council accounts was noted

146/07-8 The following receipt was noted;

Bekesbourne with Patricxbourne PC contribution to professional fees for Dr Wendy Le Las - £1,000

147/07-8.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
J Taylor~	£47.00	Repair of bus shelter tiles £40.00 + £7.00 vat
A Osborn~	£284.35	Tree work on recreation ground £242.00 + £42.35 vat
Richard Honey	£2,864.08	Professional services re 24 High Street £2,437.50 + £426.58 vat
Christobel N Seath	£610.89	Clerk's Salary and office allowance – March2008
BT*	£58.44	Telephone account £49.73 + £8.71 vat
KALC	£484.49	Subscription for 2008-9 £388.08 + £67.91 vat + £28.50 publications
ACRK	£35.00	Annual membership 1.4.08 to 31.3.09
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£66.00	Hire of hall for Street Runner April- June 08- 6 sessions @ £11
BVHMC	£16.50	Hire of hall Parish Council meetings April- June – 3 sessions @ £5.50

* Paid by Direct Debit

~ Authorised in 2007-8 financial year

148/07-8. Any other business;

a. Bus Service – Following the parish council's request, Stagecoach had agreed to re-schedule the 17 bus timetable through Bridge to Canterbury so that the bus left the White Horse at 9.30am instead of 9.28am. This would allow concessionary bus pass holders to use the service free of charge. It was agreed to write and thank the management of Stagecoach .

Action; Clerk

b. Concurrent Funding and Precept –The city council had paid the following amounts into the parish accounts; Concurrent Funding £8,723

Precept £24,533.34

c. Newsletters – It was confirmed that the print run of 750 newsletters had been adequate.

d. Welcome Packs for Newcomers – Cllr Esdale would be asked to supply a pack to new residents of Saxon Road when he returned from his holiday. **Action; Cllr Esdale**

e. Youth Shelter – Cllr Northey had agreed to open the Youth Shelter officially at 6.30pm on Thursday 8th May, before the Parish Council meeting.

f. Petroleum Company –The Manager had reminded his drivers that they are prohibited from using Western Avenue as an access route to the oil depot at the top of Mill Lane.

The meeting closed at 8.54 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 8th. May 2008 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.