

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hodges (Chairman), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Oakey, Ward and Wilmshurst
- 136/12-13** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Hill and Moon and from CCC Cllr Cook and KCC Cllr Northey.
- 137/12-13** **Address by Helen Bennington CCC's Environment Promotions Officer**
Councillors were briefed on the new arrangements for the collection of waste, which would be introduced in the District starting from June 2013. There would be kerbside collection of glass, cartons, paper and food waste in addition to the usual garden waste and landfill collections. New receptacles would be distributed from May onwards with information about their use.
- 138/12-13** There were no Declarations of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on agenda items.
- 139/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 14th February 2013 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 140/12-13** **Matters arising;**
Cllr Oakey gave the Clerk a copy of the application form for the Area Member Panel Opportunity Fund, which is available on the city council's website.
- 141/12-13** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook;** (Via email) Cllr Cook reported that more work would be done by KCC on Conyngham Lane, which had recently been patched. The road surface would be sealed in August.
- 142/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a.** **Recreation Ground** – Cllr Ward reported that the new safety surface in the children's play area was a great improvement and looked very attractive. Canterbury City Council had agreed to meet 49% of the cost. The balance would be met by the parish council and potentially by a grant from Viridor. Work on a concrete floor for the youth shelter had been delayed by bad weather. Cllr Hodges was investigating a cheaper and more environmentally appropriate form of planting for the new fence by the pavilion. Cllr Atkinson reported that the PCSO and rural Police team would monitor activities in the youth shelter periodically. Cllr Hodges reminded councillors that there would be a working party on the recreation ground on Saturday 6th April. Volunteers should meet at the pavilion at 9.30am and bring gardening tools.
- b.** **Neighbourhood Plan** – The Neighbourhood Plan Committee would meet on Friday 15th March in the Hunter Room.
- c.** **Mill Centre-** A report from Mr Colin Beesty, Chairman of the Mill Centre Management Committee, had been circulated to Councillors. Negotiations with Canterbury City for the mixed use of the Mill Centre site had reached an impasse. The building was deteriorating and some of the youth groups currently using the Centre had indicated that they would be moving to alternative venues because of the continued uncertainty over the future of the Centre. The MCMC had been unable to obtain a long lease from the city council, whose primary objective remained to use the majority of the site for housing. After extensive discussion it was agreed to write to Cllr Simon Cook, City Councillor for Bridge, to ask him to open negotiations with the city council on behalf of the village to get agreement to make provision for continued youth activity on the site. It was pointed out that the Mill Centre is on the Parish Council's List of Community Assets. **Action ; Clerk**

- d. **Joint Transportation Board decisions**- Cllr Oakey reported that the Joint Transportation Board had agreed to put double yellow lines at the top of the High Street from the entrance to the allotments, between the chicanes and as far as Station Road, as the parish council had requested. A request for double yellow lines round Bridgeford Way, which had not been supported by the parish council, had been rejected by the Board.
- e. **Nailbourne Pollution** – Cllr Atkinson briefed the parish council on the current situation regarding the pollution of the Nailbourne. Screen diluted sewage was being pumped into the river from Bishopsbourne and flowing downstream through the village. The 24 hour use of tankers to over-pump sewage was causing its own serious problem in the village. The Little Stour & Nailbourne River Management Group (LNRMG) were working hard to put pressure on Southern Water to resolve the problem, which was caused by the seepage of ground water into an incompetent sewer system. The cost of replacing the sewer had been estimated at £10 million and was not a priority for Southern Water. A multi-agency meeting was being called involving the local authority, our local MP, the Health Authority and Environment Agency in the hope of pressuring Southern Water to invest in the renewal of the sewers. Cllr Atkinson was thanked for his tireless work to try to resolve the situation. It was agreed to write to Jill Thomas of LSNRMG to thank her for the work which the Group was doing on behalf of the village. **Action; Clerk**

143/12-13

Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Little Stour & Nailbourne River Management Group 16th. February – Cllr Atkinson (Via email) See above item 142e.

Rural Area member Panel 11th. March – Cllr Hodges

The Area Members Panel Opportunity Fund had been discussed at the meeting. It was also resolved that there would be 4 meetings per year in future and that representatives of parish councils would be invited to participate in two of them, probably starting in June 2013.

144/12-13

Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation area

The following proposals were noted;

Silver Leaves, Bridge Hill, Bridge CT4 5AX

Reduce 3 beech trees on rear boundary by 2m & reshape. Crown thin 2 of trees by removing 2 vertical boughs from each. 3rd tree thinned to match.

Remove tree near front of property.

17 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ

Reduce large sycamore at front to just below previous cutting points and reduce outer canopy as previously done.

Sever ivy at foot of tree and remove as much as possible

Reduce and shape lilac as required

145/12-13 **Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **BVST Restructuring & Pavilion alterations**– Councillors discussed the proposals for restructuring the BVST and renovating the pavilion. The short length of lease remaining on the recreation ground could present a problem when applying for grant funding. It was agreed that Mr Mervyn Gulvin, Chairman of BVST would put forward costed proposals for work on the pavilion at the next parish council meeting. The possibility of changing the relationship between the parish council and BVST, perhaps along the lines of the Village Hall Committee, would also be discussed at that meeting.
- b. **New window frames for village hall** It was agreed to fund the balance of the cost of installing new timber frame windows in the village hall. **Action ; Clerk**
- c. **Meeting with Cantley Ltd**- It was agreed that Cllrs Hill, Hodges and Corfield should represent the parish council at a briefing meeting with Cantley Ltd.
- d. **Clerk's Salary** –It was agreed that the Clerk should progress to salary point LC23 on the anniversary of her appointment on 1st. April.

146/12-13 Correspondence – Noted

147/12-13 Bank transfers;

The council noted the transfer of £32,000 between Parish Council accounts

148/12-13. The following receipts were noted;
Christmas tree donation - £20.00

149/12–13 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£764.28	Third party contribution to cover shortfall from Government scheme towards wet pour renewal grant.
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£581.07	Clerk's salary and allowances for February 2013
Post Office Ltd	£172.46	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution February 2013
Canterbury City Council	1,014.40	Parish Council Election expenses £845.33 + £169.07 vat
Christobel Seath - Clerk		Travel claim Mileage = miles @ 45p per mile =
Action with Communities in Rural Kent	£35.00	Subscription for 2013/14
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£109.20	Reimbursement of card payment for 24 high visibility vests £91.00 + £18.20 vat
Savills	£275.00	Recreation ground rental 29.9.12- 24.3.13
Cllr Robert Moon	£25.00	Repair of sand bag store hinges
Abacus Playgrounds	£28,188.00	Installation of new playground surface £23,490.00 + £4,698.00 vat
Ecoglaze	£435.60	Re-glaze of windows in Mill Centre = £363.00 + £72.60 vat

* Cheque authorised between parish council meetings

150/12-13 Any Other Business

a Register of Members' Interests – Cllr Atkinson reminded the parish council that a list of councillors' interests should be posted on the website. It was explained that the parish council was awaiting the posting of this information on the city council's website. The Clerk advised that the information was available to residents in paper format should they wish to consult it.

b. Chess Club – Cllr Corfield thanked Cllr Atkinson for his work with the Bridge Chess Club, which had recently been reported in Parish News.

c. Newsletter – Councillors were given copies of the Parish Council newsletter for distribution in the village. Cllr Hodges thanked Cllr Corfield for editing and producing the Newsletter.

d. Village Litter Pick- Cllr Ward reminded councillors that the village litter pick would take place the following Saturday, 16th. March. Volunteers should meet at the Post Office at 9.30.am

The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.

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