

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th. December 2010 in Bridge Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill, Lewis, Wilmshurst and KCC Cllr Northey.

79/10-11 **Apologies for absence;** There were no apologies for absence.

80/10-11. **Declarations of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.**
There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items

81/10-11. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th. November 2010 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

82/10-11. Cllr Northey reported that KCC were still finalising their budget and that £340 million would need to be saved. It was expected to achieve this through job losses while minimising service cuts. Cllr Northey had allocated £35,000 in Members' Funding to highways projects in Bridge. It was intended to repair the road outside the pharmacy in March/April 2011 because the repairs could not be done in freezing conditions. The parish council thanked Cllr Northey and expressed their annoyance that Members' Funds should have to be used for routine highway repairs because of inadequate Kent Highways funding.

82/10-11 **Disposal of business from the last meeting**

- a. Recreation Ground – Cllr Gulvin holds the inspection folder.
- b. Affordable Housing.- The parish council were pleased to note that Mrs Shirley had withdrawn her application for a review of the High Court's decision not to allow her apply for a Judicial Review of the Affordable Housing planning consent. It was expected that the project would now proceed without further delay.
- c. Bus shelter – Cllr Gulvin reported that the new bus shelter would be delivered on 17th December. Serco would prepare the holes on 16th December and the zinc roof would be installed during the following week. The parish council agreed that payments for the bus shelter should be made when the invoices were presented and before the next parish council meeting in January.
Action; Cllr Gulvin & Clerk
- d. The Mill Centre – Cllr Beesty reported that a letter to the city council concerning the safeguarding of the Centre for the youth of Bridge and written jointly by the Mill Centre Committee and parish council would be presented to the parish council for approval at the next meeting.
Action; Cllr Beesty
- e. Village Green Application – The parish council was pleased to note that the application for village green status for Brickfields and the water meadows had been unanimously refused by Kent County Council's Regulation Panel on 30th November. It was agreed to delay a request to Cantley Estates to allocate land to the village for a Community Orchard.

83/10-11 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Little Stour and Nailbourne River Management Group Meeting- Littlebourne 13th. November - Cllr Corfield – Report circulated

Cllr Gulvin reported that engineers had been unable to put a camera down the sewers in Riverside Close because of wet weather. The water table had subsequently fallen and it would now be too late for the camera to identify leaks. Cllr Gulvin also explained that legislation was in process that would transfer the responsibility for drains from individuals to the water companies. This would come into effect in October 2011 and should be widely publicised at that time.

Kent Highways 17th November Cllrs Edmonds, Hill, Beinder & Esdale – Report circulated

The parish council had subsequently had some of their requests for improved signage in Bridge refused by Kent Highways. It was therefore agreed to put a strong case to Kent Highways to explain why some of the requests put by the parish council were needed. In particular, a sign to Canterbury was required at the junction of Station Road, High Street and Bekesbourne Rd. There continued to be frequent cases of articulated lorries entering Bridge in error. **Action; Cllr Esdale**

Bridge Village Sports Trust 8th December Cllr Gulvin – Oral Report (See 85/10-11d)

84/10-11 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposal was noted;

Renville House, Renville Farm Rd, Bridge

Reduce ash tree by 25% and thin copse of trees in front and to left of property

85 /10-11 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Precept Requirement-** Revised budget figures were agreed for 2011/12 and would be circulated by Cllr Esdale. The new precept requirement would be £25,690-40p; a 5.6% increase on the previous year. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
- b. **Parish Capital Grants Scheme** – It was agreed not to apply for a grant under this scheme in 2011/12. A local company would be asked for a quotation to repair the existing springers on the recreation ground and another company specialising in playground renovations would also be asked for a similar quote. The result would be reported back to the January parish council. **Action Cllrs Esdale & Beesty**
- c. **Increase in Fidelity Guarantee** – The internal auditor had recommended increasing the fidelity guarantee from £55,000 to £81,000 using an Audit Commission formula. It was agreed to ask the insurance company how much extra premium would be charged to effect this change. A decision would be taken at the January parish council meeting. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Canterbury Football Club** – Cllr Gulvin reported that at the last meeting of BVST Canterbury City FC had outlined problems they were experiencing both in the league fixtures of their second team and in their use of Bridge recreation ground. An official of the club had agreed to write to the Clerk outlining their concerns but no communication had been received. It was claimed that the team fixtures had been reduced to 8 home games and CCFC would be seeking a reduced rent. It was also alleged that a resident of Riverside Close had tried to prevent Serco workmen from preparing the pitch and had confiscated several footballs belonging to the club and Bridge FC. The police had been involved. It was agreed that the clerk would contact our PCSO to ask for a report on the problems and that CCFC should be given one week in which to present their case to the parish council and return the contract with payment. Failure to respond would result in the contract being terminated and the parish council would demand payment from the club for the use of the ground up to that date. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Night Flights from Manston Airport** – Following a vote, it was agreed to write to Thanet District Council opposing the application by Infratil to increase night flights from Manston airport from the current limit of 3 per month to 7 per night. **Action; Clerk**
- f. **High Street parking** – Following a vote, it was decided not to ask Canterbury City Council to mark the area of the High Street from Bridgeway Stores to Roger's garage as a designated street parking area by means of a white line.
- g. **Pratt memorial bench** – It was agreed that the new Pratt memorial bench should be placed on the grass verge by the notice board and lay by in Patribourne Road facing the recreation ground. Cllr Hill would ask the Pratt family for their approval of this site. **Action; Cllr Hill**

86/10-11 Correspondence – Noted

87/10-11 Sealing of Documents -

The contract between Bridge Junior Football Club and Bridge Parish Council was signed.

88/10-11 Bank transfers:

The council noted the transfer of £2,000 between Parish Council accounts.

89/10-11. The following receipts were noted;

Christmas tree donations - £629.50
Cheque for Pratt memorial bench - £775.00

90/10–11 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Christobel Seath- Clerk	£33.99	HP Inkjet cartridge £28.93 + £5.06 vat
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£693.42	Clerk's salary & allowances for November 2010
Post Office Ltd	£27.83	Employer NI Contributions for November
Kevin Funnell	£40.00	November Mid Year audit fee
Bounty Pest Control	£317.72	Pest control contract 1.10.10 to 30.11.11 £270.40 + £47.32 vat
Mark Esdale	£99.92	10 sets of lights for Christmas trees £85.04 + £14.88 vat
Ewart Clough	£338.40	72 Christmas trees £288.00 + £50.40 vat

91/10-11 Any Other Business

- a. Christmas trees – Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllr Esdale, parish councillors and Bridge volunteers, especially Craig Dobson, for their help in putting up the village Christmas trees in atrocious weather the previous Saturday. Many favourable comments had been received from villagers.
- b. Salt bag – Cllr Edmonds reported that she had received thanks from a resident of Bridge Down for the parish council's action in arranging for a salt bag to be provided in Higham Lane. It had been very well used in the past very icy weeks.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 13th January 2011 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.