

## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Bridge Parish Council held in the Hunter Room on Thursday 10 May 2001 at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Anderson (chairman), Beer, Connor, Corfield, Dobson, Gulvin, Hill, Monk and Walder. John Thackeray attended until 7.45 pm and 2 members of the public attended for the first part of the meeting.

Before the meeting commenced Cllr Anderson invited members of the public to address councillors on the matter of flooding and John Thackeray to address councillors on the matter of Nailbourne Cub and Scout Group and the Mill Centre.

The meeting commenced at 7.45 pm.

#### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2001-2002

Cllr Anderson was proposed for the post of chairman by Cllr Walder and seconded by Cllr Hill and elected unanimously.

#### 3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2001-2002

Cllr Beer was proposed for the post of vice chairman by Cllr Walder and seconded by Cllr Connor and elected unanimously.

#### 4 APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

- (a) **Recreation Ground and Sports Sub-Committee:** Cllrs Gulvin, Hill and Walder.
- (b) **Streets, Footways and Lighting Sub-Committee:** Cllr Anderson.
- (c) **Environmental Sub-Committee:** Cllr Connor (footpaths), Cllrs Dobson and Monk (trees).
- (d) **Planning Sub-Committee:** Cllrs Connor, Corfield, Dobson and Hill.
- (e) **Representatives to Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllrs Dobson and Gulvin.
- (f) **KAPC area committee representatives:** Cllrs Connor and Corfield
- (g) **Representatives to the Mill Centre Management Committee:** Cllrs Beer and Walder.
- (h) **Internal Audit of Accounts:** Cllr Hill.

#### 5 ALLOTMENTS

The clerk reported that a letter had been received from FPD Savills confirming that they will advise the council when the clearance of the allotments has been completed. It was **NOTED** that garden waste was being dumped on the allotments.

#### 6 SANDBAGS

Cllr Anderson reported that the remaining unwanted sandbags in the village are to be collected in the near future. Cllr Anderson also reported that the City Council would supply a container to store a minimum number of sandbags in case of emergency and that a site would need to be found. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to the council to ascertain the size of the container before a suitable site could be decided upon.

#### 7 ANNUAL FETE

The clerk reported that letters from the School, the PFA and the PCC had been received and all expressed disappointment that the joint fete was not to go ahead this year due to the building works currently being carried out at the school. The PFA and the PCC are hopeful that the event will take place in 2002. Cllr Walder reported that The White Horse Inn is considering a mini festival on 23 June 2001 and would like the support of the parish council and it was **AGREED** that Cllrs Walder and Beer would obtain more details. Other village events reported to be planned during the year are a sports event on 2 June, a boot fair on 30 June and a disco at the village hall.

#### 8 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Cllr Corfield reported that approximately 12 to 15 volunteers had come forward following PC Bradshaw's distribution of the notice of closure and that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme would now be re-launched. Three Neighbourhood Watch Areas are planned - Bridge Down, the west side of the High Street and the Patrixbourne side of the High Street. Cllr Corfield advised that there would be a minimal set up cost and it was unanimously **AGREED** that £100.00 would be made available for this purpose. Cllr Corfield also advised that there could be a requirement for more Neighbourhood Watch signs and he would investigate whether or not this was the case and it was **AGREED** to offer support should they be required.

**9 VILLAGE SIGN AND PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE BOARD**

A quotation has been received from Les Barleycorn in the sum of £163.00 for repainting the village sign and restaining the parish council notice board. Councillors **AGREED** to accept the quotation and the clerk was requested to write to Les Barleycorn to this effect.

**10 NEW SURGERY**

Cllr Anderson reported that he had recently had a site meeting with the construction company for the new surgery. Under discussion was the extension of the footpath adjacent to the recreation ground, installation of a street light and certain traffic calming measures. As councillors are not aware that planning permission has been granted for these works the clerk was requested to write to the Planning Department and obtain a copy of the plans and the grant of planning permission.

**11 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

(a) **Authorisation of items for payment:** The following items were authorised for payment:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
J Corfield	£21.92	Travel Expenses - Rural White Paper Information Day
P Dobson	£39.45	Drill Bit, Preservative & Brush - PO Bench & Planters
J Hill	£19.98	Fertiliser for Village Daffodils
Streetmaster Products	£654.48	Post Office Bench
Bridge Village Hall Mgt Com.	£20.00	Hire of Hunter Room
BT	£43.90	Clerks Telephone Bill & Advance Charges
KRCC	£30.00	Renewal of Membership
Cornhill Insurance	£1128.79	Annual Renewal Premium
Seaboard Standing Order 01-02	£109.95	Monthly street lighting maintenance

(b) **Payments received:** £100.00 from Bridge Tennis Club for Recreation Ground fee, £6941 for Concurrent Function Revenue Grant and £7954 for Precept.

**12 ANNUAL INSURANCE**

The clerk reported that when checking the cover on the renewal documents it was noticed that the village sign was not covered and that the additional premium for this would be £19.94. It was **AGREED** that the sign should be covered and the clerk was requested to arrange this.

**13 MILL CENTRE**

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the sum of £2500 should be earmarked from reserves for future expenditure for the Mill Centre and any requests for further monies would be viewed sympathetically.

**14 FOOTBRIDGE AT MILL LANE**

Councillors requested that the clerk write to Kent County Council to find out the type of bridge proposed for the replacement at Mill Lane and to establish the procedure for discussing and agreeing what is to go ahead.

**15 PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER/VILLAGE DIRECTORY**

Cllr Dobson proposed that the parish council produce a newsletter to raise its awareness in the parish. She proposed that the newsletter be issued twice a year - Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter and should include input from all councillors. Cllr Dobson also proposed that a village directory be produced providing information of all the facilities and activities available within the parish. Although both proposals were greeted enthusiastically it was unanimously **AGREED** to produce the newsletter in the first instance and Cllr Dobson agreed to act as editor.

**16 RURAL WHITE PAPER**

Cllr Corfield gave the parish council an overview off the intensive Rural White Paper Information Day which he had attended in March which covered many aspects including government objectives,

community involvement, promoting local councils and quality parish councils. It was **AGREED** that councillors would read the relevant section of the Rural White Paper relating to parish councils and discuss the matter further at the next meeting. The clerk was requested to copy the relevant section to all councillors before the next meeting.

#### 17 **USE OF RECREATION GROUND BY SCHOOL**

A request has been received from the school to use the playing field for the occasional supervised games lesson as their own field space is limited whilst building work is being carried out. Councillors **AGREED** to the request on the condition that the school did not allow the children to go in the goal mouths or on the cricket pitch as a lot of effort had gone in to the maintenance of both.

#### 18 **STREET LIGHT REPAIR**

A vandalised street light in Riverside Close had been reported by the clerk to Seeboard and a quotation of £213.19 had been received for its repair. It was **AGREED** that the repair be carried out.

#### 19 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- (a) **Applications received:** No new planning applications have been received.
- (b) **Planning applications granted:** The following planning applications have been notified as granted:  
CA/01/0078/BRI - Glazed roof to courtyard and re-position of fire escape staircase at The Plough & Harrow PH, 86 High Street, Bridge.  
CAL01/0012/BRI - Glazed roof to courtyard and re-position of fire escape staircase at The Plough & Harrow PH, 86 High Street, Bridge.
- (c) **Applications refused:** No applications have been notified as refused.
- (d) **Notice of Intention:** A notice of intention has been received for the transfer of licence at Skippers Restaurant.

#### 20 **RECREATION GROUND GATES**

- (a) **Keys:** The clerk reported that the school were still unable to obtain a key for the gate between the school and the recreation ground. The clerk advised that she had arranged to meet David Rumley of KCC Landscape Services later this week to obtain a key and get it copied. It was also reported that there was still no key available for the gate at the Patribourne Road end of the ground and Cllr Gulvin said he would try once again to obtain a key before a decision has to be made to change the lock.
- (b) It was reported that the area by the school gate which had required cleaning up had been done.

#### 21 **HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

- (a) **A2 Slip Road:** It was **NOTED** that a copy of a letter had been received from Kent Highways to W S Atkins asking them to look at the A2 slip road site at the junction with Bekesbourne Road where there have been a number of accidents and damage to traffic signs. This is with a view to providing yellow transverse markings at reducing intervals and to consider any other alternatives which could be effective.
- (b) **Pothole:** Cllr Hill reported a pothole on the A2 slip road near Renville and the clerk was requested to report this to Kent Highways.

#### 22 **FLOODING**

- (a) Mr Wyatt of 102 High Street has written to the parish council outlining his experiences during the flooding and requesting the council give urgency to pursuing employing a quality civil engineer who is conversant with land drainage to prepare a drainage scheme that will obviate the trouble which he feels stems from underground springs in a field off Brewery Lane. The council are extremely sympathetic to Mr Wyatt and all the villagers who have been affected by the flooding and **AGREED** that as they have no authority to act on matters on private land this would be best dealt with by the relevant agencies who have the right expertise available to them. The clerk was requested to write to Mr Wyatt to this effect.
- (b) A letter received from a parishioner requesting the parish council to consider the possibility of a wildlife pond on the area in Church Field which has recently been flooded was discussed. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to the parishioner advising that the parish council has no authority on private land and that the request should be forwarded to the owner.

- (c) **Emergency Road Repairs:** A letter from Kent County Council with regard to the procedure for dealing with potholes in the roads was **NOTED**. The council advise that they are relying on the public and parish councils to report any potholes and these are usually examined the same day as reported. If the pothole is found to be dangerous the contractor is asked to repair it within hours. They also advise that the works currently being carried out are temporary repairs and will be made permanent when conditions are suitable.

**23 KAPC/KRCC MATTERS**

Cllr Connor advised that he had nothing to report.

**24 ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION AND INFORMATION**

The following items had been received and were available for distribution:

- (a) Pfizer Newsletter - April 2001
- (b) Environmental Protection Act 1990 - Contaminated Land Strategy - Consultation Draft
- (c) Parish News
- (d) SERPA Newsletter
- (e) SERCAF Information Leaflet
- (f) Kent Police Authority Newsletter
- (g) Clerks & Councils Direct - May 2001
- (h) CPRE Kent - Spring/Summer 2001

**25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 14 June 2001.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.04 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....