

**DRAFT Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th May 2007 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Lewis and Wilmshurst.

1/07-8. Councillors signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office- Cllr Hill welcomed Terry Wilmshurst to the Parish Council and congratulated fellow councillors on being confirmed in office for a further four years.

2/07-8 Election of Chairman and Vice- Chairman for 2007- 8
Anne Edmonds was nominated as Chairman by Cllr Esdale, seconded by Cllr Gulvin and elected unanimously.
John Hill was nominated as Vice Chairman by Cllr Esdale, seconded by Cllr Corfield and elected unanimously.

3/07-8 Areas of Responsibility to Committees and Outside bodies.

The following changes were made to Councillors' responsibilities;
Cllr Beinder left the Planning Committee and has been replaced by Cllr Wilmshurst
Cllr Esdale will no longer attend Rural Area Members Panel Meetings. Cllr Hill will continue to represent the Parish Council on this panel.
Cllr Esdale will no longer sit on the Parish Council Police Forum. Cllr Lewis will continue to represent Bridge Parish Council on this panel.
Cllr Wilmshurst will represent the parish council on the Kent Association of Parish Council's Canterbury Area Committee

4/07-8 Apologies for absence; There were apologies for absence from Cllr Edmonds.

5/07-8. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items. There were no declarations of interest made. Revised forms for Councillors' Notification of Financial and other Interests were awaited from Canterbury City Council and would be completed at a later date.

6/07-8. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th. April 2007 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

7/07-8. Disposal of business from the last meeting

a. Recreation ground – A new lock and five keys for the gate near the school had been purchased. The keys would be distributed as follows; BVST 1, Bridge Primary School 1; Kent Landscape Services 1, Cllr Gulvin's Office 1, Clerk 1.
A letter had been received from Mr C Gooch of Savill's giving Cantley Ltd's consent to an artificial playing wicket being laid on the recreation ground.

Action - Clerk

b. The Mill Centre- The Girl Guides Association had sent Carole Mounce a copy of the Mill Centre lease and expressed their willingness for Bridge Parish Council to take it over for the remainder of the lease period, provided the 1st Bridge Girl Guides were allowed to continue to use the centre.

Action; Clerk

c. Higham Lane – The Clerk had discussed this matter with KAPC and, at their request, had written to them copying correspondence from the solicitors for the owners and setting out the difficulty over getting this privately owned road repaired. KAPC would consult the legal department of the National Association of Local Councils to find out if there was a precedent for the case and to seek its advice on how the issue might be resolved.

d. Mrs Gladys Flynn – The council had received a letter from David Spencer thanking the council on Mrs Flynn's behalf for the flowers and card delivered to her on her 100th birthday.

8/07-8 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Cllr Gulvin (Acting Chairman of BVST) gave an oral report on the Bridge Village Sports Trust meeting held on 24th April.

9/07-8 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **45 High St, Bridge** - It was agreed to write to Canterbury City Council to ask it to re-institute proceedings for the compulsory purchase of 45 High Street as the building had continued to deteriorate. It was agreed to point out that recently a commercial property in Canterbury had been purchased by such an order and it was felt that this should also be applied to deteriorating village premises. **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Parish Insurance** – It was agreed to renew the Parish Insurance Policy with Allianz Cornhill **Action; Clerk**
- c. **Affordable Housing Scheme Trust Document** - The Council considered the Third Schedule of the Trust Document. Concern was expressed that, as the parish council would not be represented on the Trust, once the Southern Housing Group had taken over the project, the views of the parish council would not be taken into account and it would have no control over the project. It was argued that this had always been recognised as the case. Some discussion took place over altering Clauses 5.4.1, 5.4.3 and 5.4.5 of the document to ensure that if the Trust decided to exercise its right to sell the freehold of the development or any dwelling, Bridge Parish Council should be informed in addition to the City Council. Concern was expressed that point 2 seemed to indicate that the Trust would be able to change the criteria on which housing was allocated. This was thought unlikely as a Schedule 106 Agreement had legal standing and any such changes could be legally challenged. It was agreed to explore with the Southern Housing Group whether there were any other schedules in operation which varied from the example Bridge had been given. It was also agreed to ask the Southern Housing Group to formulate the application forms in such a way that the parish council would be able to monitor expressions of interest without any personal, confidential information being disclosed.
It was agreed to discuss the above points at the Affordable Housing Committee's meeting with the Southern Housing Group representatives on 17th. May ahead of the village open event in the village hall on 24th. May
- d. **Audited Accounts for 2006-7** – The audited parish accounts for 2006-7 were agreed and signed by the Chairman. It was agreed to review the system of internal audit and to approve a statement on internal control at the next parish council meeting, as the internal auditor pointed out in his report is now required of the council under new regulations.
- e. **Cleaning up Bridge** – Cllr Lewis put forward a plan to set up a rota of villagers to help to keep the streets clean. He volunteered to act a co-ordinator for the scheme should sufficient volunteers offer help. It was also pointed out that there was a problem with dog fouling on the path into the fields by Mill Terrace. It was agreed to publicise the clean up scheme in the Newsletter and ask for volunteers to contact Cllr Lewis. **Action; Cllrs Corfield & Lewis**
- f. **Use of Parish Plan Photographs** - A request had been received from ACRK to use some of the photographs from Bridge Parish Plan in publicity material promoting parish plans. It was agreed that ACRK should be permitted to do this with the proviso that the photographs be credited to Bridge Parish Council and that the council be given copies of any material in which the pictures were used. **Action; Clerk**
- g. **KAPC Canterbury Area Committee**- It was agreed that Cllr Wilmshurst would attend this meeting on 11th. July in Tyler Hill Village Hall. **Action; Cllr Wilmshurst**

10/07-8. Sealing of Documents

The lease agreement between Bridge Parish Council and Canterbury City Football Club to run for three years from 1st August 2007 was signed.

11/07-8Correspondence – Noted.

12/07-8. It was noted that the sum of £2,500.00 would be transferred this month between the two accounts held by Bridge Parish Council. **Action; Clerk**

13/07-8 The following receipts were noted;

£17,174.21 from Canterbury City Council
(£3,629.20 Concurrent Funding and £13,545.01 Parish Precept)
VAT refund £344.22

14/07-8.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Christobel N Seath	£585.28	Clerk's Salary and office allowance –April 2007
Allianz Cornhill Insurance plc	£1,287.25	Renewal of Insurance policy from 1.6.07 to 31.5.08
Ann Edmonds	£29.12	Wine for Annual Parish Meeting
D Possee	£30.00	Maintenance and plants for High St planters winter 2006/7
Andrew C Osborn	£135.00	Tree work on recreation ground in 2005 – original cheque not presented
Andrew C Osborn	£165.00	Tree work on recreation ground 13.11.06
Kevin Funnell	£140.00	Internal Audit Fee
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£66.00	Street Runner Hire of Hall April-June 07 6 sessions X £11.00
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£22.00	Parish Council Meeting April – July 07 4 meetings (incl. Parish Meet) @ £5.50
Christobel N Seath	£41.31	Petty Cash

15/07-8. Any other business

a. Premises Application, Red Lion, Bridge- It was agreed to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 24th. May in the Village Hall to discuss the application submitted by Punch Taverns to extend the opening hours of the Red Lion. It was agreed to invite a representative of Punch Taverns to attend the meeting. The meeting would be publicised on the website and by means of a newsletter to all Bridge residents.

Action; Cllrs Esdale & Corfield & Clerk

b. Newsletter- It was agreed to issue a Newsletter covering the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting, the Affordable Housing Village Information Event, both on 24th. May in the Village Hall and Cllr Lewis' plans for a rota of volunteers to keep the village clean

Action; Cllr Corfield

c. White Horse Cllr Hill reported that there was still no gas supply connection to the White Horse.

d. City Council Elections – It was agreed to write to Cllr John Anderson to congratulate him on retaining his seat as City Councillor for Bridge.

Action; Clerk

e. New Street Signs – Cllr Beinder reported that she had been unable to make any further progress as she had failed to contact the City Council official concerned despite several telephone calls.

f. Wild Flower Meadow - Cllr Beinder reported that the Friends of Bridge Wild Flower Project had been given a grant of £904 from 'Awards for All' . Cllr Hill congratulated her on her achievement in securing the grant.

g. Youth Shelter –It was agreed that a questionnaire would be distributed to residents of Patixbourne Rd, Riverside Close and Mansfield Court in the next few days. They would be collected over the weekend of 19/20 May.

Action; Cllrs Beesty, Esdale & Gulvin.

h. Clerks' Information Day – The Parish Clerk will be away on Wednesday 16th. May attending a KAPC Clerks' Information Day

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

An extraordinary meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be held on Thursday 24th. May at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 14th. June 2007 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.