

Minutes of  
**BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010 in Bridge Village Hall

**Present;** Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill, Lewis, Wilmshurst and KCC Cllr Northey

**28/10-11**        **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Corfield

**29/10-11.**        **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

**30/10-11.**        The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**31/10-11.**        Cllr Northey informed the parish council that KCC had to reduce its running costs by £320 million over the next 4 years. There would be a public consultation on how this could be achieved. Cuts of approx 25% would be applied to Kent Highway Services. The school Freedom Pass would continue as it had cut car journeys by approx 30%. The Members Highways Fund would continue until 2011. Work on the build outs at the pharmacy, paid for under this fund, would commence on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

**32/10-11 Disposal of business from the last meeting**

- a.     **Recreation Ground** – Cllr Beinder reported that moles continued to be a problem. She would arrange a working party for maintenance of the flowerbeds in the autumn. A large piece of hard board had been thrown into the river and needed to be removed. There had been many favourable comments about the new exercise equipment. The new company carrying out the ROSPA checks would provide a checklist for routine safety inspections of the new equipment. Canterbury City FC had been holding practice sessions on the ground despite their contract terms, which prohibited any use of the ground between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 15<sup>th</sup> August, The club had apologised. The council agreed to allow the club and SERCO to prepare the pitch for the new season in the week before 15<sup>th</sup> August. There had been no reply from Cantley Estates to the request for permission in principle a skateboard ramp to be built on the recreation ground.
- b.     **Affordable Housing** – The parish council as an interested party had received a file of the papers submitted by Mrs Emily Shirley, who was seeking a judicial review of the decision to grant planning permission for the affordable housing scheme.
- c.     **Bus shelter** – No further quotations had been received. The deadline for submission of the grant application was 6<sup>th</sup> August. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- d.     **Village Green Public Inquiry** – The Public Inquiry would commence on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am in the Guildhall, Canterbury. It was scheduled to last up to 5 days. The parish council would provide a statement opposing the application. **Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk**
- e.     **Replacement bench** – A replacement bench had been installed at the junction of Beech Hill and Bridge Hill. Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllrs Esdale and Gulvin for their help in this. A claim had been lodged with the insurance company.

**33/10-11 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Street Monitors' Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Cllr Esdale  
Written report circulated

**34/10-11 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area**

The following proposals were noted;

High Banks, Bridge Hill, Bridge

Reduce holly tree in front garden by 1/3 and re-shape

39 High St, Bridge

Remove one tree in rear garden planted too close to the house

**35/10-11 Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Amendment to Financial Regulations** – It was agreed to amend the Financial Regulations to allow the Clerk to spend up to £300 between parish council meetings with the prior permission of the Chairman or Vice Chairman and one other councillor. **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Picnic table** – It was agreed to repair the damaged picnic table. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- c. **2009-10 Parish Accounts** – Councillors noted that the Audit Commission had completed the audit of the parish accounts without qualification. Cllr Edmonds thanked the Clerk for her work on the parish finances.
- d. **Appointment of Internal Auditor** – It was agreed to re- appoint Kevin Funnell as the internal auditor for the current financial year.
- e. **Outdoor exercise equipment** – It was agreed to ask Amanda Sparkes to inaugurate the new outdoor exercise equipment, which had been partly funded by a grant from CCC. The local newspapers would be invited to the event. **Action; Clerk**
- f. **Recreation ground maintenance** – Cllr Gulvin had met with the present contractor to discuss how best to improve the quality of the some areas of the recreation ground grass. It was agreed to accept the quotations for herbicide treatment and scarifying supplied by Saunders House Landscapes. The work would begin in September after the school holidays, depending on the weather and the cost would be met from Concurrent Function Funding. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- g. **Vandalism of the pavilion** - There had been further acts of vandalism and the new guttering had again been pulled down. The police had been informed and our PCSO had visited the site and taken statements. Children had been reported climbing from the roof of the sand bag store onto the pavilion roof. It was agreed to buy anti climb paint, as recommended by the police, and to put up warning notices. Details of the community policing number would be put on the village website so that residents could report vandalism direct to the police when it was witnessed. **Action; Clerk**
- h. **ACRK Council Meeting** – No councillor was available to attend this meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July in Lenham.

**36/10-11 Correspondence** – Noted

**37/10-11 Sealing of Documents**

The signing of the allotment lease between Bridge Parish Council & Cantley Estates Ltd. was deferred.

**38/10-11 Bank transfers;**

The council noted the transfer of £6,500 between Parish Council accounts

**39/10-11.** The following receipts were noted;

Remittance for Kentish Gazette Parish Notes contributions - £34.20

**40/10–11** The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
BT *	£85.54	Telephone account £72.80 + £12.74 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£693.42	Clerk's salary and allowances for June 2010
Post Office Ltd	£27.83	Employer NI Contribution for June

The Mill Centre Management Committee	£858.64	Mill Centre Insurance (CFF)
Saunders House Landscapes	£747.30	Recreation ground maintenance costs for April (£120 + £21.0 vat) May (£258 + £45.15 vat) & June (£258 + £45.15 vat)
Patixbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council	£200.00	Contribution to the upkeep of St Mary's Patixbourne churchyard
AON Limited	£60.34	Additional insurance premium for adult exercise equipment
Fresh Air Fitness	£4,522.60	Balance of payment for outdoor exercise equipment £3,848.72 +£673.58 vat
Audit Commission	£334.88	2009/10 Audit Fee £285 + £49.88 vat

\* Paid by Direct Debit

#### **41/10-11 Any Other Business**

- a. Cllr Beinder informed the parish council that her term as a governor of Bridge Primary School would come to an end in September. It was agreed that she would continue to act as the liaison between the school and the council. She reported that the school had recently won an award for inspirational teaching.
- b. Cllr Beinder agreed to attend the Queens Award for Voluntary Service Information Evening on 14<sup>th</sup> July
- c. It was confirmed that the Parish Council Standing Orders would be reviewed by the Chairman and Clerk over the summer.
- d. Cllr Lewis reported that there had been fly tipping at the recycling lay by again. It had been removed.
- e. Cllr Gulvin showed councillors a sewer map of Bridge, which showed the extensive network of runs going to the edges of the village for which Southern Water was responsible. It had been reported that side sewers were having difficulty discharging into the main sewer.

The meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>.September 2010 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.