

**Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council**  
**Thursday 10 December 2015 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.00 pm.**

**92/15-16**

Four people addressed the meeting on various matters. Two related to item 101/15-16 (a), another related to item 99/15-16(a) and the fourth related to item 101/15-16 (j).

**93/15-16**

**Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Dhillon, Brooks and Kent County Cllr Michael Northey.

**Present** were Cllrs A Atkinson, Sole, Fawke, Corfield, Hodges, Moon and R Atkinson.

**94/15-16**

**Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.** There were none.

**95/15-16**

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 12 November 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**96/15-16**

**Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 9 of the agenda.**

The Clerk informed the meeting that:

- A fire extinguisher is still needed in the Pavilion. (ACTION:BVST)
- Bridge Down weed spraying has yet to take place. (ACTION: Clerk)
- The renovation of the ladies toilet in the pavilion is now almost completed-though an electrical certificate is awaited before the invoice can be paid. (ACTION: Clerk)
- The willow trees on Patribourne Rd have been pruned to remove the entanglement of telephone wires with tree branches.

**97/15-16**

**Report from Canterbury City Councillor (Simon Cook)**

Cllr Cook said there are currently three consultations in the public arena for villagers to contribute to. They concern the budget for 2016-2017, the parking plan and the corporate plan. The consultations run from 16 December to 29 January 2016.

**98/15-16**

**Report from Kent County Councillor Michael Northey.**

The Clerk read a written report stating that Cllr Northey is to meet with Max Tant (KCC drainage) and Cllr Martin Vye on 12 December 2015 to discuss drainage and flooding in the Nail Bourne Valley.

**99/15-16**

**Disposal of business from the last meeting**

**a. Recreation Ground**

Almost 30 entries for the school logo competition have been received and will be judged at a meeting to be held later in the week. (ACTION: Clerk-to set a date and meeting).

The Clerk is still awaiting cost of repairs to those items in the playground area which are considered to be a moderate risk.

A list of incomplete jobs was circulated by Cllr Hodges. Some will be completed by a local handyperson. The Clerk will investigate how other Parish Council's employ such people and report back to the next meeting with some proposals as to the way forward.

It was decided unanimously to delay pollarding two maple trees until Council re-considers the pruning of these trees in December 2016, thus giving time for works already carried out by the tennis club to be assessed and for further advice to be received. In the meantime, the tennis club will be encouraged to cut back a hedge which is a considerable source of shade on court no 3. (ACTION: Clerk)

**b. Neighbourhood Plan**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**100/15-16**

**Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

BVST meeting- 8 December 2015-see 101/15-16 (d)  
Emergency Planning group 19 Nov- see 101/15-16 (g)  
Mill Centre committee -see101/15-16 (e)  
Meeting re inconsiderate parking-3 December 2015 -see 101/15-16 (l)  
Village Hall Management Committee meeting. (A key decisions document had been circulated in advance by Cllr Moon and there were no questions).

## 101/15-16

### **Matters for discussion and action.**

- (a) To receive a report on the latest information regarding the consultation with Villagers on the Cantley development proposals.** The Clerk reported that 71 emails had been received from 32 individuals. Of these individuals, 11 had been in favour, 15 were against, 4 requested further information and for 2 it was not evident if they were in favour or against. In addition 15 individuals had written by letter. Of these individuals, 4 were in favour, 9 were against and 2 were not clearly either for or against. All of this correspondence has been forwarded to Cantley. Councillors have been sent the full email responses and can access the written letters via the Clerk.
- (b) To decide on recommendations made by the Parish Council working party on next steps in dealing with the Cantley development proposals.** Cllr Corfield outlined the difficulties involved in canvassing all of the opinions held by villagers. It was decided that the Chair would contact Cantley about the next stage of their plans for developments within the village and to talk with them about whether further consultation, perhaps in a different form, would be useful in helping to gauge village opinions. (ACTION: Chair)
- (c) To decide on next steps regarding the proposed housing development on the Brickfield Site and the proposed relocation of the Post Office.** The Clerk will provide a link for councillors to the current consultation on the Canterbury City Council website. Cllr Atkinson spoke against the City Council plans at a public meeting on 11 November 2015 and reminded the meeting that the draft Neighbourhood Plan talked of 8 houses on the site, not the proposed 40. He will make a personal response to the consultation and councillors will take a view on a corporate response at the January meeting of the Parish Council. For the Post Office see (h) below.
- (d) To report on latest developments concerning the future role and status of the BVST (following meeting on 8 December 2015) and to decide on next steps.** It was decided to proceed with the drawing up of a lease as outlined at the previous meeting. Discussion focussed on the issue of payments to be made to the Parish Council and the BVST - outlined in a letter sent to the BVST by the Parish Council in November 2015. This stated that given the lack of a current lease, funds are to be collected in their entirety by the Clerk to the Parish Council. These will be shared with the BVST in the proportion of 50:50 in the course of the financial year running from 1 April -31 March 2016. Quotations for the kitchen work are still required before the lease can be completed-so that the Parish Council can hand over the pavilion in good order for potential hirers. (ACTION: Clerk)
- (e) To report on leasing discussions with Canterbury City Council and regarding the Mill Centre and to decide on next steps.** At a meeting held on 9 December between Cllr A Atkinson, Mr Gulvin representing the Mill Centre Management Committee and 2 property officials of Canterbury City Council, the main terms of a thirty year lease were discussed and agreed. The new lease will run from 1 March 2016. The Mill Centre Management Committee will produce a list of works to be carried out by a date as yet to be determined. There will need to be a major campaign of fundraising by the Mill Centre Management Committee in order to pay for the proposed works. The payment for legal costs associated with the new lease remains unresolved between the Parish Council and Canterbury City Council.

- (f) To set the Budget for 2016-2017** The budget was set and agreed unanimously for 2016-2017. A precept of £29,737.61 added to a council tax support grant of £1,377.39 will bring the total budget (without the CFF element) to £31,075 an increase of £505 on the amount received in 2015-16.
- (g) To address issues arising from the Emergency Planning Committee meeting held on 19 November 2015.** The new snow policy was adopted and will be distributed by Cllr Sole to all of the named volunteers and to Cllr Moon. The Clerk will report to the next meeting on the costs of defibrillators and first aid training. (ACTION: Cllr Sole and Clerk)
- (h) To receive updates on the future of the butcher's shop and the Post Office relocation.** Cllr A Atkinson reported that the future of the butcher's shop remains uncertain, though work continues on a proposed community buy out. Replies by the Post Office and Paydens regarding the future of the Post Office have been posted on the Bridge Village website.
- (i) To decide on the appointment of a new footpath warden.** Mr Richard McCarthy was thanked for offering to take on this post from January 2016.
- (j) To note the Pilot Local Warden office post.** The village website has a link to the application form. Many councillors undertook to distribute leaflets to advertise the role throughout the village. The deadline for applications is 1 Feb 2016.
- (k) To report on developments in the proposed regeneration of the Green Court area.** The Clerk has met with a representative from the Green Court area and now has sufficient ideas formulated to be able to produce a consultation document on the future of the area for the next meeting. Kent Highways must be informed of the proposal also.
- (l) To report back on meeting with Conyngham Lane residents about inconsiderate parking caused by parents delivering children to the school and next steps and to approve spending up to £200 for signage.** Councillors agreed to set aside £200 for signage, following a report from Cllr Atkinson outlining current and proposed measures to deal with this issue, including the posting of photos of parking offenders on the City Council's "Park it Right" webpage. The Clerk was asked to investigate with the City Council the designation of areas such as Riverside Close, Conyngham Lane and the school access drive as "traffic managed areas", meaning that the City Council's enforcement team could report and sanction inconsiderate parking.
- (m) Planting of new tree on recreation ground. Who will look after the tree as it grows and develops?** Cllr Hodges agreed to take on this responsibility in conjunction with school children from Bridge school. A sign will be fitted shortly on the tree guard. (ACTION Cllrs Fawke and Hodges)
- (n) To adopt the draft Complaints Policy and draft Data Protection statement (circulated on 20 Nov).** Both documents were formally adopted by the meeting.
- (o) To agree rescheduling of the Skateboarding event.** The new date is Saturday, 19 March 2016.
- (p) Should we have a training plan for Councillors?** In response to Cllr Hodges' question it was felt that there was no need for a training officer. We now have a training budget.

**(q) Should we “Clean for the Queen” as part of our regular litter pick in March 2016?**

It was agreed that this would take place in early March (over the weekend of March 5 and 6, 2016)

**102/15-16      The Correspondence list was noted.**

**103/15-16      The following items for payment were authorised:**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Ian Sargent	£180	2 cuts and strimming-recreation ground
Clerk	£676.67	salary and office allowance
Hart Lee Tree Surgery	£204.00	Hedge trimming (health centre border)
Paddock Fencing Ltd	£234	Tree guard on recreation ground
Coppice Wood (Kent)	£180	Willow tree pruning on Patrixbourne Rd
Information Commissioner	£35	Data Protection Act registration as a data controller
Clerk	£34.48	Printer cartridges
Mark Esdale	£459.72	Christmas Tree lights and fittings

The meeting concluded at 8.38 p.m.

**The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 14 January 2015 at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall.**