

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2013 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hill, (Chairman to item 10f), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges (Chairman from item 10f), Moon and Wilmshurst
- 107/11-12** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Oakey & Ward & CCC Cllr Cook
- 108/12-13** The Clerk as Proper Officer granted dispensation under Section 2(ii) of the Delegations Section of the Parish Code of Conduct to Cllr Robert Moon in respect of discussion on the parish precept. This dispensation to last until January 2017 or until the next parish council election, whichever is the earlier.
- 109/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13th. December 2012 were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman.
- 110/12-13** **Matters arising;**
There were no matters arising from the Minutes of 13th. December 2012
- 111/12-13** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook;** (Via email)
The grant settlement from central Government received just before Christmas was very slightly better than expected - but the indicated grant for next year was worse, so the budgeting process would continue to be tricky as money was very tight. A meeting between Cllr Gilbey, City Council officials and interested groups to discuss future options for the Mill Centre had been arranged.
- 112/12/13** **Report from KCC Cllr Michael Northey**
Cllr Northey had contributed £9,600 from his Members Highway Fund to the Highways Agency to help fund better signage on the A2 slip road at Bridge. KCC maintain about 335,000 gullies and were engaged in a rolling programme of maintenance. Any problems with blocked drains should be reported to Kent Highways on 08458 247800.
In future bus passes for the elderly would be automatically renewed without the need to submit an application. Pass holders should ensure their contact details were kept up to date. The KCC website had details of any changes to the qualifying age.
KCC was strongly supporting the Dilnot Commission's proposal that care of the elderly contributions should be capped at £35,000. An on-line petition was available for supporters of this proposal to sign.
KCC was leading a campaign to keep future train fare increases to a reasonable level after 10 years of above inflation increases.
- 113/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a.** **Recreation Ground** – Cllr Corfield reported that a hole was developing in the earth floor of the youth shelter. The Recreation Ground Committee would see what could be done to remedy it. **Action; Recreation Ground Committee**
Cllr Moon was thanked for his work to repair and increase the height of the fence between the recreation ground and Riverside Close
Work to remove suckers from the bases of trees and to remove the broken bench by the play area would be undertaken in the following week.
A Spring Working Party would take place on the recreation ground on Saturday 6th April. Volunteers should assemble at the pavilion at 9.30.
- b.** **Neighbourhood Plan** – A submission to the city council regarding issues other than housing relevant for the Neighbourhood Plan was in preparation.

114/12-13 **Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Canterbury KALC branch meeting 9th January 2013 – Cllr Hodges
Report circulated

115/12-13 **Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation area**
The following proposal was noted;
11 Union Road, Bridge
Reduce height of a Cyprus tree by 30% and tidy.

116/12-13 **Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Review of Parish Precept requirement** – In the light of a Government change in the funding of parish council precepts, which could result in lower grants available to parish councils after the next financial year, it was decided to increase the parish council's precept requirement for 2013/14 by £3,000 to £28,707. **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Mill Centre** – Representatives of the Mill Centre Management Committee and Cllrs Hill and Moon were planning to meet Cllr Gilbey and City Council officials to discuss the Mill Centre's future later in the month. **Action; Cllrs Hill & Moon**
- c. **Replacement windows for the village hall** – Councillors objected to the Village Hall Management Committee's proposal to replace the wooden window frames with plastic frames because they considered this was inappropriate in a Conservation Area. It was agreed to ask the Village Hall Management Committee to submit three quotations for wooden replacement frames. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Re-examination of the wet pour quotations for the recreation ground** Following a re-submission of quotations for replacement of the wet pour on the children's play area, it was agreed to opt for the Abacus quotation. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Date of the Annual Parish Meeting** – The date of the Annual Parish Meeting was proposed as Thursday 2nd May. (This was later revised to Wednesday 1st May because of the County Council elections on 2nd May.) It was agreed to invite Larissa Laing, the Head of the City Council's Environmental Services to the meeting to talk about the new system of waste collection and recycling. **Action; Clerk**
- f. **Parish Council Newsletter**- Cllr Corfield asked for suggestions and contributions for the Parish Council Newsletter. The deadline for copy would be 10th March and distribution should be before the end of March. It would not be necessary for the copy to be approved by the parish council but a draft would be circulated to all councillors before printing.
- g. **Dog bin for Brewery Lane** – In view of the amount of dog mess in the area, it was agreed that the city council would be asked to provide a dog bin for Brewery Lane and locate it near the entrance to the water meadows. **Action; Clerk**
- h. **Fire hydrants**- The council decided not to take over responsibility for maintaining fire hydrants in the village from Kent Fire & Rescue Service.
- i. **Village Diary**- Cllr Edmonds explained that there had been clashes of dates for some events in the village and a system was needed for societies to publicise their programmes for the year in a way that would be easily available to other groups. It was agreed that an electronic calendar on the village website would be the best solution. Cllr Corfield agreed to discuss this with Mark Esdale. **Action : Cllr Corfield**
- j. **Street lamp in Mill Lane**- Cllr Moon reported that branches from trees outside the oil depot were obscuring the street lamp in Mill Lane. It was agreed to ask KHS to cut them back. **Action; Clerk**

117/12-13 **Correspondence** – Noted

118/12-13 **stock transfers;**

The council noted the transfer of £1,000 between Parish Council accounts

119/12-13. The following receipts were noted;
UK Power Networks - £3.45
BVST reimbursement of cost of repair of football pitch - £133.40

120/12–13 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
BT*	£75.28	Telephone account Dec/Mar + Sept-Nov calls £62.74 + £12.54 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£581.07	Clerk’s salary and allowances for December 2012
Post Office Ltd	£172.51	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution December 2012
Christobel Seath	£40.48	Printer cartridge & calendar £33.73 + £6.75 vat
CPRE	£29.00	Annual subscription 2013
John Hill	£33.95	Commemorative plaque for Jubilee Oak
Robert Moon	£346.65	Repairs and raising the height of the fence between the recreation ground and Riverside Close

* Paid by Direct Debit

121/12-13 Any Other Business

a Little Stour & Nailbourne River Management Group - Cllr Atkinson drew councillors’ attention to the report from the Environment Agency circulated by LSNRMG reporting that the river level was rising and suggesting that there could again be problems with sewage. Residents should ensure that the river bed was not blocked by obstructions that could impede the river flow.

b. Bus passes – Cllr Corfield said that information about bus passes would be put onto the village website.

c. Village information – Cllr Corfield advised that a page of statistics about Bridge, including the village co-ordinates, could be found on the village website under the ‘Introduction to Bridge’ section.

The meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 14th. February 2013 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.