

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council
Thursday 13 April 2017 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT Cllrs A Atkinson (Chair), R Atkinson, Hodges, Davies, Dhaliwal, Fawke, Ferguson and Corfield.

141/16-17 Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Dhillon and County councillor Northey and City Councillor Cook. Cllr Ferguson was welcomed as a new Councillor following his recent election, having signed a declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the clerk at the start of the meeting.

142/16-17 Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - there were none.

143/16-17 The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 9 March 2017 were confirmed as a true record, signed and dated by the Chair.

144/16-17 Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 7 of the agenda.

Cllr Corfield showed a set of postcards which would need to be delivered to all households prior to the photographic exhibition on 7 May 2017.

145/16-17 Report from Canterbury City Councillor Simon Cook

Cllr Cook's written report was read by the Clerk. It stated: "there's not really a City Council report this month as there's nothing significant to report"

146/16-17 Report from Kent County Councillor Michael Northey

Cllr Northey's written report was read by the Clerk. "County Hall is fairly bereft of Members at present, for obvious reasons! KCC has recently launched its Pothole Blitz, now that the weather has warmed. The teams are actively going round the county looking for potholes and repairing them as fast as they can...people are asked to report any they see on the website as usual."

147/16-17 Disposal of business from the last meeting

Recreation Ground:

The list of jobs to be carried out was reviewed by Cllrs Davies and Hodges. A few items had been added to the list since the last meeting. The poor state of the pavilion, especially after football matches was discussed. It was resolved to seek a meeting for councillors A Atkinson, Hodges, Davies and Dhaliwal with the BVST prior to the next BVST AGM and meeting on 8 May 2017 to discuss identified concerns and proposed actions. Cllr Davies will purchase padlocks to assist with the locking of gates to the children's play area and repair damaged dog fouling signs. A note needs to go to local householders about the fly tipping of cut grass onto the recreation ground. Cllr Fawke will contact Adrian Stewart of Canterbury City Council about dog fouling signs. It was resolved to place a sign near to the Patricbourne Rd crossing onto the recreation ground indicating that the bridge should not be used by vehicles. The cost and manner of replacement of this bridge was discussed, with the need to consult insurers, Cantley Estates and the Environment Agency as well as bridge suppliers such as KCC, Canterbury City Council and the Kentish Stour group. The width and style of a replacement bridge were not decided upon.

(ACTION: Clerk, Cllrs Fawke and Davies)

Neighbourhood Plan

In the absence of Prof Connor, the Clerk read through the main points of the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan group held on 24 March (to be displayed on the village noticeboard). In response to a question from Cllr Ferguson regarding whether the Chair had, with the approval of Bridge Parish Council or its Neighbourhood Plan Committee, written a letter dated 24 March 2017 to the Inspector dealing with the Canterbury Local Plan about the redrawing of the proposed Green Gap between Canterbury and Bridge, Cllr Atkinson confirmed that the letter had been written as a result of a recommendation made by officers of Canterbury City Council at a meeting held with members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group on 14 March 2017. (The reason for this being that the proposed housing site NW of Conyngham Lane lies within the green gap as defined in the

Canterbury Local District Plan). The Clerk mentioned that a further grant of in excess of £2,000 has been obtained from central government for the work of the Neighbourhood Plan group.

148/16-17 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies.

- Rural Area Members Panel (RAMP) held on 13 March. Cllr Atkinson reported that the proposed Parish Charter defining the working relationship of the City Council with Parish Councils had not found favour and was to be redrafted by the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) before returning to RAMP.
- KALC meeting (11 April). Cllr A Atkinson reported that the demise of the proposed East Kent Council scheme does not mean that financial pressures will go away. Also, some form of revised council structure is likely to be forthcoming. Parish Councils will need to operate entirely within their own precept income taking care over assets and their management. Concurrent Function Funding Bids will be scrutinised by KALC before being presented to Canterbury City Council in future.
- Allotment AGM (11 April). Cllr Fawke gave a brief report. A copy of the accounts will be lodged with the Clerk. **(ACTION: Cllr Fawke)**

149/16-17 Matters for discussion and action.

1. Former Chairman John Hill read a statement about the history of Roger's garage which has recently closed after almost 100 years of trading. (Much of the information he presented has been available on the parish website). The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to the recent owner Mr Clive Milne-Spaull and his family. Mr Hill suggested potential use of the garage site as a village car park to be purchased by the Parish Council with a public loan and/or increase in the parish council precept. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
2. Council noted the completion of the Mill Centre leases and retrospectively ratified expenditure of £1,200 on legal advice (as contained in item 9 (11) of the agenda).
3. Council agreed to produce a tender document based upon information supplied for the meeting by Cllr Davies and the Clerk. The Chair's view that the works should if possible be carried out by a single contractor found favour. The tender document will be written by the Clerk assisted by Cllrs Fawke and Davies. **(ACTION: Clerk, Cllrs Fawke and Davies)**
4. Cllr Dhaliwal presented plan for a village fayre on **Saturday 8 July 2017** to be held on the recreation ground. Council agreed to underwrite the event up to a maximum of £1,000. A small working group will be set up to assist with the planning of the event.
5. Following a review of the quotations received by two potential contractors for the grass cutting of the recreation ground Council agreed to appoint Ian Sargent for the year from 13 April 2017- 12 April 2018.
6. Council agreed to spend up to £2,000 on a **defibrillator for the village** to be located on the Bridgeway Stores wall close to the Cash Machine. A letter will be sent to the owner of the shop outlining the Council's expectations. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
7. The Chair stated that the review and readoption of the **Emergency Plan** would return at the May meeting.
8. Council agreed to the proposed running order for the **Annual Parish Meeting on 27 April 2017** published previously by the Clerk. Views were aired on how to make the meeting more relevant to villagers and how to publicise the event using social media.
9. It was agreed to ask the successful candidate at the forthcoming KCC elections to take proposals forward for the creation of a safer environment for those using the **Higham Lane Bus stop**. A letter will be written to relevant landowners about proposals already put forward by villagers and councillors. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
10. Council agreed to a written request dated 6 April 2017 by Cllr Ferguson for a dispensation pursuant to section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 relieving him from both of the restrictions in section 31(4) in relation to cases relating to all discussions and votes including votes of the neighbourhood plan committee in respect of housing allocations within the area served by the parish council and any discussions or votes in connection with its draft neighbourhood plan. The reason for this being that a similar dispensation had already been granted to other parish councillors in April 2016.

150/16-17 The Correspondence list for April 2017 was noted.

151/16-17 Receipts as indicated on the agenda were noted

152/16-17 The following items for payment were authorised:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Philip Wicker	£611.44	Salary and Office allowance
The Post Office	£171.52	Tax and NI
Society of Local Council Clerks	£121.00	Subscription for 2017-2018
KALC and NALC	£552.94 (of which £92.16 is VAT)	Subscriptions for 2017-2018
<i>Coppicewood</i>	<i>£211.24</i>	<i>Recreation ground construction expenses</i>
<i>The Helping Hand Co</i>	<i>£40.20 (of which £6.70 is VAT)</i>	<i>Litter pickers. (The sum of £33.50 as published in the agenda for the meeting had been an error)</i>
<i>Cllr S Hodges</i>	<i>£31.96</i>	<i>Wild Flower project expenses</i>
<i>Wellers Hedley</i>	<i>£1,200 (of which £200 is VAT)</i>	<i>Legal charges for Mill Centre leases</i>
<i>Ian Sargent</i>	<i>£180.00</i>	<i>2 cuts and strims of the recreation ground</i>
<i>Cllr R Atkinson</i>	<i>£52.48</i>	<i>Expenses for Bridge in Bloom and Spring Clean</i>
<i>BT</i>	<i>(75.93 (of which £12.65 is VAT)</i>	<i>Direct Debit</i>

Items in italics were paid after the 9 March 2017 meeting but in the course of the 2016-2017 Financial Year i.e. before 31 March 2017.

153/16-17 Points of Information:

- Cllr Davies will show the Clerk the site of the pathway he feels needs attention by highways authorities. **(ACTION: Cllr Davies)**
- Various roadworks were raised for the attention of both Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council
- Councillors will circulate ideas for a newsletter to Cllr Corfield during t May. **(ACTION: All)**
- Welcome packs have been delegated by Cllr R Atkinson to a number of willing volunteers-to ensure that newcomers to the village are welcomed as soon as possible. Further volunteers are sought.
- A meeting with Kent Highways Drainage engineer Kevin Gore is awaited.

The meeting concluded at 9.47 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11 May 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Bridge Village Hall