

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bridge Parish Council held in the Hunter Room on Thursday 10 January 2002 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs Anderson (chairman), Connor, Dobson, Gulvin, Hill, Monk and Walder. Also present was one member of the public who attended for the whole meeting.

174 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Beer and Corfield.

175 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2001

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 December were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

176 GOLDEN JUBILEE 2002

Cllr Hill reported that he had looked at the various options for a souvenir for the children of Bridge and had found one of good quality and at a reasonable cost. Cllr Walder expressed an interest in seeing the leaflet on the chosen souvenir before it is ordered and Cllr Hill is to provide him with this. It was **AGREED** that the criteria for eligibility would be all children up to the age of 18 who live in the parish of Bridge. To establish the numbers of souvenirs required it was **AGREED** that a leaflet with a return slip would be produced and circulated to all households in Bridge. Cllr Hill agreed to produce the leaflet in conjunction with the clerk for distribution as soon as possible.

177 SANDBAG STORE

It was reported that the door to the sandbag store was now completely off and had been stored in the sandbag store and, as the contents of the store are now obvious to all, councillors hope that there will be no further vandalism. The clerk advised that on the advice of the City Council she had had the installer take a look at the damage to see if it could be repaired and the installer had advised that he could effect a reasonable repair for a cost of approximately £200.00 but he felt it would not withstand further vandalism. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to the City Council with a copy to Cllr W Oakey expressing disappointment that, as the store is in a public open space, it was not of a more durable quality and it was **AGREED** that a decision as to whether to go ahead with the repair would not be taken until the City Council's response had been received.

178 CONYNGHAM LANE

It was **NOTED** that a letter from a household in Conyngham Lane had been received expressing concern about the request from another resident for street lighting. The letter advised that they, and many of their neighbours, felt it would be a waste of public money, that they wish for Conyngham Lane to remain a rural area and that most houses have security lighting which they feel is adequate for the amount of pedestrian traffic after dark. They are concerned that the street light will be built outside their house when they have campaigned against it and suggest that if any lighting is erected it should be placed outside the house of the resident who is in favour of the lighting. They are however in agreement with other concerns raised regarding the state of the road and the parking. It was also **NOTED** that a letter regarding the parking problems had been received from another resident in Conyngham Lane suggesting that a single yellow line occasionally monitored by a parking attendant might resolve the matter. The clerk was requested to write to the resident advising that a yellow line still allows people to stop for loading and unloading purposes or whilst passengers board or alight.

179 STREET LIGHTING - PART NIGHT CELLS

The clerk advised that as a result of chasing a reply to earlier correspondence she had had a conversation with the City Council and they had advised that they had contacted the supplier of the part night cells and ascertained that there are still a few part night cells available from various different outlets which Seeboard could try to obtain until supplies are exhausted. The City Council advised that as there is now little demand for part-night cells and this is why production has stopped. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would contact the supplier direct to establish how many units are available, the cost of the units and the feasibility of purchasing these for future use.

180 BULB PLANTING - BEECH HILL

The clerk advised that Deacons are unable to carry out the planting of the bulbs due to their current workload commitments. Cllr Anderson advised that he had taken expert advice and it was now too late to plant bulbs for them to flower this Spring. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would write to the donor advising her of the situation. It was also **AGREED** that bulbs would be purchased and planted in Autumn 2002 and that this could be carried out by volunteers.

181 PARKING ATTENDANTS

Cllr Anderson advised that he had received a letter from Chris Maclean of the Plough & Harrow and this was read out to councillors. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to Mr Maclean sympathising with his situation and advising him that there was no intention on the part of the Parish Council that his business should be targeted. Cllr Anderson advised that he is having a

meeting with Bob Pollard from the City Council and that he would request that parking attendants visited the village at random times during the day not just in the evening.

182 CANTERBURY COLLEGE RELOCATION

It was **NOTED** that an update from PACE had been received outlining the current situation on the progress of the judicial review.

183 BLOCKED GULLIES

Cllr Gulvin reported that as a result of the clerk chasing a response to previous correspondence sent to the Highways Department there had been immediate attention to the blocked road gullies in the High Street and these had now been cleared.

184 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

(a) **Authorisation of items for payment:** The following items were authorised for payment:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
J Anderson	£25.00	Reimbursement of delivery for youth open meeting notice.
Kent County Council	£469.68	Final invoice for 2001 grounds maintenance.
G P McCombe	£991.10	Clerk's Salary (£841.10) & office allowance (£150.00).
G P McCombe	£106.70	Travel allowance.
G P McCombe	£62.64	Postage, photocopying open meeting notice & fax paper.

(b) **Payments received:** £25.00 - donations for Christmas trees.

(c) **Budget:** The clerk advised that the District Audit report and action plan had been received together with the audit certificate. It was **AGREED** that the recommendations within the report would be addressed by the Parish Council and that the action plan would be completed to this effect by the Chairman and Clerk and returned to District Audit.

(d) **SERPA Contribution Request:** It was **AGREED** not to pay the £20.00 annual contribution requested by the S E Regional Play Association

(e) **CPRE Membership Renewal:** Notification has been received of an increase from £17.50 to £25.00 in the annual membership currently paid by direct debit and it was unanimously **AGREED** to continue with this membership.

(f) It was **NOTED** that a letter of thanks had been received from Mr D Waters for the bonus he had received and councillors also **NOTED** their appreciation for the work that he carries out on behalf of the Parish Council.

185 KENT VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION 2002

The clerk advised that the application pack for the Kent Village of the Year Competition for 2002 had been received. It was unanimously **AGREED** not to enter this year.

186 DEFRA CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

The consultation paper on Quality Parish and Town Councils was discussed and it was **AGREED** that most of the features for a Quality Parish Council that are going to be assessed are in place. The clerk advised that the model standing orders should be available in mid-January and that KAPC are planning to provide training for councillors and clerks on the element of the New Code of Conduct relating to the definition of 'interest' and information regarding this training should be available later this month.

187 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) **Planning applications received:** The following planning applications have been received and are being considered

:
CA/01/1322/BRI - Conservatory to rear of dwelling at 28 Western Avenue, Bridge.

CA/01/1339/BRI - First floor side extension to dwelling (renewal) at 2 Filmer Road, Bridge.

(b) **Planning applications granted:** The following planning applications have been notified as granted:

CAL01/0136/BRI - Demolition of internal wall at Flat 4, Bridge Hill House, Higham Lane, Bridge.

CA/01/1322/BRI - Conservatory to rear of dwelling at 28 Western Avenue, Bridge.

CAT01/0028/BRI - Coppice 4 Ash trees and 1 Sycamore tree at High Beech, Patrixbourne Road, Bridge.

(c) **Applications refused:** No planning applications have been notified as refused.

(d) **Notice of Proposed Work to Trees in a Conservation Area:** The following notice of proposed work has been received and is being considered:

Fell large Yew tree in front garden at Cosby, Higham Lane, Bridge.

(e) **The New Medical Centre:** Cllr Anderson reported that he had received a copy of a letter Cllr Oakey had sent to the Highways Department regarding the erection of the Gateway signs which had been put alongside the existing 30 mph signs rather than as per the plans, upon which the planning permission was agreed, which indicate that the new Gateways, 30 mph signs and road markings would all be moved beyond the bend some 100 metres towards Patrixbourne. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to Mr A Phillips of the Highways Department concurring with Cllr Oakey's letter that the signs should be located in the agreed position as per the plan.

188 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

i) **Footpaths:** Cllr Connor reported that there were no known problems with the footpaths.

ii) Trees: Cllr Monk advised that she had the 10 new trees and stakes and would be investigating the planting arrangements. Cllr Monk agreed to look at the state of the Willow tree in Patribourne Road following a report from Maurice Smith regarding its condition.

Recreation Ground: **i)** Cllr Gulvin reported that the damage to the pavilion lock had been rectified. **ii)** It was reported that the moles are very active again and the clerk was requested to contact Bounty Pest Control and advise them. **iii)** Cllr Walder reported that following receipt of the RoSPA Report he had inspected the play equipment and carried out the repairs required and that it would be advisable for the Parish Council to adopt a formal inspection and report of the play equipment on a regular basis. It was **AGREED** that the Recreation Ground Sub-Committee should be responsible for carrying out these checks on a monthly basis and the clerk was asked to set up the necessary record sheets for the whole year to record these inspections and any action required.

Streets, Footways and Lighting: Maurice Smith has advised the following: **i)** that he has reported the repeated parking misdemeanours in the bus bay near the pedestrian crossing to the City Council **ii)** that the orange tape on the bridge in Riverside Close should be replaced with something permanent and Cllr Dobson advised that this is apparently in hand.

189 POND WARDEN

The clerk advised that she had received a letter from Mr A Ewing of Littlebourne offering his services as a voluntary pond warden. The clerk was requested to write to Mr Ewing thanking him for his offer but advising him that the village does not have a pond at the present time.

190 CHRISTMAS TREES

It was reported that there had been many favourable comments on the Christmas tree display and the clerk reported that she had also received a letter from a resident in Riverside Close thanking the Parish Council for the delightful display and hoping that the event continues in future years. Cllr Walder confirmed that he had all but one set of tree lights, which he should have shortly, and that he would be responsible for storing the lights for use next year. Cllr Anderson thanked Cllrs Gulvin and Walder for their efforts in taking down the trees.

191 KAPC MEETINGS AND TRAINING EVENTS 2002/03

The clerk advised that she had received the KAPC calendar of meetings and training events for 2002/03 and it was **AGREED** that the clerk should attend the Clerk's Information Day in May and that the calendar should be circulated to all councillors.

192 KAPC/KRCC MATTERS

Cllr Connor reported that he had attended a KAPC meeting the previous evening at which the report to the Kent County Council Select Committee on modernising our hospitals was considered. Other matters discussed were the Ethical Framework for Parish Councils, which is not a matter of choice, and the subject of Quality Parish Councils from which it emerged that a number of Parish Councils in the Canterbury area were not going with it.

193 ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION AND INFORMATION

The following items had been received and were available for distribution:

- (a)** Pfizer Newsletter - December 2001
- (b)** Oast to Coast - Winter 2001
- (c)** Safer Community Partnership 2002-2005
- (d)** Parish News - December 2001
- (e)** SERPA Newsletter Issue 40
- (f)** CPRE Planning Update - December 2001
- (g)** Local Heritage Initiative
- (h)** Clerks & Councils Direct
- (i)** Local Council Review

194 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 14 February 2002.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.