

**Draft Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2006 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman) Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin and Hill

33. **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Bennett and Lewis.
34. **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest.
35. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th June 2006 were amended at item 26.b.to correct the title 'Stour Valley Project' to 'Kentish Stour Countryside Project' and were then confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
36. **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation ground –** Vandalism had again been reported at the sports pavilion. Cllr Beinder had received suggested planting plans for the recreation ground from the Kentish Stour Countryside Project. It was agreed that Cllr Beinder would arrange a public meeting in the village hall on 21st September to discuss the plans for wild flower planting on the recreation ground with villagers. The Parish Council agreed to meet the cost of hiring the hall. **Action ; Cllr Beinder**
Cllr Esdale reported that one of the toddler swings needed a bolt replacing. He offered to carry out the repair.
Action Cllr Esdale
It was agreed to order a replacement cat for the children's play area as the present one had been damaged. This had been included in the 2006/7 budget. **Action ; Clerk**
 - b. **Information Board –** Cllr Hill was obtaining catalogues and costings and would report back to the next meeting. **Action; Cllr Hill**
 - c. **Flood Map –**Deferred to next meeting. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
 - d. **Restoration of old street and house names** Canterbury City Council had advised that they had no objection to including old street names on road signs if the parish council was willing to pay for this. As there was currently no funding allocated, it was agreed that research would continue with the emphasis on former house and terrace names. The views of parishioners would be sought and Cllr Beinder would write an article for 'On the Nail' **Action; Cllr Beinder**
 - e. **Western Avenue Parking Bays –** Details of the landowners involved was still awaited from the City Council. It was noted that some local shop owners were using the parking bays for long- term parking. It was suggested that a time limited parking bay should be created. Action deferred to next meeting.
 - f. **Teen/Youth Shelter –** Amanda Sparkes, Community Development Officer Canterbury City Council, gave a presentation of her analysis of the questionnaires completed by adults and young people in local youth groups and at the fete. 84% of the adults and 64% of the young people who responded were in favour of the youth shelter. The recreation ground was the location favoured by most people. Fears of vandalism and the 'wrong people' using the shelter were cited as the main problems. The parish council felt the evidence was strong enough to progress to the next stage of a public consultation event. It was agreed that Cllr Beesty would arrange this and would also work towards setting up a working group of adults and young people. Cllr Edmonds thanked councillors and the clerk for their help with the consultation process at the fete. **Action; Cllr Beesty**
 - g. **Bridge Hill Signs** The City Council had confirmed that the old signs on Bridge Hill had been removed by Serco without their knowledge. Unfortunately, the old signs could not be found so could not be restored. The City Council have now advised Serco that since Bridge is a conservation area, no further signs should be removed without approval.
 - h. **Cycle Routes from Bridge** Kent Highways had responded to the parish council's request for a safe cycle route to Canterbury by saying that there were two routes proposed for the area; the Elham Valley Line and New Dover Rd. However neither is programmed for construction, no consultation has yet been carried out and they remain ' medium term projects'.
 - i. **Additional litter bin for the recreation ground –** This has now been installed
 - j. **Patixbourne Rd light** The city council had replied to the request advising that they had no immediate funding available but would investigate the need for the additional light in due course and add it to the waiting list of such proposals.
37. **Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
KCC Local Group Meeting, Tankerton, 26th June – Cllr Hill
Allotment Association Meeting 27th June – Cllr Gulvin (Written report circulated)
AONB Design Handbook Workshop, Lenham 8th June – Cllr Beinder
Kent Highway Services Briefing – Cllr Lewis
Kent Association of Parish Councils – Cllr Edmonds
During this meeting it was agreed that parish councils would write to their city councillors to request an increase in contributions for the Neighbourhood Watch.
Action; Clerk
38. **Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area**

The council had no objection to the following proposals;
Application CAT6/00007/BRI Land at Pheasant's Croft, Patixbourne Rd, Bridge; Removal of sycamore trees subject to a TPO N0 6 of 1990 over a period of four years It was noted that has been granted.
Land adjacent to Archways, Conyngham Lane, Bridge
 Remove dying cypress tree **Action; Clerk**

39. Matters for Discussion and Action

- a) **Discussion paper on Byelaws in England** Deferred to September meeting
- b) **Proposal to purchase a new bench for Union Road** It was agreed to purchase a new wooden bench. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- c) **Renewal of the council's map copying licence** A decision on this was deferred until the September council meeting. Meanwhile Cllr Hill would investigate whether such a licence would be needed for the proposed information board. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- d) **Southern Housing Group** It was agreed to adopt the Southern Housing Group as the parish council's partner in the proposed affordable housing scheme. **Action; Clerk**
- e) **Parking problems at Bridge Primary School** – It was agreed to ask the Chairman of the School Governors, Mrs C Ash, to the November meeting of the parish council to discuss this matter. **Action; Clerk**
- f) **Western Avenue bollards** It was agreed that the parish council would purchase bollards for Western Avenue, at the costs set out in Kent Highway's Department letter. However, the councillors felt strongly that this action was being taken reluctantly as a last resort. It was pointed out that bollards had been installed in the High Street within the last few months without reference to the parish council. Western Avenue had been a higher priority for the parish council but no consultation had taken place. The council also objected to the Kent Highway's proposal that the parish council be responsible for their repair/ replacement. It was felt that this was a matter of safety and the council agreed to send a letter to Kent Highways expressing its disappointment at their lack of support. **Action; Clerk**
- g) **Open Day at the Allotments** It was resolved to write to Bridge Allotment Society to request an open day so that villagers would have the opportunity to see what was being done at the allotments, some of which had been funded from the village precept. **Action; Clerk**
- h) **200m running track on the recreation ground** The council listened to a request from Bridge School for permission to mark out a 200 metre running track on the recreation ground. It was argued that this was needed because of the lack of space in the school grounds, some of which would be taken up by a proposed new kitchen block. In addition the continued expansion of the school had meant that there was pressure on existing field area. Following a vote, it was agreed that the council would support the request in principle. The matter was referred to the BVST for discussion at its next meeting and a report on the practicalities would be presented to the September meeting of the parish council. **Action ; Cllr Gulvin**
- i) **Parish Newsletter** The final draft of the Summer issue of the village news letter was approved. Cllr Beinder agreed to take charge of the distribution of the newsletter and the distribution list was revised. Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllr Corfield for his work in producing the newsletter. **Action; Councillors**
- j) **Local Council Administration 7th Ed by Charles Arnold Baker** It was agreed to purchase a copy of this newly revised reference work for the parish council at a cost of £51.95 including p&p from KAPC, which has negotiated an advantageous price for local councils. **Action; Clerk**
- k) **Allotment gates and fencing** – It was agreed to write to Mr Charlie Gooch to thank Cantley Estates for providing new gates and fencing for the allotments. It was reported that the lease for the allotments may be ready for signature within the next two months. **Action ; Clerk**
- l) **Bench for the play area of recreation ground** – It was agreed that the old bench at the recreation ground needed to be repaired and replaced. A working party may be needed to re-install the bench. **Action; Cllr Gulvin & Clerk**
- m) **New larger litter bin for re-cycling point-** As the present new bin is frequently found to be overflowing, it was agreed to ask Serco to replace the small bin with a larger lidded bin of the type already in use further up the lay by. **Action; Clerk**
- n) **Damage to the bus shelter** – It was reported that some roof tiles had been damaged during the re-building of 80 High St. Bridge. The surveyor acting for the parish council on the party wall issues involved had asked for digital photographs to be taken so that he could pursue the matter. **Action; Cllr Hill & Clerk**

40. Correspondence - Noted

41. The following receipt was noted;
 EDF Energy Refund of overpayment - £199.86

42.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 plc	£58.66	Telephone account 9 March – 7 June £49.93 + £8.73 vat
Christobel Seath	£403.18	Clerk's salary and office expenses –

		June 2006
Bridge & Patricbourne PCC	£200.00	Contribution to upkeep of St Mary's churchyard 2006/7

Note; Agreement for payment to the Ordnance Survey for map copying was deferred. See 39 c. above

43. Any other business

- a. **Welcome pack for new residents** – Councillors approved the Welcome Pack produced by Cllr Esdale. It was agreed that residents should be asked to inform the parish clerk of any new comers to the village and that local estate agents would also be asked to inform the clerk when local houses changed ownership.
Action; Clerk
- b. **Red Lion** It was agreed to write to Punch Taverns to ask about progress on the rebuilding of the Red Lion following the recent fire.
Action; Clerk
- c. **Laurie's Way** It was reported that Laurie's Way had become very overgrown. Cllr Gulvin agreed to see what action could be taken.
Action; Cllr Gulvin

The meeting closed at 10.30pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 14th. September 2006 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.