

Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council
Thursday 14 April 2016 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

145/15-16

Chris Jelly of Walkers are Welcome outlined proposals for Elham valley walks on 4 and 5 June 2016. The Council will decide at its next meeting whether to participate in funding this venture once further details have been forwarded to councillors. **(ACTION: Clerk)**

146/15-16

Apologies for absence. Cllrs Northey (Kent County Council) and Dhillon.

Present were Cllrs A Atkinson, Sole, Fawke, Corfield, Hodges, R Atkinson, Brooks.

147/15-16

Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests-there were none.

148/15-16

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 10 March 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

149/15-16

Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 7 of the agenda.

5 Speedwatch sessions have already been organised using the newly purchased equipment.

The Chair reported on a meeting (9 March 2016) with the PTA at Bridge school on the subject of changing attitudes of inconsiderate parkers who deliver children to the school from various sites in the village.

28 volunteers were thanked for taking part in the litter pick on the Clean for the Queen event (5/6 March 2016). 24 bags of rubbish were collected. A similar event is to be organised at about the same time as the Queen's birthday party on 12 June 2016.

Canterbury City council has no plans to increase the number or size of litter bins in the village due to financial pressures. Council agreed that new litter bins might form the subject of a future RAMP application, with a review of the number and location of the bins in the recreation ground to be carried out. **(ACTION: Cllr R Atkinson)**

Council agreed to replace the timber cradle swings with a steel framed set of cradle swings from Wicksteed at the cost (ex VAT) of £3,253.95. The Clerk will now order. **(ACTION: Clerk)**

Council agreed to run the proposed first aid in the village on Tuesday 10 May. The Clerk will liaise with the course provider and book a venue. Cllr Fawke will recontact the businesses he spoke to previously. **(ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Fawke)**

Cllr Brooks reported that the skateboarding day (19 March 2016) had been a great success with a wide age range of youngsters taking part. A proposal to run a similar event next year would need to be considered by the Parish Council as it looks towards application for RAMP funding from Canterbury City Council. **(ACTION: Cllr Brooks).**

Canterbury City Council have yet to be asked to remove the dead trees identified in the Lloyd Bore tree report on Green Court area. **(ACTION: Clerk)**

There is likely to be a small surplus of income over expenditure reported in the Parish Council accounts, due to the late start of projects scheduled for 2015-2016.

150/15-16 Report from Canterbury City Councillor Cook.

Cleaning of the A2 is the responsibility of the City Council (and not the Highways Agency as reported at the March meeting). There will be an A2 litter pick in May. Cllr Cook explained many of the impediments Canterbury City Council faces to finding an effective cheap and

practical solution to the cleaning of the A2 highway and verges. Canterbury City Council is considering a combined approach with neighbouring authorities which share the A2. Most of the litter problems on the A2 are generated by users of the lay bys. Enforcing littering is extremely difficult given the transitory and often long distances travelled by many of the vehicles using them. A meeting with Julian Brazier MP has been held to emphasise the importance on cleaning litter on the A2 to the Highways Agency and ultimately to the Transport Secretary. More bins may be provided on the A2. Cllr Sole asked if revenue raised from housing developments could be used to fund better litter control on the highway.

New parking arrangements In Canterbury City have now been introduced. It is now possible to register for online parking payments. Cllr Cook concluded by referring to forthcoming discussion to be held with Parish Council and the City about the devolution of powers to more local communities-something he is in favour of. Planning applications might be devolved to Parish Councils, but Cllr Sole wanted to know how appeals would be resolved and whether or not a proportion of the City Council's legal services department would also be devolved. Cllr Cook resolved to look into this and Cllr Sole's point about developer contributions.
(ACTION: Cllr Cook)

151/15-16 Report from Kent County Councillor (KCC)

Cllr Northey's written report focused on the need to ensure the road layout of the new junction on the A2 meets the needs of villagers and also on the forthcoming resurfacing of the road from Littlebourne to the A2.

152/15-16 Disposal of business from the last meeting

Recreation Ground. Cllr Hodges reviewed and reallocated jobs on the list of outstanding jobs. It was agreed to dispose of the roller which does not work. A letter is required to the BVST regarding the state of cleanliness expected in the Sports Pavilion. **(ACTION: Clerk)**

Neighbourhood Plan- taken under Matters for Discussion and Action-see below item 7 (b)

Village event on 12 June to mark the Queen's 90th birthday: Cllr Dhillon's written report listed the proposed activities. A decision has yet to be taken about a gift for children on the day. Volunteers are also needed.

153/15-16 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies.

The Chair reported that funding has become available for the development of Temporary Relief plans for Bridge. This means that the emergency/instant response plans put together after the 2014 floods will be embedded with equipment purchased and stored for emergency deployment in Bridge. This will free up resources for other Nail Bourne villages.

154/15-16 Matters for discussion and action.

Item 9 (1)

A unanimous agreement was given to the motion proposed by Cllr A Atkinson and seconded by Cllr Brooks that "Bridge Parish hereby grants itself a dispensation from the declaration of pecuniary interests with regard to the current 6 housing development proposals in the village". The clerk outlined the legal advice received from the Kent Association of Local Council's on this matter and informed councillors that the dispensation will be in force for a maximum of 4 years. The Clerk will seek clarification about the need for dispensations if the number of sites falls from the current 6 to a smaller number.
(ACTION: Clerk)

Item 7 (b)

Joe Connor, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Group spoke of the next steps to be taken by the Neighbourhood Plan group in light of the preferences expressed in the recent housing consultation. (166 villagers had expressed their preferences; 14% of the electorate). The raw data from this consultation will be published as soon as possible. It will also be available from the Clerk for those without internet access. Joe Connor will also transcribe all of the comments received as part of the recent consultation for members of the Neighbourhood Plan group.

Item 9 (2)

The Clerk was asked to forward all correspondence received from villagers to the planning department at Canterbury regarding the proposed Mountfield development (currently the subject of a display in the Parish Church). Councillors will forward their own comments to the Clerk who then collate the Parish Council responses, circulate the draft response to all councillors and despatch to the planning authority in time for the 22 April deadline. Places are still available for villagers and councillors who wish to attend the stakeholders meeting scheduled for 7 May 2016 at The Spitfire Cricket ground in Canterbury. Contact the Clerk if interested.

Item 9 (3)

There has been no further news about the new Local Community warden.

Item 9 (4)

Council agreed to write to all residents of Green Court and relevant areas of Western Avenue to seek their involvement in the a working party which will be set to look into plans for improving aspects of the area in the light of the recent tree report which is to be uploaded to the website and which can also be viewed at the parish office by appointment with the Clerk. Cllrs Fawke and Sole offered to take part as members of the Parish Council.
(ACTION: Clerk)

Item 9 (5)

Councillors were encouraged to submit returns via the Clerk to the KCC consultation on flooding and bus services. (The proposed changes to the bus services appears to have no effect on Bridge itself).The Lower Stour and Nail Bourne River Group has already responded to the flood consultation.

Item 9 (6)

The Clerk outlined the process for the election or co-option of a new Councillor to replace Mr Moon. Cllr Hodges' offer to join the Planning subcommittee was endorsed by all councillors.

Item 9 (7)

The Emergency Plan was readopted. It will be updated by Cllr A Atkinson and placed on the village website. **(ACTION: Chair)**

Item 9 (8)

It was agreed to invite representatives of the Mill Centre and Neighbourhood Plan committees to update villagers on the work of their groups at the Annual Parish meeting on 28 April 2016. The Chair will organise refreshments. Other aspects of the proposed running order were agreed.

Item 9 (9)

The latest developments in the drawing up of the lease to the Parish Council were outlined. Difficulties have arisen over the exact boundary of the property. These still require resolution. It is hoped that further progress will be made by the next meeting with Canterbury City Council on 12 May 2016.

Item 9 (10)

The kitchen is now fully completed in the pavilion. An electrical certificate has been received in connection with these works.

Item 9 (11)

It was agreed to raise the Clerk's remuneration from 1 April 2016 to point 19 of the Clerk's pay scale

155/15-16 Tree works in a conservation area were covered by the planning committee.

156/15-16 The Correspondence list was noted.

157/15-16 Receipts were noted as follows:

£35.80 for refreshments sold at the skateboarding event on 19 March 2016 and £3016.75 received by BACS being the Concurrent Function Funding award from Canterbury City Council for 2016-2017.

158/15-16 The following items for payment were authorised:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Wellers Hedleys	£633.60	Legal work-Mill Centre lease
Canterbury City Council	£79.60	Neighbourhood Plan leaflet
Sturry Parish Council	£124.60	Handyman work on the recreation ground
Les Barleycorn	£1,094.95	Pavilion works-Kitchen
Helping Hand	£25.63	Litter picking equipment (£21.36 + VAT of £4.27)
Cllr Brooks	£126.61	Confectionery for Skateboarding day
KALC	£72.00	Chair's conference attendance
Philip Wicker	£676.67	Salary and office allowance
SLCC	£118.00	SLCC subs
KALC	£534.24	KALC subs (£445.20 + VAT of £89.04)
Ian Sargent	£97.95	Cut of recreation ground and mole trap setting

*Bold font in the above table indicates the payments were made in March in order to clear the funds before the end of the financial year.

159/15-16 Points of information:

- a) To note the Post Office relocation proposal (consultation closes on 29 April 2016). Councillors should respond individually rather than collectively.
- b) The Bank Mandate with Lloyd's bank has now been fully updated.
- c) Councillors should express their interest in attending the Mountfield consultation on 7 May by 5.00 p.m. on Monday 18 April
- d) The CPRE Kent association meeting will take place on 5 May at 7.30 in Ickham.

The meeting concluded at 8.58 pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday, 12 May 2016 at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall