

Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council
Thursday 9 June 2016 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT Cllrs A Atkinson, Fawke, R Atkinson, Brooks, Dhillon, Hodges and Sole
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Corfield

Before the formal start of the meeting, a villager spoke of his disappointment that Town Hill had not been resurfaced at the same time as Bifrons Hill. Cllr Paul Davies was welcomed to the Parish Council as the newly co-opted member.

20/16-17 Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests-there were none.

21/16-17 The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 12 May 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

22/16-17 Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 7 of the agenda.

The Clerk reported that

- New metal swings to be installed on the recreation ground in the first week of July 2016. Total cost £3,253.95.
- We await a response from Monitoring officer at Canterbury City Council about dispensations for Councillors to discuss housing matters in the Neighbourhood Plan as a result of the recent village wide consultation.
- No dogs signs on the recreation ground have been repositioned.
- Danny Scullion (the Volunteer Local Warden) was briefed on 8 June about security and litter concerns on the recreation ground.
- Traffic review findings were used in Mountfield response
- BVST letter sent. Rental received and banked in June 2016.
- Correspondence underway with Cllr Northey about questions to be put to Marisa White of Kent County Council Education department.
- Rural area panel applications were made by the Clerk in time for the 20 June meeting
- Kent County Council has reported to the Clerk on their previous involvement with the Higham Lane bus shelter.
- The Parish databases on clubs, societies and contact details are being merged.

Cllrs Fawke and Sole reported on a recent meeting with residents in green Court, Western Avenue and Ford Close. A project for the improvement of the public open space in Green Court is likely to come forward from residents within the next two weeks. Ford Close residents are forming a Residents' Association.

24/16-17 Report from Canterbury City Councillor Cook.

A litter pick on the A2 has been completed, collecting some 10.5 tons of litter. The Mountfield housing project for 4,000 new houses in Southern Canterbury is likely to come before the City Council planning committee in the autumn of 2016. Given the high number of responses received to the consultation, residents associations are likely to be asked to speak at the committee meeting, though this has not yet been finally decided. The enforcement of parking restrictions is the responsibility of the police on Highway England roads, which includes all slip roads to the A2. Cllr Cook undertook to ask the parking enforcement section at Canterbury City Council to enforce parking restrictions on Coldharbour Lane. There has been very little information from Redbridge about the date on which new residents can be expected at Howe barracks, though there appear to be sufficient spaces in Littlebourne and Pilgrim's Way primary schools to cope.
ACTION: Cllr Cook

25/16-17 Report from Kent County Councillor Michael Northey (KCC)

Given that flooding and drainage are the responsibility of Kent County Council, Cllr Northey's report began with a discussion of the recent flash flood in the village.

The landlord of the White Horse was invited to speak about the events of Tuesday 8 June. 1.5 inches of rain fell in 20 minutes. The flooding in the White Horse has led to the loss of 9 jobs as well as damage to a building that had just completed a refurbishment worth £125,000. He thanked villagers and the fire service for their excellent support. The pub will open again in 6-8 weeks, though the closure will mean great inconvenience to clients and a significant loss of earnings. He asked why the drains had proved to be so inadequate when it is well known that Bride suffers from flood risk. Cllr Northey responded that he sympathised fully with the predicament of the White Horse and would find out as soon as possible from Kent County Council what had happened and why. Cllr Fawke emphasised that a camera is needed to inspect the full run of the drains in the affected area and that sucking silt from manholes is not sufficient. The Parish Council will send a list of affected properties to Cllr Northey and to the fire service and also to Kathryn Moreton of Kent Highways. Cllr Davies reminded the meeting he has been waiting for one year for a plan of the drains in the affected area. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting. Cllr Northey mentioned that there are 1/3 million drains in Kent which are inspected on a 2 year cycle. He also reported on the different types of road surfacing used by Kent, ranging from surface treatment to micro asphaltting and to machine resurfacing. Kent County Council has received an extra £1.4 million to repair potholes in 2016-2017. It is expecting to spend 3 times as much as last year on these repairs. The total sum to be spent on road repairs this financial year is about £3.6million. Potholes should be reported via the Highways section of the Kent County Council website. They are mostly completed within 14 days of being notified.

ACTION: Cllr Northey and Clerk

26/16-17 Disposal of business from the last meeting

Recreation Ground: Cllr Hodges updated the meeting on the list of jobs to be carried out on the recreation ground. The full list of outstanding jobs as of 15 June 2016 is attached to these minutes. She thanked the Girl Guides for their recent work planting bulbs.

Neighbourhood Plan: Joe Connor reported that a grant of nearly £7,000 has been received from the Department of Communities and Local Government to help the committee to bring the Plan to a state which can then be put out for a public vote. It is hoped to have the task completed within the next 6 months with the help of an expert consultant who has been engaged.

Village event on 12 June to mark the Queen's 90th birthday: Cllr Dhillon reminded councillors of the tasks to be carried out. Councillors agreed to pay the expenses of performers before the next formal meeting of the Parish Council, as long as such spending remained within the amounts received through public grants from Kent County Council and Canterbury City Council (approx. £600).

27/16-17 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies. There were none.

23/16-17 Matters for discussion and action.

- (1) A resolution was passed unanimously to approve the governance statement contained within the Annual Parish Return for 2015-2016 (Section 1 of the form)
- (2) A further resolution was passed unanimously to approve the accounting statement on the Annual Return for 2015-2016 (Section 2 of the form)
- (3) The report of the internal auditor for 2015-2016 was noted and approved by the entire Parish Council.
- (4) The Clerk reported that despite anxieties raised by a local resident, Southern Housing Group continues to apply local connections criteria to current and future tenants of Brickfields Close. Cllr Cook said the next meeting of the Rural Area Panel on 20 June is to include a report on "local connection" schemes such as the one in Bridge.

- (5) It was decided to raise further the issue of the funding of new road signs discouraging HGV's on village roads with Cllr Northey to see if they could be funded in a similar way to those planned for Lower Hardres Parish Council. Funding could also be sought from Gomez Ltd. **ACTION: Clerk**
- (6) Council asked the Clerk to devise a policy on the issue of the retention and storage of emails and other public documents. The transfer to the new email system has begun, though it is advisable for address books and diaries to be backed up before the migration takes place on councillors' computers. **ACTION: Clerk**
- (7) Councillors were reminded of the personal responses sought by Canterbury City Council to its consultation on Public Space Protection Orders. Cllr Sole has completed the response form online in a minimal amount of time.
- (8) Council agreed to consider further options regarding the security of the pavilion. A CCTV estimate from a local supplier was considered. A further 2 quotes will be sought by the Clerk. The tennis club will also be approached to see what security services they use. Cllr Brooks will look into the minutes of BVST meetings regarding pavilion security. It was agreed that the BVST needs to be included in discussions about pavilion security, including a potential contribution from that body towards the cost of security measures. It was also suggested that shutters could be fitted as an alternative to expensive CCTV equipment. A quotation for shutters will be sought. **ACTION: Cllr Brooks and Clerk**
- (9) An update on the current state of the Mill Centre lease negotiations was provided by the Chair and the Clerk. Canterbury City Council have stated that they will have a lease for Bridge Parish Council to consider at its July meeting. This undertaking has also been made to the leader of the City Council Simon Cook. The management committee of the Mill Centre now has charitable status enabling it to raise funds once the final lease has been agreed. Cllr Cook said a solution has apparently been found to the linkage of the lease terms to the raising of funds as well as to the completion of the building works.

28/16-17 Tree works in a conservation area were covered by the planning committee.

29/16-17 The Correspondence list was noted.

30/16-17 Receipts were noted as follows: **None.**

31/16-17 The following items for payment were authorised:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Kevin Funnell	£75	(Internal audit)
Philip Wicker	£710.82	(Salary and office allowance)
Sturry Parish Council	£63.39	Handyman costs (recreation ground)
KALC	£72	(Clerks Conference)
LSNRMG	£20	Subscription for 2016-2017
Wicksteed	£340.03	Swing repairs

32/16-17 Points of Information:

There will be a litter pick on the recreation ground after the Queen's party event on 12 June.

The meeting concluded at 9.12 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday, 14 July 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in Bridge Village Hall

Bridge Recreation Ground –Remaining Issues in need of Resolution July 2016

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Action Necessary</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Cost? When?</u>
Pavilion	Uneven and broken slabs to and round the pavilion and sand bag store.	Checked for Health and Safety reasons by RGC & VG	Replace with raised concrete over whole area including ramp to front door and folding ramp to French windows. Use existing paving as hard core.	Contractor chosen (£4,200 quote) drawings needed to clarify handrail and paths Work to start July 2016
Pavilion	Vandalism to the windows of the pavilion. Condition deteriorating. Need to repair male toilet. 2 x Paper Towel Dispensers needed Chewing gum on floor of main corridor Unfixed mirror in one of the changing rooms Old cupboard in one changing room Shower curtain needs to be put back in place	Replacement <u>STILL IN USE! NEEDS SIGN ON DOOR/CLOSE</u> <u>An accident waiting to happen?</u>	BVST aware BVST aware BVST aware	Investigate use of Security Cameras Discuss at PC meeting 14/07/2016 when more quotes available
Safety Inspection of Play Equipment Further damage to two swings	Some medium risk areas identified. Seriousness of faults not stressed in report.	Swings removed	Repair by Wicksteeds and handyman	Cost £283.36 + VAT which is reclaimable. Work to take place by handyman. New cradle swings to arrive in July 2016.

One additional "No Dogs" sign needed by large school gate Signage for sand bag store	Available CCC?		Order 3 re designed signs	SF ordered "No Dogs" sign from CCC 16/11/15. SF to chase CCC. Clerk Employ handyman
Uneven path by large school gates	Dangerous			PD investigating
Narrow shelf and rack to hang garden tools at left hand side of sand bag store	Tools on the floor a Health and Safety issue.	Fix shelf with hooks to hang tools.		Handyman measured area 25/05/16. Job in progress.
Fence between recreation ground and Doctor's Surgery.	Damaged		Replacement	Posts in place 02/06/16. Old wire in sand bag store Unfinished 02/06/16. Clerk in discussions with Doctor's Surgery
Litter bins on recreation ground	Litter bins too small		Replace 2	Cost £215 each. RAMP funding sought to contribute to the cost of one bin. Redistribution of spare bins. Handyman?
Moles in flower bed next to large school gates				Contact Ian Sargent Clerk?
Catch on small gate by river vandalised.		Made safe by PD 10/06/16		Eventual replacement. Discussion about replacement 14/07/16

Cllr Hodges July 2016