

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council
Thursday 8 December 2016 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

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

89/16-17 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Michael Northey.

90/16-17 Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - there were none.

91/16-17 The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 10 November 2016 were confirmed as a true record, signed and dated by the Chair.

92/16-17 Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 7 of the agenda.

- The trimming of Higham Lane hedge has been done.
- 60 more sandbags are now at the White Horse Inn.
- Permission to prune trees on Green Court was agreed with KCC on 22 November 2016
- The traffic survey will be set up for the week commencing 9 January 2017
- A meeting with the KCC Highway Steward on 6 December suggested that enforcement of existing parking restrictions is the way forward in dealing with parking issues at the corner of High St and Western Avenue. A log of parking infringements should be kept and forwarded to Canterbury City Council who are responsible for enforcement.

93/16-17 Report from Canterbury City Councillor Simon Cook

Consultations are now available on the Council's website regarding the budget and parking permits. There will be no changes to the parking charges in Canterbury City car parks

The Parish Council has a slot to speak at the extraordinary Planning Committee meeting on 13 December at 6.30p.m. in the Guildhall to consider the Mountfield development for 4000 houses in South Canterbury

Canterbury City Council has employed extra parking enforcement officers.

The Concurrent Function Funding applications were agreed at the latest Rural Area Members Panel meeting on 10 November 2016.

In response to comments by Councillors, the City Council was congratulated on having installed heavy duty litter bins in lay-bys on the A2. Remote cameras are now in place to catch fly tippers. The limitations on City Council employees dealing with litter on land controlled by Highways England were discussed-especially in relation to the A2 slip roads.

94/16-17 Report from Kent County Councillor Michael Northey

In his absence, Councillor Northey's report was read out:

"The gritting teams have been out and about several times already. KCC Highways are expecting a harder winter than last year, and have 20,000 tonnes of salt/etc material in store ready.

All street lights in Kent are being converted to the LED (Lighting Emitting Diodes) system. So far 56% of residential areas have been done, since March 14th. The project will save over 65% of energy and carbon emissions. They will save at today's prices around £5.2 million per year and will thus pay for themselves in 7-8 years. There is a lot less light pollution as the light is directed downwards where it is needed and there is no sky glow, such as the current orange glow. Drivers get a much clearer view of the road as they drive, and colours are clearer. These lights have a life of 100,000 burning hours, say around 15 years but maybe as much as 20 or 25 years. All Kent will go back to all night lighting. In addition these lights are controlled centrally and can be made brighter or less bright as wishes and dimmed. Any individual light or area can be switched on and off. So if local people would like them switched off, in any particular place, to give part-night lighting, they can be. There will be no need to report any faults as the central controls will pick up the faults automatically and will then be repaired.

The residential areas of Canterbury District will be begun on 16 January and will be completed by 24 March. Then the lighting on the main roads will be started."

95/16-17 Disposal of business from the last meeting

Recreation Ground: Thanks were recorded to the 60 children and parents who had planted 500 narcissi bulbs and to Barry and Ros Bray for work to hedging plants. The new litter bins are also most welcomed. Cllr Davies went through the list of ongoing jobs, pointing out that he will attend to the grassed footballing area beside the Health Centre car park when time allows. Lighting of the footpath needs to be considered, especially where it does not follow a straight line. Cllr Davies has planted a new tree to replace a dead ash tree. A grant has been applied for to pay for some of the costs of the new flat swings. The work is scheduled for January/February 2017.

Neighbourhood Plan: Reporting on a meeting of the group held on November 25, the Clerk read through the salient points of the minutes of the meeting. He also outlined plans for a consultation event for the village in the village hall on 21 January 2017, which will probably refer to the most recent version of the entire Neighbourhood Plan and some photographs of vistas of the village. Final details have yet to be arranged.

96/16-17 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies.

Councillor A Atkinson reported back on the following meetings:

- The Kent Association of Local Councils AGM-where the presence and availability of rural PCSO's was discussed.
- Lower Stour and Nail Bourne River Management Group, where camera footage was shown of the ongoing problems with drainage at the Conyngham Lane/High St junction
- Little Stour/Nail Bourne/Petham Bourne Flood Management Group –where the latest Environment Agency flooding model for the Nail Bourne was demonstrated. It should lead to more funds being accessible from central government to fund flood alleviation measures. Ground water levels are currently well below average.

97/16-17 Matters for discussion and action.

1. Council agreed unanimously to raise £30,250 through the Parish Precept for 2017-2018, an increase of 1.7%
2. Council unanimously authorised the Chair to sign both Mill Centre leases on behalf of the Parish Council, once the wording of clause 17.3 had been resolved to the satisfaction of the end user and the Parish solicitor. This satisfaction will be ascertained by email. There is an urgency to the conclusion of the lease negotiations to assist with the raising of the necessary funds in a timely manner. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
3. Cllr Sole updated the Council on a recent consultation meeting with residents held on 28 November. The Clerk was authorised to seek quotations for the various elements contained within the Green Court proposals as outlined by Cllr Sole, which reflect a desire for an area of aesthetic enjoyment rather than a recreational space. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
4. Cllr Corfield will report on Website developments at the next meeting. **(ACTION: Cllr Corfield)**
5. The Chair thanked Councillors who had submitted suggestions for putative Section 106 spending. The issue will return in January 2017. **(ACTION:All)**
6. The Clerk was asked to seek a revision to the library bus timetable, to avoid those times when the village is congested with cars parked to collect children from the primary school. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
7. Council supported unanimously the following motion proposed by Cllr Sole and seconded by Cllr Fawke:

"In light of numbers of motorists failing to stop at the White Horse zebra crossing, this council asks Kent County Council to carry out a safety review of the crossing. This review is to

include, but not be limited to:

- *the adequacy of existing signage;*
- *the type of crossing (i.e. Would a pelican crossing be more suitable?);*
- *the position of the crossing;*
- *the parking of nearby cars and bus stop obscuring pedestrians waiting to cross.”*

8. Cllr Davies outlined the planned planting of the area underneath and adjacent to the village sign. Permission will be sought through a cultivation licence from KCC. **(ACTION: Clerk)**
9. Cllr Hodges invited any proposed changes to the CCC Parish Charter. There were none. However concerns about potential expectations of Parish Councils to operate without the necessary IT infrastructure were raised. The Charter will be seen by the Parish Council as a code of practice rather than as a “tablet of stone”.

98/16-17 The Correspondence list was noted.

99/16-17 Receipts were noted of £130 for repairs to window (Pavilion), £875 from parishioners for Christmas trees, £254.68 from Clerk to cover outstanding NI payments and income tax.

100/16-17 The following items for payment were authorised:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Philip Wicker	£611.44	Salary and Office allowance
The Post Office	£196.52	Taxation and national insurance
Council for the Protection of Rural England	£36.00	Annual subscription
Crackin Glass	£155.46	Pavilion window repairs
Canterbury City Council	£70.00	Winter newsletter
Joe Connor	£80.01	Printing costs for Neighbourhood Plan (2012-2016)
Cllr Atkinson	£44.10	Travel expenses
Jim Boot	£314.20	Neighbourhood Plan consultancy fees
Ewart Clough	£947.40	Christmas trees

101/16-17 Points of Information:

1. Cllr A Atkinson stated Southern Water will unveil plans for a mini treatment works on the Nail Bourne between Bridge and Bishopsbourne, which should reduce the need for sewage pumping in Bridge at times of high water levels of the Nail Bourne.
2. The Parish Council endorsed the Chair’s warm thanks to those villagers-led and coordinated by Mr Esdale-who prepared and mounted the display of Christmas Trees on the High St on 3 December.
3. Cllr K Dhaliwal asked that her proposal for the Parish Council to run a summer fete (as the school PTA has withdrawn) should be an agenda item for the next meeting.
4. Villagers are all encouraged to report problems with the highways/drainage/drain blockages directly to the KCC Highways website.
5. Cllr A Atkinson reported that the organisers of the Fireworks display are aware of the need to indicate responsible parking areas for the event next year.

The meeting concluded at 8.29 p.m.

**The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on
Thursday, 12 January 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Bridge Village Hall**

