

would be lit on Star Hill. Commemorative medals for Bridge children were under consideration.

- d. Methodist Chapel – There had been no further news about the sale of the chapel. Cllr Oakey offered to make enquiries with one of the Methodist Circuit officials, **Action; Cllr Oakey**
- e. Mill Centre – No further information.
- f. Bus shelter seat – No folding seats had yet been located. The council thought that a fixed seat, which would stick out by 14 inches, would be too wide for the pavement and impede pedestrians.

93/11-12

Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

KALC AGM Ditton 12th November – Cllr Atkinson – Report circulated
Cllr Atkinson commented that Kent Police were now changing to a Neighbourhood Policing policy. Ann Barnes, Chair of the Kent Police Authority denied that there were problems with police responses in the area and urged delegates to contact her direct with any problems.

The Fire Service was willing to talk to vulnerable groups about fire safety. KHS was willing to assist with Speedwatch sessions.

Little Stour & Nailbourne River Management Group Meeting 27th November – Cllr Atkinson

The river was narrower and there was concern that some sections were silting up. There was a lack of emphasis on flood prevention and more on the environment by the EA. Parishes were urged to examine their sand bag store to ensure the bags were in good condition. **Action; Emergency Committee**

Action was being taken to prevent leakage of sewage into the main sewers.

KALC Seminar on Localism – Langley 1st December – Cllr Hill & Clerk – Report circulated

Cllr Hill emphasised the importance of drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan and getting involved in the planning process for Bridge at an early stage. This would be a January agenda item

94/11-12

Notice of work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposal was noted;

Bridgeford House, Brewery Lane,

Reduce crown of willow by 30%, cut back branches overhanging roof

Remove two lowest limbs overhanging lawn from cherry tree

Remove 4 lowest limbs from ash overhanging lawn.

Land opposite Field House, Station Road

Fell one dead oak opposite Field House and deadwood or reduce two other oak trees for highway safety (Exempt)

83 High Street

Cut back overhanging branches from beech tree

Clear dead wood and tidy 4 yew trees & remove one tangled yew

Re-pollard row of limes

102 High Street

Remove weeping lime tree in front garden. Remove 2 cypress trees next to house. Remove weeping willow in rear garden. Move 3 sapling silver birch trees in front garden and 2 sapling silver birch in rear garden

(Removal of weeping lime referred back to City Council.)

It was pointed out that the trees in Green Court were getting too large. This is a matter for Kent Highway Service and would be reported to them

.Action; Clerk

95/11-12.

Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Twinning of Bridge with St Andre** – The votes for and against the twinning proposal were counted with 96 in favour and 7 against. Cllr Oakey admitted that the lack of ballot boxes had been unfortunate. A letter from the Mayor of St Andre had been received confirming that the twinning would result in no cost to the parish council, all finance coming

from an EU fund. It was therefore agreed that the twinning should go ahead. Cllr Oakey would arrange a signing of the agreement to take place in Tower House in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Canterbury.

- b. **Western Avenue bollards** – It was agreed that the parish council would pay for two replacement bollards for Western Avenue. **Action; Clerk**
- c. **Date of Annual Parish Meeting** – The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd. May. Councillors would discuss possible speakers at the January parish council meeting. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Letter to Julian Brazier MP** – It was agreed to write to Julian Brazier MP to express concern about the proposed changes to planning regulations which do not promote building on brown field sites, do not protect AONBs, limit the scope of the planning inspectorate and reduce the community's right to appeal against planning decisions. **Action; Clerk**

96/11-12 **Correspondence List** – Noted

97/11-12 **Bank Transfers**
The transfer of £2,000 between Parish Council accounts was noted

98/11-12 **Receipts**
The following receipts were noted;
Greenhill FC – Fees for 2011/12 season plus bond £700.00
Christmas trees - £543.00

99/11-12 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Mill Centre Management Committee	£691.66	Repairs to fascia, guttering, rear and front walls of Mill Centre
Alan Atkinson	£30.60	Travel to Ditton for KALC AGM 12.11.11-68 miles @ 45 p per mile
Bounty Pest Control	£324.48	Annual charge for pest control 1/12/11 – 30/11/12 (£270.20 + £54.08 vat)
AJL Garden Services	£25.00	Grounds maintenance November 2011
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£625.83	Clerk's salary and allowances for November 2011
Post Office Ltd.	£90.34	Employer PAYE & NI Contributions for November 2011
John Hill	£45.45	Travel to Langley for Localism Seminar £22.20 (56 miles @ 45p per mile) + lunch for Chairman, Clerk & CPRE rep £23.25
Mark Esdale	£202.14	Christmas tree lights & fitments (£168.45 + £33.69 vat)

100/11-12 **Any other business**

- a. Cllr Edmonds notified the council that she had changed her email address.
- b. **Christmas Trees** – Cllr Hill thanked Mark Esdale and the team of helpers who had put up the Christmas trees the previous weekend. He also thanked Janet Horsley for arranging refreshments for the volunteers. The trees would be taken down on Wednesday and Thursday 4th & 5th January and all helpers would again be very welcome.
- c. **Ladders** – It was agreed to discuss the purchase of more ladders to assist with putting up the Christmas trees at the January parish council meeting.
- d. **Village News** – It was noted that news from Bridge village had again failed to appear in the Kentish Gazette. The Chairman would contact the village correspondent. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- e. **A2 sliproad** - There had been two accidents in the past week with cars overshooting the T junction off the A2 southbound carriageway at Bridge. The Clerk had reported

both accidents to KHS and the police and had asked for the demolished signs to be restored as a matter of urgency. The on-going problem of the safety of this junction had been raised with the relevant authorities in February and it was agreed it would be discussed again at the January parish council meeting. **Action; Clerk**

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 12th. January 2012 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.