

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2007 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beetsy, Beinder, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill and Lewis.

- 90. Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Corfield.
- 91. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest or lobbying made.
- 92.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th December 2006 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 93. Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. Recreation ground –** Cllr Esdale reported that he had created a new inspection record sheet for the recreation ground which included checking the swing chains for wear. It was agreed to ask Wickstead Leisure to remove the springy cat and make good with wet pour at an estimated cost of £150. An estimate for a new roundabout to replace the cat was still awaited. **Action; Cllr Esdale/ Clerk**
 - b.** Cllr Beesty had updated his report detailing what he had done to obviate the risks outlined in the Rospa inspection report. There was discussion on the report, which it was felt was not helpful in advising the parish council how the risk could be managed. Some items cited in the report as medium risks related to integral parts of playground equipment, which could not be modified. It was felt there was an unhelpful dimension of Rospa protecting itself in the report. It was agreed that when Rospa next inspect the recreation ground, in July, the inspector should be accompanied by a parish councillor **Action; Clerk**
 - c. The Mill Centre-** Cllr Gulvin reported that an extensive clean up of the centre had taken place the previous weekend The hole in the roof had been temporarily secured with polythene. The committee would meet again on 19th February. The short lease with CCC was an obstacle to obtaining funding and taking further long-term action to repair and refurbish the centre. Further consideration would be given to this problem. **Action; Cllr Hill**
 - d. Bus shelter repairs –** Deferred to next meeting
 - e. Bifrons Light. -** In the absence of any action from the parties responsible, it was agreed to follow KAPC's advice and approach Canterbury City Council, who were responsible for village lighting and point out the health and safety issues of the light being obscured by branches, especially in view of the proximity of a home for the elderly. **Action; Clerk**
 - f. Restoration of old house and street names –** It was agreed to make a digital image of the design of street nameplate it was proposed to put up to restore old street names. Cllr Beinder would then get costings from a supplier. The nameplate would include the Bridge logo and Cllr Hill would provide Cllr Esdale with a digital image of this so it could be incorporated into the design. It was agreed that local residents would be consulted before any nameplate was put up. **Action; Cllrs Beinder, Esdale & Hill**
- 94. Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Cllr Beinder had attended the Canterbury Area Meeting of the KAPC on 10th January in Petham. Concern had been expressed over the intrusive personal information that the police now required from Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. It was agreed that Cllrs Esdale and Lewis would raise this concern at the forthcoming Police Forum meeting in February. **Action; Cllrs Esdale & Lewis**
- 95. Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area**
The Shires, Renville, Bridge
Remove ivy from holly tree to right of property and reduce tree by approx 50%

Wychcroft, 3 Meadow Close, Bridge
 Fell one decayed walnut to front of garage
 Fell two cypress trees on north west boundary

There was no objection to either application but in both cases the parish council agreed to ask the city council to stipulate that replanting should take place.

Action; Clerk

96. Matters for Discussion and Action

- a) The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 12th. April 2007 at 7.30p.m. in the village hall. It was agreed that candidates standing for election to the parish council at the May 2007 local elections would be introduced at the Annual Parish Meeting. The April meeting of the Parish Council and Planning Committee would be held on 19th. April at the usual time.
- b) Clerk's Conditions of Service – It was agreed to increase the clerk's hours of work from 10 to 15 per week with effect from January 2007.
- c) Quality Parish Council – After discussion it was agreed that the parish council would continue to adhere to the principles of a quality parish council where possible and appropriate but would not formally apply for the status.
- d) Declarations of interest and lobbying – Clarification had been sought from KAPC. They advised that declarations of lobbying were regarded as good practice and included on the agenda as an aide memoire to councillors to ensure that issues were not pre-determined and that they remained open to persuasion at meetings. It did not imply that councillors should not discuss local issues ahead of parish council meetings.
- e) Dog Waste Bin - Cllr Hill reported that there was a problem with dog excrement on the path leading past Mill Terrace to the fields. It was agreed to ask Canterbury City Council to provide a dog waste bin for the site and to remind villagers of their obligation to clean up after their dogs in residential areas.

Action;Clerk

97. Correspondence - Noted

98. Letter of authorisation to transfer £2,000 between the two accounts held by Bridge Parish Council was agreed – **Action; Clerk**

99. The following receipts were noted;

Christmas tree donations - £35.00
 Bridge Junior Football Club - £50.00

100.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
British Telecommunications	£68.12	Telephone account for 31 st Oct – 4 Dec £57.98 + £10.14 vat
Christobel Seath	£403.18	Clerk's salary and office allowance– October 2006
Cllr A Edmonds	£29.45	Chairman's Christmas Drinks
Kent County Council	£930.60	2 nd half yearly Grounds Maintenance 2006 £792.00 + £138.60 vat
Campaign to Protect Rural England	£27.00	Subscription for 2007
Cllr Esdale	£21.72	2 extra Christmas trees (£10 + £1.75 vat) + cork notice board & fixings (£8.23 + £1.74 vat)

101. Any other business

- a) Cllr Gulvin reported that during the exceptionally high winds, recycling bags had been blown around the village streets while awaiting collection and that some bags had burst. It was suggested that parishioners follow the recycling guidelines and wedge their bags with stones when they are left out for collection in windy weather.
- b) Bollards for Western Avenue; a contractor had been engaged by Kent Highway Services and the work should be completed within the next few weeks.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 8th. February 2007 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.