

## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Bridge Parish Council held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2004 at 8pm in Bridge Village Hall

Bob Pollard of Parking Services was present prior to the meeting to meet with councillors and a large number of parishioners to discuss concerns about parking in Bridge.

**Present:** Cllrs Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Dobson, Edmonds, Esdale (chairman), Gulvin, Hill (vice-chairman), and Lewis

### 165. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

### 166. Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2004

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2004 were confirmed and signed by the chairman subject to amending min ref 160 to read:

'The Parish Council accepted the revised quote from KCC of £1519.41 for ground maintenance for 2004/5 at Bridge Recreation Ground and agreed that the clerk would write to KCC to express the Council's concerns about the large increase in maintenance fees.'

### 167. Disposal of Business from the last meeting

- a. It was agreed to defer a decision about the level of grant to be given to BVST for repainting the sports pavilion until the next meeting.
- b. The Parish Council approved the amended accounts produced by RBS Accounting Solutions for 2002/3.

### 168. Reports from Representatives to outside Bodies

**a. Rural Youth Bus-** Cllr Dobson reported that i) the youth bus would visit the village fortnightly between 7.30 and 9pm ii) the bus is available from 7pm but unfortunately the Beavers use the Mill Centre until 7.30pm iii) the Parish Council is awaiting confirmation of its contribution to toward the cost of hiring the Mill Centre for the youth group.

**b. Rural Area Members Panel Meeting-** Cllr Esdale reported i) on the different levels of funding suggested by Canterbury City Council for the 2004/5 Concurrent Functions Funding Grant. ii) that the Parish Contributions Scrutiny Panel is meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March in Bridge Village Hall. It was agreed that Cllrs Esdale and Gulvin would attend this meeting along with the clerk. iii) that the Rural Area Members Panel would meet next on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2004 at 7pm

**c. Fish Scheme-** It was agreed that Cllr Edmonds should stand on the executive committee of the FISH as required in the FISH scheme constitution.

**d. Local Authority Members allowances-** The Parish Council received a report from Cllr Hill about the Parish Remuneration Panel meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2003.

**e. Parish Council/ Police Forum Meeting-** The Parish Council received a report from Cllr Beinder. It was agreed that Cllrs Beesty and Lewis would represent the Parish Council at future meetings. It was agreed not to invite the crime bus to the village or to organise a trip to the Police Control Centre. It was agreed that all councillors would continue to phone the police about non-emergency matters instead of nominating one individual. Cllrs Esdale and Lewis agreed to attend the training to use the police speed camera. It was agreed to request more volunteers in the Parish Council Newsletter to train to use a speed camera and also investigate any cost implications to the Parish Council.

**f. Parish Plan Steering Group-** Cllr Esdale reported that i) the Parish Plan steering group now has a committee of nine people. ii). Cllrs Dobson and Hill have agreed to represent the Parish Council iii) the steering group will meet next in the Hunter Room on 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm.

### 169. Reports from sub-committees

#### a. Environment: Footpaths & Trees

i. Notice of Proposed work to trees in a conservation area for which a tree preservation order has been served: 1 High Street, Bridge- repollard hazel tree in rear of garden

#### b. Streets Footways and lighting

- i. The receipt of the Kent Police Community Speed Watch Document was noted.
- ii. Cllr Lewis reported that Canterbury City Council is assuming responsibility of the Mill Lane hedges. The Parish Council thanked Cllr Lewis for his hard work maintaining the hedges to date.

#### c. Recreation Ground

- i. Cllr Beesty agreed to repaint some of the play equipment in the children's play area.
- ii. The Parish Council agreed the amendments to the Recreation Ground Review Group questionnaire that is to be circulated with the next newsletter.

**170. Concurrent Functions Funding Grant 2004/5** The Parish Council is still waiting for a decision about the level of concurrent functions funding grant it will receive from Canterbury City Council. It is known that street lighting costs are no longer considered eligible for funding.

**171. Bridge In Bloom** – It was agreed that the Parish Council would promote Bridge in Bloom 2004 in the next newsletter.

**172. Allotments**

i. It was agreed that Cllr Beesty would amend the allotment tenancy agreement to match the allotment lease from Cantley Ltd. It was agreed to review the Parish Council's insurance with respect to public liability. It was agreed that Allotment Association should look into insurance for the allotment holders.

ii. It was agreed that the Parish Council would apply for grant from the Kentish Stour Project to plant a hedge around the allotments.

iii. It was agreed to pay the full amount for the sheds (£10,215.45 includes VAT), subject to receiving a grant in advance from Cantley Ltd for half of the net amount (£4347). It was noted that the sheds are to be erected on 25th February.

**173. Parish Council Meetings.** It was agreed to continue holding Parish Council meetings in the village hall.

**174. Street lights**-It was agreed to raise the issue of returning the streetlights in Bridge to the control of Canterbury City Council with the Parish Contributions Scrutiny Review Panel on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2004.

**175. Recreation ground-** It was agreed to write to Allianz Cornhill and ask them to be more specific about the weekly checks that they would like to be undertaken at the recreation ground.

**176. Publicity Group.** – The Parish Council approved the current newsletter. It was agreed that the chairman and the clerk would vet future newsletters prior to circulation, although the newsletter would still be circulated to all councillors for comments. It was agreed that the Parish Council would meet the costs of hosting Bridge Village website. It was agreed to use the post office notice board for Parish Council publicity. It was agreed to take up Canterbury City Council's offer of a web page, and use a subset of Bridge Village Website for its content.

**177.** It was agreed to write to Kent Highways about the poor drainage of the pavement along Patricbourne Road and enclose the photographic evidence supplied by Cllr Corfield.

**178.** It was agreed to accept the quotation from JK Property Services of £225 plus VAT to provide a bench for the bus shelter by the dentist. It was agreed to ask SERCO to supply new bins at the bus shelters by the dentist and by Higham Park.

**178.** It was agreed that no action is required at present with regard to the trees from the recreation ground backing onto 9 and 65 Riverside Close.

**179.**The Parish Council agreed with the suggested traffic regulation review from Kent Highways about parking restrictions on the North Western side of Western Avenue.

**180. Bifron's Street light (clerk, 3.2.04)**

a. It was noted that Kent Highways have agreed that the Parish Council can leave the Bifron's streetlight in its current position as they currently maintain the Bifron's footpath. It was agreed that the clerk would contact Seeboard about wiring up the Bifron's streetlight.

b. It was agreed that the clerk would write to Canterbury City Council to request their bill to date. It was noted that Wragge and Co solicitors have estimated that their bill to date is £1100 plus VAT. It was agreed to offer Wragge and Co solicitors £300 for their services to date, the same amount estimated by Canterbury City Council.

c. It was agreed to pay reasonable costs towards the cutting back the trees at the Whitehorse. It was agreed to request an estimate for planned works to the trees from Alan Walton.

**181.** It was agreed to accept the quotations of £195 plus VAT for repairing the bus shelter by Higham Park and £174 plus VAT for the notice board by the Whitehorse from JK Property Services. It was however agreed to not to repair the bus shelter by the post office for the time being since the bus stop has moved.

**182.**The Parish Council noted the receipt of the following payments from Bridge Football Club of £75, from Seeboard of £3.45, from HM Customs and Excise of £397.89, from Bridge Allotment Association of £23.83 (water bill) and from local residents of £60 (Christmas tree donations).

**183. Sealing of documents**

The Parish Council approved the sealing of the Bridge Football Club agreement and the Seeboard Contracting Services quotation for the replacing street light 18 along Western Avenue at a cost of £774.79 plus VAT.

**184. Authorisation of items for payment:** The following items were authorised for payment:

Helen Daley £ 4.14 (Youth group expenses)  
BVHMC £ 29.00 (hall hire)  
Seeboard Contracting Services £120.36 (maintenance January)  
Seeboard Contracting Services £120.36 (maintenance February)  
Seeboard Contracting Services £54.64 (street light at Western Avenue)  
Seeboard Energy £99.83 (power supply January)  
Nailbourne Scout Group £2000 (Mill Centre Heating)  
Cllr Esdale £149.09 (Christmas tree expenses)  
Petty Cash £41.05 (reimbursement)  
T Burchell £ 369.08 (clerks salary and office allowance January 2004)  
KRCC £35 (membership 2004/5)  
Langley Packing Company £10,215.45 (sheds at Bridge Allotments)