

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th. June 2013 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hodges (Chairman), Burns-Stark, Corfield, Edmonds, Hill (after item 14), Moon, Ward and Wilmshurst
- 17/13-14** Cllr Hodges welcomed Michael Burns-Stark who had been co-opted onto the Parish Council in place of Cllr Bill Oakey
- 18/13-14** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Atkinson, KCC Cllr Michael Northey and CCC Cllr Simon Cook.
- 19/13-14** There were no Declarations of Interest & Lobbying or written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on agenda items.
- 20/13-14** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 9th. May 2013 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 21/13-14** **Matters arising;** There were no matters arising from the Minutes.
- 22/13-14** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook;** (By email) Cllr Cook reported that Bridge Farmers' Market had received a grant of £672.10 from the Rural Area Member Panel. He reminded Councillors that he would be holding local surgeries to discuss the Canterbury Draft Local Plan in Bridge Village Hall on 22nd June and 6th July from 10.00am until 12.00 noon.
- 23/13-14** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation Ground** – Cllr Ward reported that she and Cllr Hodges had carried out a tree survey on the recreation ground during the past month. She thanked Cllrs Corfield and Wilmshurst for ordering and installing two new picnic benches. Bounty Pest Control were coming more frequently to try to alleviate the mole problem. Incidents of fly tipping had been reported on the recreation ground. There was a continuing problem with graffiti. Cllrs Ward and Burns-Stark would try to remove some of it. **Action; Cllrs Ward & Burns-Stark**
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan –** Prof Connor reported that an Issues Consultation held in the village hall had been visited by 102 residents. So far 42 questionnaires had been returned and there was an opportunity for the questionnaires to be completed on line until the end of June by going to the village website. The Neighbourhood Plan Committee would be having a stall at the village fete and there would be a further opportunity to discuss the issues and fill in the questionnaires. Councillors were urged to listen to residents' views over the next few weeks, especially with regard to the Draft Local Plan. The Committee were applying for a grant to cover the costs of the Neighbourhood Plan production.
- c. **Mill Centre-** A planning application concerning alterations to the kitchen and toilets had been lodged with the City Council. There was still no information from Martin Bovingdon about the site valuation. Two members of the Mill Centre Committee would attend a seminar organised by ARCK on accessing European funding.
- d. **Nailbourne Pollution** – Cllr Atkinson reported by email that there had been a site visit by Julian Brazier MP. Cllr Atkinson had set up meetings with District Councillors & was making contact with prospective MEPs for later in the month. A further meeting of interested parties was planned for July. He had continued to press the Environment Agency for details of their enforcement strategy. It is planned to complete CCTV work soon, with the engineering work, i.e., the sealing off of any leaks, being completed before the winter which is when the groundwater levels might again rise and

potentially overwhelm the sewer. A report on the June meeting of the N&LSRMG had been circulated.

24/13-14

Reports from Representatives to outside bodies

Parish Forum (RAMP), Canterbury City Council 10th June – Cllr Hill

Bridge Village Sports Trust 3rd June – Cllr Wilmshurst

Cllr Wilmshurst reported on the new BVST officers. Plans to renovate the pavilion would have to be suspended until a response to the request to extend the recreation ground lease had been received from Cantley Estates.
Local Plan Overview – 13th May – Cllr Hodges – Report circulated

25/13-14

Notice of work to trees in a Conservation Area

The Dell, Bridge Down, Bridge

Fell a holm oak at top of steps adjacent to Bridge Hill
Reduce height of approx 6 trees in a row to approx 6ft.

3 Meadow Close, Bridge

25% crown reduction, crown thin & crown clean 2 beech trees in rear garden
Fell 3rd beech tree with major decay to main stem

26;13-14

Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Canterbury Community Transport** - It was agreed not to offer funding to this scheme, as it would provide no benefits to Bridge residents. **Action: Clerk**
- b. **Bus shelter repair** –It was agreed that Cllr Moon would investigate the problem and report back. **Action; Cllr Moon**
- c. **Registration of Volunteers**- Councillors agreed to record the names of volunteers who joined working parties, as recommended by the insurers. It was pointed out that this was already the case in most instances.
- d. **Village sign** – After some discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Hill would go ahead and employ a contractor to remove the rotten post. Once the post had been removed a new post would be installed and it was hoped that the sign would be re-painted and replaced on the new post. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- e. **John Purchase Memorial Plaque**- Cllr Ward had again rescued the plaque from the recreation ground. It was agreed to ask Martin Vye, as a local representative of the Lib Dems if they would find a better solution to installing it on the recreation ground, perhaps with a longer stake, in a way that meant it was not damaged. **Action; Cllr Wilmshurst**
- f. **Litter Cart** – Cllr Ward was no longer able to store the litter cart and Selwyn Lewis also wanted the litter cart he was keeping to be removed. It was agreed to store them temporarily at the Mill Centre until agreement could be reached for their disposal. **Action; Cllr Ward**
- g. **Twinning Association** - Cllr Ward had circulated a report. She informed the Council that the Twinning Agreement between Bridge and St Andre les Lille had come to an end. It was thought that the two places were not well matched. A village sign commemorating the twinning had been ordered but this had now been cancelled. There had been some benefit to Bridge for local businesses but in general it had not brought the mutual benefits hoped for. Cllr Ward did not rule out the possibility of twinning with another French village but thought that there would have to be very careful selection for it to be a success.

27/13-14 **Correspondence** – Noted

28/13-14. The following receipts were noted;

Canterbury City Council –Capital Grant - £15,779.90
Bridge Tennis Club – Fees for 2013 - £125.00

29/13–14 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Sue Hodges	£26.95	Travel claim Overview Ctte Meeting mileage £4.05 + parking £3 Wildflower project £ £16.58 + £3.32 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£611.17	Clerk’s salary & allowance for May 2013
Post Office Ltd	£151.20	PAYE and Employer NI contribution for May 2013
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£39.84	Petty cash
AJL Garden Services	£342.00	Recreation ground maintenance for April & May 2013
John Corfield	£300.00	Reimbursement for two picnic benches

30/13-14 Any Other Business

- a. **Local Plan** – Cllr Hill arrived at the parish council having attended a Local Plan meeting in Canterbury. He stressed how important it was for residents to make their views known. This could be done via the City Council website. The Parish Council would discuss a formal response to Canterbury City Council at its meeting in July.
- b. **High Street Planters** – Cllr Edmonds reported that a volunteer had come forward to care for these. She would require compost and plants and these would be paid for by the parish council.
- c. **Parish Charter Workshop** – It was reported that Cllr Atkinson would attend this workshop on 20th July.
- d. **Village Hall Bookings** – As the Booking Secretary was currently indisposed, village hall bookings should be referred to Mark Esdale.
- e. **Weeds on the pavements** – A complaint about weeds growing on the pavements had been received. It was suggested that residents cleared the pavements outside their own homes, in the same way they were encouraged to clear when it snowed. Serco usually sprayed weeds on pavements once a year.
- f. **Village Hall Floor** – Quotations had been sought to renovate the village hall floor over the summer.
- g. **Local District Plan** – Cllr Hill would attend a meeting of the South Canterbury Association and other interested groups to discuss the Local District Plan. Cllr Hodges would attend the meeting on 19th June in the Guildhall, which would be a follow up meeting to the Overview Meeting she attended on 13th. May.

The meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 11th. July 2013 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.