

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th June 2005 in Bridge Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Dobson, Edmonds, Esdale, Gulvin and Lewis.

18. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Beinder, Beesty and Corfield
19. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2005 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
20. **Disposal of Business from the last Meeting**
 - a. Bus shelter –Work has now been completed.
 - b. Bridges over watermeadow- A quote of £4,256 had been received for their repair. This would be sent to KCC Public Rights of Way Dept for their consideration.
Action: Clerk
 - c. 80 High Street – A response had been received from Mr Maxwell by e-mail but the plans referred to in his letter had not been received. A standard response form was not attached. The issue of the railings was not addressed in the letter. The Parish Council agreed to appoint its own surveyor to act in this matter. Cllr Gulvin will draft a reply to Mr Maxwell and take action to appoint a surveyor.
Action; Cllr Gulvin/Clerk
 - d. Recreation Ground
 - i. Maintenance ; In response to the Parish Council's complaint, KCC Landscape Services have agreed to send a monthly report to the clerk by e-mail of the work carried out.
 - ii. Cllr Beesty had investigated the gaps in the play area surface and will repair those wide enough for wet pour treatment. Some areas may need professional attention. **Action;** Cllr Beesty and other Councillors who have volunteered to assist.
 - iii. Cllr Lewis reported there had been a complaint that a manhole cover over a water metre on the recreation ground had been damaged and a child had fallen into the hole. Cllr Gulvin agreed to investigate the problem as a matter of urgency and take whatever measures necessary to make it safe. **Action ;** Cllr Gulvin
 - iv. It was agreed to remove the picket fence by the tennis court, which had collapsed. **Action;** Tennis Club to be asked to remove
 - v. The wooden seat on the see-saw requires replacement. The slide steps need to be repaired and the cat replaced. Wicksteed Leisure will give a quotation for the work. There is provision in the budget for this. **Action;** Cllr Esdale
 - vi. Graffiti was reported on the notice board and pavilion. It was agreed to buy special anti-graffiti solvent to remove this. **Action;** Cllr Esdale
 - vii. It was reported that the litter bin by the pavilion had been destroyed.
 - e. Affordable Housing Survey – A covering letter to accompany the housing survey and a poster advertising the survey produced by ACRK were approved. An electronic version of the survey will be put on the village website. Eight laminated posters will be produced by ACRK. The Council will be responsible for distributing the survey. **Action;** Cllr Esdale
 - f. Response from A Gomez Ltd – The reply from A Gomez had not addressed the issue satisfactorily. The Council still felt that the lack of reference to Highland Court Farm on documentation was causing drivers confusion. Several cases of drivers getting lost had occurred recently and none had had an internet map, as Gomez claimed. Cllr Lewis reported that the matter had been raised at the Parish Council Forum on 7th June and that Dennis Button of KCC Highways Dept would be contacting Gomez and would report back to the Forum. **Action;** Clerk to reply to Gomez advising them of the points raised by the Council.
 - g. Traffic calming Bridge Hill –KCC Highways Dept had advised that there was no funding in this year's budget for traffic calming measures on Bridge Hill. However,

money would be available this year for kerb extensions to ease the illegal parking problems. The Highways Dept will consult the Parish Council on their positioning and materials to be used.

21. **Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Parish Council Forum – Written report by Cllr Lewis noted
BVST – Oral report by Cllr Gulvin noted
22. **Notice of Proposed Work to Trees in a Conservation Area**
Brookside Lodge, Patricxbourne Rd, Bridge – No objection
Bournes Corner, Bekesbourne Rd, Bridge- No objection provided the City Council Tree Officer approved the pruning of the yew tree. **Action;** Clerk
23. **Matters for Discussion and Action**
- a. **Parish Council Environmental Policy** – Deferred to next meeting
 - b. **Replacement swing seats.** – Agreed **Action;** Cllr Esdale
 - c. **Dog fouling** – Cllr Esdale reported increased dog fouling in the High St. There had also been a complaint from a parishioner about this. It was agreed to obtain notices warning dog owners of the penalties. **Action ;** Clerk
 - d. **Kent County Playing Fields Subscription** – Agreed **Action ;** Clerk
 - e. **Bridge Primary School’s Request for Rounders Tournament on Recreation Ground** – Agreed provided participants kept off the cricket square and any newly seeded areas in the goal mouths of the football pitch. **Action;** Clerk
 - f. **Auditing Procedures** – The Audit Commission now require a ‘lighter touch’ audit approach for smaller councils and do not need books to be taken to trial balance. Accounts must be certified by an auditor but no longer need to be prepared by an accountant. It was therefore agreed that the council would dispense with the services of RBS accountants for the next audit
 - g. **One way status for Union Rd/High St. junction** – Discussion on this deferred until after the kerb extensions have been installed.
 - h. **Renewal of yellow lines in Western Ave** – Kent Highways Dept to be asked to renew these as they had become very faded. **Action;** Clerk
 - i. **Possible change of Parish Council meetings to first Thursday in month** – It was decided that this would probably not solve the problem of tight deadlines for responses to the City Council. The situation would be monitored over the coming months. **Action ;** Councillors & Clerk
 - j. **Signage at the top of A2 slip road** – It was pointed out that there were signs to the Park & Ride and County Cricket but no sign to Canterbury. It was also mentioned that there are too many signs at the slip road off the A2 to Bridge. It was agreed to approach the Highways Dept to see whether action could be taken to erect a sign to Canterbury at the top of the A2 slip road and also reduce the number of signs on the slip road leaving the A2 to Bridge. **Action ;** Clerk
 - k. **Quality Councils and Clerks’ Training Days** – It was agreed that the clerk would undertake the training organised by the KAPC in July with a view to obtaining the AQA Certificate in Local Council Administration. This is a prerequisite for any councils seeking Quality Council status. **Action;** Clerk
 - l. The notice of intention to transfer the Justice’s Licence to Mr Ranjit Dhaliwal of Bridgeway Stores was noted.
24. **Correspondence** -Noted.
25. Letter of authority to transfer funds of £1,000 between the two bank accounts held by Bridge Parish Council - Noted
26. The following receipts were noted;
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|------------------------|------------|
| VAT repayment | £ 311.30 |
| CCC Concurrent Funding | £14,546.00 |
| CCC Precept | £12,909.00 |

27. The following items were authorised for payment (2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Christobel Seath	£380.31	May salary & office allowance
Christobel Seath	£65.68	Clerk's Training Day fee & travel expenses
Allianz Cornhill	£1,147.30	Insurance policy renewal
Kent County Playing Fields	£15.00	Annual Subscription
Streetmaster Products	£762.63	Bench
PCC	£100.00	Contribution to 'On the Nail'
Cllr Esdale	£25.90	Reimbursement of 2 litter pickers +vat+ postage
Christobel Seath	£50	Petty cash
D Possee	£30.00	Supply of plants, compost & maintenance of planters in High St.
Wicksteed Leisure	£67.56	2 replacement swing seats

28. The Council expressed its thanks to Mr Craig Dobson and Cllr Gulvin for installing the new bench outside Bridgeway Stores.
29. The Council instructed the Clerk to write a letter of appreciation to Anna Newton, the Headteacher of Bridge and Patixbourne CE School on her retirement. **Action** ; Clerk

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 14th July 2005 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.