

Minutes of a meeting of Bridge Parish Council
Thursday 10 March 2016 in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

131/15-16

Apologies for absence. There were none.

Present were Cllrs A Atkinson, Sole, Fawke, Corfield, Hodges, Moon, R Atkinson, Brooks and Dhillon.

132/15-16 Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Cllr Moon declared an interest in item 7 of minute 139/15-16 and Cllrs R and A Atkinson declared an interest in minute 140/15-16.

133/15-16

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 11 February 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

134/15-16 Matters arising from the minutes not covered under item 7 of the agenda.

- Cllr R Atkinson reported that there had been 22 volunteers involved in Cleaning for the Queen on Saturday 12 March. 16 bags of rubbish had been filled. Many new litter picking volunteers had come forward.
- Cllr Fawke has contacted a number of local businesses about the proposed First Aid course. (ACTION: Clerk to find a date with the provider).
- There has been no response from Stagecoach to the letter about bus fare charges.
- Drawings for the new path, ramp and handrail by the pavilion are awaited from the chosen contractor before work can begin. (ACTION: Clerk)
- Quotations to be gathered and presented to the next meeting about a new metallic cradle swing.(ACTION: Clerk)
- Guy Rollinson's feedback has been received. Speedwatch operations can now begin.
- Canterbury City Council has published responses received to the recent (November 2015) amendment to the local plan. These are available on the Council's website.
- Works to upgrade the pavilion kitchen may cost in the region of £2,350 rather than the estimated £2,160. This is due to the purchase of tiles and some adjustments to the layout of the kitchen units.
- The proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Mill Centre Management Committee and the Parish Council has yet to be written.
- The pathway in the recreation ground is not "adopted". The Parish Council can therefore determine rules concerning dog fouling.

135/15-16 Report from Canterbury City Councillor

Cllr Cook reported that the local plan might be adopted by the end of 2016. Responses to local plan amendments have been passed to the Inspector. There will be a full waiver of business rates for the Mill Centre. The city centre car parking consultation is complete. A compromise is still sought over the fate of two car parks in the city centre. The budget has been set for 2016-2017 with council tax rising by £4.95 per band D property, slightly above 2%. He outlined that Highways England are responsible for litter picking on the A2 (since the meeting Cllr Cook has asked to address this address again in April 2016 as new information has come to light). No definite plans have been drawn up for housing on the Brickfields site (or of any benefits which might accrue to the village). The allocation of housing on the site (or not) will be decided by the government Inspector of the local plan.

136/15-16 Report from Kent County Councillor (KCC)

Cllr Northey remains pessimistic about the responsiveness of Highway England to representations about the proposed new junction on the A2. They do not appear to be listening to the argument for 4 exits rather than the 3 proposed. KCC have set the budget for 2016-2017 with a reduction of £118m. Council Tax will rise by just under 4% . Consultations on mobile libraries and street lighting are now closed with decisions on both to be announced shortly. Following questions and statements by Cllr Fawke about the Mountfield Park development in South Canterbury and the effect on traffic in Bridge, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Cllr Northey requesting a traffic survey which takes into account projected future traffic flows and the use of computerised programmes to complete these predictions. Volunteers might be called upon by the Parish Council to provide accurate figures on current traffic movement in the area of Bridge Hill and the Bekesbourne "triangle". (ACTION: Clerk and Cllr A Atkinson)

137/15-16 Disposal of business from the last meeting

Recreation Ground

Cllr Hodges noted the list of outstanding tasks has been much reduced. The outstanding items concern the removal of the spare roller, repair to the fence behind the youth shelter, yellow signs on the sandbag store and the levelling of the path near the school, as well as the purchase of new cradle swings. Cllr Fawke will chase up new dog signs with Canterbury City Council.

The Recreation Ground working party will meet on Saturday 16 April at 9.30 am to prepare the flowerbeds for spring. All help is welcomed. The new wild flower garden signs will be erected using stakes already belonging to the Parish Council in a location to be decided upon by Cllr Hodges in consultation with the recreation ground committee. A replacement contractor has been engaged to carry out the work needed on the pathway around the pavilion. This arrangement was agreed by all present. Canterbury City Council need to be chased up on the provision of larger litter bins. (ACTION: Clerk)

Neighbourhood Plan

This item was taken later in the meeting (Minute 139/15-16 refers).

Village event on 12 June to mark the Queen's 90th birthday

Cllr Dhillon reported that external funding of £339.33 has been secured so far. Full plans for the event will be shared at the April meeting. A reply is awaited from musicians invited to perform at the event.

138/15-16 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies.

- (1) A meeting (26 February) for Parish Council chairs was attended by Cllr A Atkinson. Greg Clark MP stated that plans are afoot to prevent the stalling by District Councils of local parish plans.
- (2) A meeting on 4 March called by David Lock associates was attended by Cllr Fawke about the proposed Mountfield Park development in South Canterbury. See above minute 136/15-16. A meeting for all stakeholders will be held during the consultation stage.
- (3) The Chair addressed a poorly attended Bridge School parents evening on 9 March 2016. and reaffirmed Council's determination to deal with inconsiderate parking in Conyngham Lane.

139/15-16 Matters for discussion and action.

1. **To decide upon the wording of a statement from the Parish Council regarding the Neighbourhood Plan (Cllr Atkinson).** Council voted against including a statement in the forthcoming housing consultation leaflet which might provide a

steer to villagers. The Neighbourhood Plan group has been re-energised of late and is holding regular meetings to complete the plan.

2. **To receive an update on the Cantley and Church Meadow housing proposals.** A meeting was held with Cantley Estates (8 March) to review the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan and the developing Canterbury Local Plan. No details have yet been received about the number of houses planned for the Church Meadow site. There is no further information available about plans for houses on Brickfields from Canterbury City Council. The Clerk outlined the plans for the consultation events on 20 and 22 March.
3. It was decided to appoint **Mown and Grown as the contractor** responsible for the mowing of the grass, strimming of long grass (£1850 p.a.) and mole catching (£285 p.a.) on the recreation ground.
4. Council decided it was **not appropriate to write to Shepherd Neame** about the difficulties experienced by landlords at their tied house in the village. It was felt this was not a responsibility of the Parish Council.
5. **A proposal that all Council emails are copied to all Councillors** was not voted upon. Cllr Corfield referred to the previous discussion about the conversion of our email system to "imap" away from the current pop3 system. It was resolved to return to this subject as soon as possible, with an invitation to Mr Mark Esdale to address council on the issue.
6. A proposal **that all tree applications are passed to the Planning Committee** for comment was agreed.
7. Council agreed to a request from Bridge school PTA **to have the fireworks display on the recreation ground in November 2016** subject to the same conditions as in November 2015.
8. A **Community Warden for Bridge** has been appointed by KCC. The Clerk was asked to find out more details and to report at the next meeting. The new Warden will be invited to the Annual Parish Meeting on 28 April and to the next Parish Council meeting. (ACTION: Clerk)
9. **To receive an update on Green Court developments.** Council considered the comprehensive tree report from Lloyd Bore and decided to appoint a committee of councillors to take the initiative forward at the next meeting. KCC will be asked to remove the trees identified as being dead.
10. Can we **improve the digital speed display for drivers** as they descend Bridge Hill from Bridge Down? Cllr Fawke explained that to record actual speed the current sign would need to be replaced. As the total cost could exceed £5,000 it was not felt appropriate to proceed now. If the speaker from Speedwatch cannot address the forthcoming Annual Parish meeting the Clerk will invite the previously agreed speaker from SECAMB (the ambulance service).
11. Council agreed to support the changes proposed by Canterbury City Council to **parking arrangements in Conyngham Lane.**

140/15-16 Tree works in a conservation area (as published in the agenda) were noted.

141/15-16 The Correspondence list was noted.

142/15-16 Receipts: There had been none.

143/15-16 The following items for payment were authorised:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Earth Anchors	£1,171.20	2 x Picnic benches and fittings (of which £195.20 is VAT)
Philip Wicker	£676.67	Salary and Office allowance

Roger Casement	£191.04	Recreation ground signs of which £31.84 is VAT
HMRC	£78.57	Tax of £70.65 owing for tax year 2013-14 and £7.92 owing for 2015-2016
Sturry Parish Council	£140.40	Work of handyman (13 hours and travel allowance)
CPRE	£36.00	Annual subscription
Cllr A Atkinson	£240.00	Chair's allowance
Cllr R Atkinson	£120.00	Councillor's allowance
Cllr S Fawke	£120.00	Councillor's allowance
Mark Larkins	£4,307.50	Completion of fencing works around the children's play area (of which £518.34 is VAT)
Canterbury City Council	£70.00	Printing of Spring newsletter
Savills Client Accounting	£275.00	Recreation Ground lease
Wellers Hedley (solicitors)	£380.40	Fees for Mill Centre legal costs (of which £62.40 is VAT)
Philip Wicker	£10.80	Travel expenses to Eastry for payroll advice and support
MAS seeds Ltd	£150.00 (of which £25 is VAT)	Wild flower perennial plug plants
M.E.Esdale	£84.00 (of which £14 is VAT)	Domain hosting, web site maintenance and spam filter
Philip Wicker	£40.98 (of which 6.83 is VAT)	Printer cartridges
Ian Sargent	£80.00	Final cut and strim (rec gd)
Alan Atkinson	£36.00	Travel expenses
Lloyd Bore Ltd	£360.00	Tree survey (Green Court)
Les Barleycorn	£1,160.00	Interim payment for Kitchen refurb in pavilion

144/15-16 Points of information:

- Cllr Moon asked that "No parking at any time" notices should be placed at all of the bus stops so that parking tickets can be issued. Cllr Moon also tendered his resignation from the Parish Council with effect from 25 March 2016. He will continue to work with the emergency planning group and the Queen's birthday event on 12 June 2016. He was thanked by all for his services to the Council.
- The report from PCSO Williams was read out-it highlighted 3 recent incidents including damage to the village clock, fly-tipping and an abandoned vehicle.
- It was decided to write to Tony Walder to thank him for his work as footpath warden.
- Cllr Fawke asked that dog signs within the childrens' playground area should be relocated-a job for the handyman.
- The Clerk informed Council that the likely budget outturn for 2015-2016 would show an underspend of approximately £2,900. This would not have happened had the contracted works to the pavilion pathway been carried out in this financial year. There is also an outstanding bill of over £1,000 to pay for the refurbishment to the kitchen area of the pavilion.

The meeting concluded at 9.20 p.m

**The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on
Thursday, 14 April 2016 at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall**

