

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th.April 2013 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges, Moon, Wilmshurst, CCC Cllr Cook and KCC Cllr Northey
- 151/12-13** **Resignation of Cllr Oakey** – Cllr Hill reported with regret that Cllr Bill Oakey had resigned from the parish council because of ill health. Cllr Hill said that Cllr Oakey had worked very hard for the council and had been actively involved in the Twinning Association and setting up the system for the clearance of snow and ice among other things. The parish council wished him well.
- 152/12-13** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Ward.
- 153/12-13** There were no Declarations of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on agenda items.
- 154/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 14th. March 2013 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 155/12-13** **Matters arising;** There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
- 156/12-13** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook;** The City Council had passed the Annual Budget. The Draft Local Plan was now expected in May. Cllr Cook reminded the parish council that RAMP funding was now available and an early application had a better chance of success. There was also a Small Grants Fund for applications of less than £500. Cllr Cook was trying to be included in discussions within the City Council on the future of the Mill Centre
- 157/12-13** **Report from KCC Cllr Michael Northey;** Cllr Northey reported that the A2 lay by at Lydden had been closed and that this had had a knock on effect on lay bys along the rest of the A2. He gave the Clerk a monitoring sheet supplied by the Highways Agency on which to report any adverse comments about the effects of the closure.
KCC, CCC and the local MP were aware of many complaints about litter along the A2. The City Council was responsible for clearing litter but had to obtain permission from the Highways Agency to close lanes etc to carry out a clean up. It cost the City Council £25,000 per sweep.
Cllr Northey reported that the temporary barriers had yet to be restored at the top of the A2 slip road. It was agreed to email Cllr Northey asking him to approach the relevant authorities to try to ensure they were reinstated.
Action; Clerk
- 158/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a.** **Recreation Ground** – Cllr Corfield was in charge of the inspection folder and had nothing to report at present. Cllr Hodges thanked the volunteers who had worked on the recreation ground on 6th April, planting a hedge by the fence, transplanting wild flowers and preparing the ground for children from Bridge School to help with planting. She also thanked residents who had donated plants.
- b.** **Neighbourhood Plan** – Mervyn Gulvin had taken over temporarily as Chairman as Prof Connor would be away for a few weeks. The newly produced Worth Neighbourhood Plan was being circulated to the Committee.
- c.** **Mill Centre-** After much discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would write to the City Council to express its wish to buy the Mill Centre to secure the future of the youth organisation within the village. **Action; Clerk**

- d. **Nailbourne Pollution** – Cllr Atkinson had circulated a report on the latest situation regarding the pollution of the Nailbourne. He reported that the Environment Agency was loth to act while Southern Water were dealing with an 'emergency' by over pumping. LSNRMG was trying to get the emergency regulations removed, arguing that an event which occurred regularly could not be deemed an emergency. The solution was to renew the pipe. LSNRMG was liaising with other organisations and groups which were suffering similar problems. The advice was still to keep away from the water. Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Atkinson for his continued hard work on this issue.

159/12-13

Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Canterbury KALC Branch Meeting 10th April – Cllr Hodges (Report circulated)
Meeting with representatives of Cantley Ltd 19th. March – Cllrs Hill, Corfield & Hodges (Report circulated)

160/12-13 **Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Car Parking in the High Street** – After much discussion it was decided to take no action to deter car owners from leaving their cars in the High Street all day. It was thought that some of the cars belonged to people who worked in the village and there was not enough evidence that cars were being parked while their owners went to Canterbury on the bus for the day.
- b. **Request for bollards outside Bridgeway Stores** – It was decided not to ask for bollards outside Bridgeway Stores. This would affect the ability of large lorries to deliver supplies to the store. The PCSO had been asked to deal with on going concerns about vehicles being parked on the yellow lines at the corner of Western Avenue and outside Woodlands Hairdressers.
- c. **Request for disabled parking bays outside the Post Office** – Councillors did not support this request. There were currently only two parking spaces outside the Post Office. Enforcement of disabled parking bays would be impossible and it was also pointed out that disabled drivers could park on double yellow lines if need be.
- d. **Dog waste bin for Bifrons Path** – It was agreed to request a dog waste bin to be installed on Bifrons Path. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Pavilion refurbishment and BVST's relationship with the parish council** – Mervyn Gulvin, Chairman of BVST, reported that the cost of refurbishing the pavilion would be about £18,000. Fund raising would be necessary but this could not begin until the lease on the recreation ground, which currently expired in 10 years, had been extended. (See item f below) No decision on the future relationship between BVST and the Parish Council was reached because possible income streams would depend on renovating the pavilion. Cllr Hodges reported that the blocked ladies lavatory in the pavilion was a health hazard.
- f. **Recreation ground lease** – It was agreed to ask Cantley Estates to extend the recreation ground lease by 50 years. **Action; Clerk**
- g. **Clerks' Conference** – It was agreed that the Clerk should attend the Clerks' Conference on 22nd May.
- h. **Annual Parish Meeting** – It was agreed that in addition to the talk by Larissa Reed, Head of Environmental Services at the City Council, on the new recycling system, Cllr Atkinson would report on the latest position regarding the Nailbourne pollution. Colin Beesty would also be invited to report on the future of the Mill Centre. Cllr Cook would report on the work of City Council. **Action; Clerk**

161/12-13 **Correspondence** – Noted

162/12-13 **Bank transfers;**

The council noted the transfer of £5,000 between Parish Council accounts

163/12-13 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*BT telephone account	£77.58	Telephone account 5 Dec – 8 Mar £64.65 + vat £12.93
# Mark Larkins	£395.00	Repairs to youth shelter floor
^Preston Nursery	£75.75	Plants for recreation ground fence £63.12 + £12.63 vat Wild flower project
# North Quay Trading	£3,952.51	Replacement of village hall front windows £3,293.76 + £658.75 vat
Cllr Hodges	£27.00	Travel claim Bridge Maidstone for Civic Service 12 th . March 60 miles @ 45 p per mile
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£581.01	Clerk's salary and allowances for March 2013
Post Office Ltd	£172.50	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution March 2013
Society of Local Council Clerks	£114.00	SLCC Membership subscription for 2013
Cllr Hodges	£53.16	Seeds, tools, manure refreshments etc Wild flower project
Kent Association of Local Councils	£144.00	Planning Conference – 2 places £120.00 + £ 24.00 vat (Credit for other conferences in 2013)
Mickle Print Ltd	£100.00	Spring Newsletter printing
Bridge Village Hall Management Cttee	£13.00	Neighbourhood Plan, use of Hunter Room, 15 th .March & 5 th . April 2013

* Paid by Direct debit 24th. March 2013

Paid in 2012/13 FY

^ Paid before collection on 5th April

164/12-13 Any Other Business

- a. **Kentish Gazette** – Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Atkinson for taking on the role of Village Correspondent for the Kentish Gazette
- b. **Councillor Oakey** – It was agreed that Cllr Hill would write a letter of thanks to Cllr Oakey.

The meeting closed at 9.23p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 9th. May 2013 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.