

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th.June 2012 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Cook, Edmonds, Hodges, Oakey, Ward and Wilmshurst

- 16/12-13** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Corfield & KCC Cllr Northey.
- 17/12-13** **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.**
There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.
- 18/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th. May 2012 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 19/12-13** **Matters arising;** Cllr Atkinson asked whether any progress had been made in finding funding for the new play area surface. The Clerk explained that as no decision had been made about the type of surface to be used and therefore its cost, it was not yet possible to explore funding sources.
- 20/12-13** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook**
Cllr Cook said that a new small grants scheme had been launched by the City Council with a fund of £10,000. It was intended for small groups, which could apply for grants of up to £500. The process would be via the Single Grants Gateway and designed to be very straightforward.
The City Council had indicated it would prefer to have responses to the Draft Local Plan by the end of August, particularly if local opinion differed from the City Council's proposals. Formal consultation would begin at the end of November but Committees would start the review process in September. The requirement to hold a local referendum on the Local Plan had been dropped from the Localism Act.
The Executive had approved the new procedures for Concurrent Function Funding.
- 21/12-13** Cllr Hill welcomed PCSO Elaine Cannadine who has recently been allocated to Bridge, among other villages, to the meeting
- 22/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a** **Recreation Ground –** Cllr Wilmshurst had the recreation ground folder. The guttering round the pavilion had again been damaged and there had been some damage to the plants near the pavilion. Anti climb paint had been put on the roof of the sand bag store to try to prevent more damage to the pavilion guttering. The fencing by Riverside Close had been damaged. Cllr Hodges thanked the volunteers who had planted the Jubilee oak and had helped with the planting on 23rd. April. Cllr Oakey and Mervyn Gulvin had taken sacks of rubbish from the pavilion to the local tip after the Jubilee celebrations.
- b.** **Diamond Jubilee –** Cllr Hill thanked the Diamond Jubilee Committee for their hard work in producing a superb celebration for the village, both on the Sunday at the recreation ground and at the Monday bonfire and fireworks. Cllr Atkinson also thanked all the helpers who had made the celebrations a success. He announced that there were still some Jubilee coins available for purchase and they would be on sale at the village fete. Financially the event had been successful and the accounts would be available in due course.
- c.** **Bus shelter seat-** Mark Esdale said he was making arrangements for a carpenter to look at the bus shelter and some plans had been drawn up.

- d. Methodist Chapel- It was reported that the chapel had been sold. The parish council's bid to buy the chapel had been unsuccessful
 - e. Neighbourhood Plan – Joe Connor, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee, reported that 335 questionnaires had been returned out of 705 distributed. The data was being processed by Mervyn Gulvin and his staff using a computer program designed by Mark Esdale. It was intended that the Neighbourhood Plan would be completed by August in time to present to the City Council before the end of that month. It was agreed that a special meeting of the Parish Council would be held in August to consider the Neighbourhood Plan when it had been completed.
 - f. Mill Centre – Cllr Cook reported that the proposal to build a new facility in the school was no longer viable. Funding had been obtained but this depended on the building being available for community use during the daytime as well as the evenings. The proposal would have meant that the school would have had to donate the land to the Parish Council and the school governors had not considered this acceptable. A report on the future of the Centre would be presented to the Executive on Thursday 21st June. It would outline three alternatives; a. to extend the lease for a further two years, b. to secure vacant possession of the site in September c. to transfer the Centre to the community. Cllr Cook thought that agreement to option c. was unlikely. There followed a wide-ranging discussion about the possible future of the Mill Centre. It was pointed out that the main halls were in good condition but the kitchen and smaller rooms needed renovation. The estimated cost of this was £200,000. None of this would be a cost to the City Council as, provided a lease of 25 years + could be secured, grants would be available. There was a possibility of 'Right to Buy' for the Centre but the city council would be under no obligation to sell the building below market value. Cllr Hill would speak on behalf of the Parish Council at the Executive meeting.
- Action; Cllr Hill**

23/12-13 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Village Hall Management Committee –24 May 2012 – Cllr Hodges – Report circulated

24/12-13 Notice of work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposal was noted;

12 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Fell row of dead leylandii from side of property – exempt

Remove leylandii & mixed shrubs in rear garden close to boundary

Fell leylandii located in front garden

25/12-13 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **List of Assets of Community Value** – The Parish Council drew up a list of assets of value to the community, which would form part of the Neighbourhood Plan. The list would be lodged with the Development Management Department of the City Council. Under the Localism Act, the Parish Council would have a right to bid for a designated community asset and would have six months to prepare a bid to buy it before an asset could be sold. (List attached) **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Bridge Village Sports Trust** – There was a wide-ranging discussion regarding the running of the BVST and its relationship with the Parish Council. There were issues about the marking out of the football pitch and costs of running of the pavilion. No decision was reached. It was agreed that a new team, Bridge Athletic would be permitted to use the football pitch on Sunday mornings, alternating with Bridge FC. The team would be charged the same rental of £250 per season as Bridge FC by the Parish Council. It was also agreed that Dayspring FC would be offered the use of the pitch on Saturday afternoons at a reduced fee of £300 and that they would be asked to assist with marking the pitch. **Action; Clerk**
The regular use of the recreation ground for profit by a personal trainer was deemed to be a matter for BVST.

- c. **Summer football training for Bridge FC-** It was agreed to refuse a request from Bridge Football Club to begin training on the recreation ground in mid-July rather than after 1st August, as stated in their contract. This was because of undertakings given to residents living next to the ground who had previously complained about disruption during the summer months. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Change of name of New Close-** The Parish Council had no objection to the change of name of New Close to Bridge Haven and thanked the Avante Partnership for consulting them. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Request for double yellow lines at junction of Patricbourne Rd and Riverside Close-** It was considered that asking the City Council to agree to the use of double yellow lines would serve no purpose, as they would not be enforced. The parish council requested Cllr Cook to ask the City Council for more frequent visits by parking attendants to enforce existing parking restrictions in Bridge. **Action; Cllr Cook**

26/12-13 Correspondence – Noted

27/12-13 Bank transfers;

The council noted the transfer of £1,500 between Parish Council accounts

28/12-13. The following receipts were noted;

Canterbury City Council BACS payment £434.00 grant towards Diamond Jubilee Celebration costs

29/12–13 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Terry Wilmshurst	£50.00	Reimbursement of payment for tree work on recreation ground by D Pilcher
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£593.27	Clerk's salary and allowances for May 2012
Post Office Ltd	£160.31	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution
AJL Garden Services	£141.80	Recreation ground maintenance May12
Kent County Playing Fields Association	£20.00	Subscription for 2012-13
Lower Hardres & Nackington PC	£150.00	Hire of Speedwatch Equipment 17/7/11 – 19/3/12 5 wks @ £30 per session
Cllr Sue Hodges	£31.91	Tools & equipment for Wild Flower project
Cllr Ann Edmonds	£32.98	Plants for High Street planters
Bridge Jubilee Committee	£434.00	Disbursement of grant from CCC towards Jubilee celebrations
Christobel Seath- Clerk	£18.90	Travel to Lenham for Clerks' Conference 42 miles @ 45p per mile

30/12-13 Any Other Business

- a. **Primary School** – Cllr Hodges reported that she had met with Bridge Primary School Council on 21st May to ask what they thought about the village. Their responses would be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan

The meeting closed at 9.35p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 12th. July 2012 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.