

Minutes of  
**BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in Bridge Village Hall

**Present;** Cllrs Esdale (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Gulvin, Lewis & Wilmshurst

- 87/09-10** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Edmonds, Hill and KCC Cllr Northey
- 88/09-10.** **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.
- 89/09-10.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 90/09-10.** An email from Cllr Northey was read out which reported recent KCC budget decisions. Construction of the build-out at the post office had been approved and would be funded from Cllr Northey's allocation from the Members' Highway Fund. The cost would be £4,760 and the commencement date for work would be notified later.

**90/09-10 Disposal of business from the last meeting**

- a. Recreation Ground – The wet pour surface of the children's play area had been repaired. The bench would be painted in due course.
- b. Affordable Housing – Southern Housing Group had exchanged contracts for the purchase of the Brickfields site. A soil investigation had been commenced before Christmas.
- c. Allotment lease - Deferred to February meeting **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- d. Pavilion repairs- Instructions had been given for the replacement of guttering and down pipes and for repair of the roof. These would be carried out when the weather improved. The toilets had been repaired before Christmas.
- e. Capital Grant Scheme- A bid had been submitted to CCC for funding for adult outdoor exercise equipment for the recreation ground. A decision would be given in April.
- f. Village Hall alterations – An application for a grant of £19,706 had been submitted to KCC. A decision would be taken in March / April

**91/09-10 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Canterbury Branch KALC 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010

Cllr Wilmshurst reported that the meeting had been cancelled because of the bad weather.

**92/09-10 Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. Pavilion refurbishment – The parish council agreed to accept a contribution of £700 from KCC Cllr M Northey towards the cost of the refurbishment of the sports pavilion.
- b. Canterbury City Football Club – After some discussion, it was voted to allow the club one more month in which to pay its outstanding fees and return the signed contract to the parish council. Failure to do so before the February 11<sup>th</sup> parish council meeting would result in the formal termination of the club's contract at that meeting. The club would be expected to honour the terms of the contract with regard to the management of spectators, control of its players by club officials, particularly in respect of bad language and support for the BVST committee, to which it was expected to send a representative and whose affiliation fees were also still outstanding.
- c. Street lights in Bridge High Street- The parish council supported a suggestion from BEST that the Highways Department should be asked to consider turning off the lights from 1.00am to 5.00am in winter and also replacing them with smaller

more energy efficient white lights in future in order to reduce Bridge's carbon footprint. **Action; Clerk**

- d. Parking restriction sign at Western Avenue lay by - It was pointed out that the new parking restriction sign had been erected on private land and not on the highway. It would therefore possibly be harder to enforce. It was agreed to write to CCC to point this out.

**Action; Clerk**

- e. Bridge Village Initiative – Deferred to February parish council.  
 f. Surplus hedging material from the Allotment Association – Deferred to March parish council meeting  
 g. Cycle Path to Canterbury – The council agreed to write to CCC in support of Dermott Stewart's letter suggesting that farmland next to the New Dover Road should be purchased for a cycle path at the same time as the additional land for the extended park and ride scheme was negotiated with local landowners. It was also agreed to write to Mr Stewart to thank him for talking this import issue forward.

**Action; Clerk**

- h. Picnic bench – It was agreed to purchase a new picnic bench for the recreation ground. The clerk would inform the council of prices at the next meeting

**Action; Clerk**

**93/09-10 Correspondence –** Noted

**94/09-10 Bank transfers:**

The council noted the transfer of £5,000 between Parish Council accounts

**95/09-10.** The following receipts were noted;

Christmas trees - £115.00  
 EDF Energy Compensation- £3.45

**96/09–10** The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
BT*	£87.14	Telephone account 8.9.09 – 7.12.09 £75.77+£11.37 vat
Gillett & Johnston (Croyden) Ltd	£144.90	Servicing of village hall clock Nov 2009 £126.00 + £18.90 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£671.45	Salary and allowances for December 2009
John Hill	£26.00	Chairman's allowance expenses
Monster Play Systems	£3,665.63	Wet pour repair to children's play area £3,187.50 + £478.13 vat
CPRE	£29.00	Membership for 2010
Philip Wicker, Chairman of Bridge Energy Saving Team	£50.00	Expenses for launch of BEST initiative

\*Paid by Direct Debit

**97/09-10 Any Other Business**

- a. Playgroup parking – The parish council had received a reply from the playgroup Chairman acknowledging the problem of parents parking illegally in Union Rd and obstructing the access to Dering Rd. She would bring this matter to the attention of parents again.  
 b. Bridge Emergency Plan – An emergency plan had been drafted and the Emergency Committee would meet on 20<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00pm to discuss it before it was presented to the parish council.  
 c. Gully Cleaning in the High Street – Kent Highways did not empty the gullies as scheduled in December. They planned to do so in the next few weeks.  
 d. Bench for the corner of Western Avenue and the High Street – Quotations were being obtained for a single seat to be placed by the planters. - **Action; Cllr Esdale**

- e. Kentish Gazette Correspondent – Unfortunately the volunteer who had agreed to takeover as correspondent for the village had decided to withdraw. Councillors would now try to find another candidate.
- f. A2 between Bridge and Dover – The A2 would be closed between Bridge and Dover for the next two Saturdays to allow bridge construction to take place.

The meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>. February 2010 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.