

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th July 2011 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Edmonds, Corfield, Hodges, and Ward

27/11-12 **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Cook, Oakey and Wilmshurst

28/11-12. **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

29/11-12. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th June 2011 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

30/11-12 Bob Vidler of Greenhills Football Club outlined proposals for the use of the football ground and pavilion for the 2011/12 season.

31/11-12 Disposal of business from the last meeting

- a Recreation Ground – The springers had been partially installed but the wet pour had been damaged by vandals. The rope used to cordon off the springers had also been stolen. It was hoped the installation would be completed when the weather was dry enough. Moles were a continuing problem. The practise goal post had been re-erected. The guttering round the pavilion had been damaged. It was agreed to arrange for the anti climb paint to be applied and warning notices put up. **Action; Recreation Ground Cttee**

- b. Affordable Housing –. Progress was being maintained. The site staff were very co-operative and planned to develop links with the school. A ‘walk over’ of the site for current and previous councillors was being arranged for August.

32/11-12 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Kent Highway Services Parish Seminar 11th July – Cllr Atkinson – Report Circulated

33/11-12 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposals were noted;

Silver Birches, Patricxbourne Rd, Bridge

Fell 1 holly & 1 conifer to enable replacement of boundary fence & replant after fence is installed

Fell 1 rowan – notice originally given in March 2008 but not carried out.

18 High Street, Bridge

Fell cypress in rear garden overcrowding native holly tree

Reduce holly by approx 1/3rd & trim sides

Crown thin copper beech in rear garden by 15-20%

Crown lift magnolia to approx 3 –4 metres removing lowest 4-5 branches

34/11-12 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Members Code of Conduct**– It was agreed that the parish council would support a voluntary system administered by the city council to replace the current Standards Regime and statutory Code of Conduct for councillors. Consistent sanctions for misconduct should be agreed with the city council. Councillors were in favour of the results of misconduct hearings being publicised locally.
Action; Clerk

- b. **Village Hall Insurance**– It was agreed to pay the village hall insurance premium under Concurrent Function Funding.
Action; Clerk

- c. **Increase in Fidelity Guarantee for Insurance Policy-** It was agreed to increase the fidelity guarantee cover of the parish council's insurance policy to £80,000, subject to the matter of the electronic password condition being resolved with the insurers.
Action; Clerk
- d. **Proposed Change in Planning Procedures for large planning applications-**
The parish council agreed to support the proposal by Leighton-cum – Sizewell regarding conditions to be placed on any large planning applications in the area.
Action; Clerk
- e. **The Future of the Methodist Chapel-** After some discussion, it was agreed to pursue the possibility of retaining the Methodist chapel for community use. The parish council would inform the Methodist Chairman of the District of its interest in the future of the building. A visit to the chapel was arranged for councillors for the following Saturday. Meanwhile, the volume of bookings for the village hall would be researched and councillors would try to ascertain whether there would be local interest in using the chapel for community events on a regular basis.
Action; Councillors & Clerk
- f. **Bridge Village Sports Trust –** The parish council expressed concern over the current situation concerning the BVST. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground Committee should investigate ways of re-vitalising the Trust. Cllr Cook had agreed to look at the present financial position. **Action- Recreation Ground Cttee**
It was also agreed to allow Greenhills Football Club to hire the pitch for the 2011/12 season. The rental for the ground would be £600 and there would be a re-fundable bond of £100 to ensure that the conditions of the contract were met.
Action; Clerk
It was suggested that the teams might undertake a pre-season clean up of the pavilion.
- g. **The Mill Centre-** Cllr Cook had arranged to meet with representatives of the City Council to discuss the future of the Mill Centre, accompanied by Mark Esdale and Colin Beesty. It was agreed that Cllr Atkinson would join the working party and attend the meeting.
Action; Cllr Atkinson
- h. **Bridge in Bloom –** Cllr Edmonds reported that she had short-listed the contenders and would do the final judging at the end of July. There would be a presentation in September.
Action; Cllr Edmonds
- i. **Chicane on Town Hill –** Mrs Fawke had kindly agreed to undertake the maintenance of the top chicane on Town Hill. Cllr Edmonds would help if required. The bollard on the chicane, which had come unseated, had been reported to Kent Highway Services.
- j. **Wildflower Project –** Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Hodges for her comprehensive report on the wild flower project. Cllr Hodges had drawn up plans for new planting and planned to hold a working party on the recreation ground on Saturday 29th October. She had overseen the volunteers from the Kentish Stour Countryside project who had weeded the hedge, leaving an area of nettles for butterflies.
Action; Cllr Hodges
- k. **Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012 –** Cllr Atkinson volunteered to take charge of the celebrations to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. He would be consulting village organisations for ideas on marking the event and it was agreed that some form of commemorative item should be given to village children.
Action; Cllr Atkinson

35/11-12 Correspondence – Noted

36/11-12 Bank transfers;

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

37/11-12. The following receipt was noted;

Bridge Tennis Club Annual fees - £125.00

38/11–12 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
BT*	£91.62	Telephone account £76.37 + £15.27 vat
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£785.00	Buildings and contents insurance Bridge Village Hall
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£633.57	Clerk’s salary and allowances for June 2011
Post Office Ltd	£100.14	Employer PAYE & NI Contribution for May 2011
Broxap	£2,678.40	2 new springers and installation (£2,232.00 + £446.40 vat)
KALC	£216.00	Three places at Councillors’ Conference 23 July (£180 + £36 vat)
Patixbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council	£200.00	Contribution to the upkeep of St Mary’s Patixbourne churchyard
AJL Garden Services	£258.60	Grounds maintenance June 2011
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£19.90	Petty cash
Ewart Clough	£288.00	Tree work on recreation ground (£240 + £48 vat)
Patixbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council	£120.00	Contribution to ‘On the Nail’ for 2011/12

* Paid by Direct Debit

39/11-12 Any Other Business

a. Allotments – Cllr Ward had visited the allotments with the Bridge Allotment Association Chairman. The Association would like the city council to paint a white line across the gateway. An earlier request for this had previously been declined by CCC, but it was agreed that the parish council would approach CCC again. **Action; Clerk**

b. KALC – Cllr Hodges had attended a meeting of the Canterbury branch of the KALC. The minutes would be circulated. It was agreed that Cllr Hodges should represent Bridge at KALC meetings along with Cllr Wilmshurst.

c. Potholes – Cllr Hodges reported that the potholes had been filled in on Higham Lane and part of the road had been re-surfaced. Cllr Atkinson informed the council that KHS would not repair any more potholes unless they posed an immediate danger.

d. Steps at Bridge Hill – Cllr Hodges reported that the steps leading from Bridge Hill to Bridge Down had been repaired.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 8th.September 2011 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.