

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th April 2012 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges, Ward and Wilmshurst

138/11-12 **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Cook and Oakey and KCC Cllr Northey.

139/11-12. **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** Cllr Hill declared an interest in respect of agenda item 8e as President of Bridge Tennis Club.

140/11/-12 The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 8th. March 2012 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

141/11-12 **Matters Arising;** The Chairman thanked Cllr Ward and volunteers from the Parish Council & village for carrying out a village litter pick on 17th. March

142/11-12 **Disposal of Business from last Meeting**

- a. **Recreation Ground** – Arrangements were being made to remove the broken roller and sell it for scrap. The repairs to the guttering were in hand. It was not known who had been responsible for painting the wall of the sandbag store and the pavilion doors. There was discussion about the wet pour on the children's play area, which was in need of attention. It was agreed this would be an agenda item at the next parish council meeting. A decision needed to be taken about replacing the entire play surface, which would have considerable cost implications. **Action Clerk**
- b. **Affordable Housing** – The event to bury the time capsule would take place on Tuesday 1st May at the site. There would be a reception in the Mill Centre following the event. A group of children from Bridge Primary School would be invited to attend. **Action; Cllr Hill & Clerk**
- c. **Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations-** The commemorative coins were being ordered. Bridge Post Office staff had kindly offered to help with their distribution. The bonfire would form part of the national chain of beacons and would be lit on Monday evening 4th. June at a time to be advised by the national organising committee. Access to the Star Hill site would be via the entrance opposite Higham Park and the gate and stile in Bourne Park Road The next meeting of the Committee would be on 16th April.
- d. **Methodist Chapel** – The Methodist Property Division were under the impression that the chapel was already on the market. However neither the local auctioneers nor the agents who had valued the building had been asked to handle the sale. The agents had been told of the parish council's interest in being kept informed about the sale.
- e. **Mill Centre-** A potential site for a replacement for the Mill Centre had been agreed at the school. An indicative plan had been drawn up with costing. This would be discussed by the school governors later in the month.
- f. **Bus shelter seat** – It had proved impossible to locate folding seats that sprung back. It was agreed to investigate whether such seats were available from ships' chandlers. **Action; Cllr Hill**
It was suggested that the cost might be met from Capital Grant funds from the city council.
- g. **'Walkers are Welcome' scheme-** Signatures were being collected from local walking groups to support the bid. It was hoped to have this completed by June with a target date for joining the scheme in July.

143/11-12

Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Canterbury Branch of KALC 11th April – Cllr Wilmshurst

Chris Maw of Kent Highways had addressed the meeting and several local issues had been raised, although no solutions had been forthcoming.

Neighbourhood Plan Committee 4th April – Cllr Hill

The first meeting of the Committee, which represents various village groups, had been addressed by Adrian Verrall of the City Council's Planning Dept. Local residents would be asked for their views on the proposals being put forward in city council's Local Plan, which was in preparation and, once adopted, would cover the next 20 years. It was important that Bridge had an input into where additional housing should be and where green spaces should be kept. The next meeting would be on 19th April.

144/11-12.

Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Parish Reserves** – The council approved the current parish reserves. It was agreed to allocate £5,000 from the general reserve to the Neighbourhood Plan costs. **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Report on Flood Risk in Bridge** – Mervyn Gulvin presented maps and supporting documents concerning the flood risk to properties within Bridge. These had been compiled because some residents had had difficulty in obtaining household insurance because of the perceived flood risk in Bridge. It was agreed to put the maps on the village website and also to make them available at the Annual Parish Meeting so that any inaccuracies could be corrected. Cllr Hill thanked Mr Gulvin for his work on this matter.
- c. **Meeting with Bridge Primary School Head teacher** – Cllr Hodges spoke to her report on the meeting. It was agreed to discuss the future of the Wild Flower project at the next parish council meeting.
- d. **Support for the initiative to lobby MPs to give parish councils the right of appeal against the granting of planning applications when they had recommended refusal.** – It was agreed to write to Julian Brazier MP to ask him to support Early Day Motion 2824 covering this matter. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Tennis Club Proposals to extend their fencing and make an outside seating area.** – Councillors did not object to this proposal. Cllr Atkinson suggested that paving should be used instead of gravel because of the likelihood of small stones being washed away in any flood and also the problem of disabled access over gravel. Cantley Estates had written to the Clerk to say they did not object to the proposals.
- f. **Purchase of oak tree to commemorate Queen's Diamond Jubilee** - The council approved the use of s.137 funds for the purchase of a commemorative oak tree for the recreation ground.
- g. **Site for the commemorative oak tree**- After discussion it was agreed that Cllrs Hodges, Hill & Wilmshurst would meet before the recreation ground working party at 9.00am on 21st April to agree the positioning of the tree. **Action; Cllrs Hill, Hodges & Wilmshurst**
- h. **Use of the recreation ground for village fete parking** – It was agreed that the recreation ground could be used for parking at the fete on 23rd June, with the usual proviso that it should not be used in wet weather because of potential damage to the football field. **Action; Clerk**
- i. **Bridges over the water meadows in Brewery Lane** – A request had been received for the wire netting over the bridges to be renewed. It was agreed to refer this to Public Rights of Way since the bridges were its responsibility and the parish council did not have the capacity to undertake this work at present. **Action; Clerk**
- j. **Village Diary** – It was decided to reinstate the Village Diary, which would be kept in a suitable public venue so that bookings for village venues could be recorded in it. The purpose would be to prevent conflicting dates of local events and it would be the responsibility of those organisations making the bookings to record the dates. **Action; Cllr Edmonds**

145/11-12 **Correspondence List** – Noted

146/11-12 **Bank Transfers**

The transfer of £3,000 between Parish Council accounts was noted

147/11-12 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
~BT	£71.87	Telephone account for Jan/Feb £59.90 + £11.97 vat
* Preston Nursery	£110.00	Diamond Jubilee oak tree and associated items Section 137 payment
* Bridge Village Sports Trust	£300.21	Reimbursement for Green Insurance Group - Sports Pavilion insurance
* Green Construction Ltd	£120.00	Pavilion guttering repairs £100 + £20 vat
* Christobel Seath – Clerk	£45.83	Petty cash
*Mark Esdale	£84.00	Domain hosting, spam filtering & website maintenance 1/4/11 – 31/3/12
*John E Hill	£49.60	Aerial photo of Bridge for time capsule (£10.00) & travel expenses to Rochester & Canterbury 80 miles @ 45 p per mile = £39.60
*Sue Hodges	£10.35	Travel claim Bridge/Petham/ Blean on 14 th . March 23 miles @ 0.45p per mile
*Mervyn Gulvin	£147.90	Photocopying services May 2010 – Mar 2012
* Simon Gomm	£590.00	Repairs to village hall wall.
* Christobel Seath – Clerk	£54.24	Reimbursement of purchase of postage stamps 10 bks X 2 nd class + 2 bks X 1 st class
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£643.17	Clerk's salary and allowances for March 2012
Post Office Ltd.	£90.54	Employer PAYE & NI Contributions for March 2012
D Possee	£30.00	Supply of plants & compost & maintenance of High Street planters – Winter 2012.
Kent Association of Local Councils	£507.65	Annual subscription to year ending 31 st March 2013 £423.04 + £84.61 vat
Mervyn Gulvin	£8.00	2 new recreation ground gate keys cut
Mickle Print	£73.75	Printing of PC Newsletter and inserts
Cllr Simon Cook	£13.79	Labels for welcome packs £11.49 + £2.30 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£42.27	Ink cartridge & accounts file £35.22 + £7.05 vat

~ Paid by Direct Debit * Cheque authorised between parish council meetings

148/11-12 **Any other business**

- Recreation Ground Working Party - Cllr Hodges reminded councillors that this would take place on Saturday 21st April at 9.00am. All volunteers would be very welcome.
- Newsletter - Cllr Corfield asked councillors to let him know if they had not had enough copies of the Newsletter for their distribution rounds.
- Duke of Edinburgh's award volunteers - Cllr Hill had been asked for potential areas where two local volunteers could pick up litter in Bridge.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 10th. May 2012 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.