

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th November 2012 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hill, (Chairman), Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges, Oakey, Ward and Wilmshurst
- 78/11-12** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Atkinson, CCC Cllr Cook and KCC Cllr Northey.
- 79/12-13** **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying and written declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on agenda items.**
The Clerk as Proper Officer had received written declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest from all parish councillors present in respect of agenda item 8A, setting the parish precept. The Proper Officer had granted dispensations to all councillors under Section 2 (ii) of the Delegations section of the Parish Council Code of Conduct. This dispensation to last until November 2016 or until the next parish council election, whichever is the earlier.
- 80/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 11th October 2012 were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman.
- 81/12-13** **Matters arising;** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.
- 82/12-13** **Written Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook;** Members of the Rural Area Member Panel had recommended two things to the Executive :
- For the Parish Concurrent Function Funding, more money had been applied for than was in the pot. The recommendation was that grants should be capped at last year's amount (several Parishes - not Bridge - had asked for substantial increases) and this would be funded at 83.2%
- for the Capital Grants scheme, the two Bridge applications (playground resurfacing from the Parish Council and replacement windows from the Village Hall) should be approved.
These recommendations had to be formally approved by the Executive,
- 83/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a.** **Recreation Ground-** Cllr Wilmshurst had again repaired the tiles on the pavilion roof. All spare tiles had now been used up. One of the picnic tables had been smashed. It was agreed to move the remaining picnic table into the pavilion for the winter. Cllr Hill thanked Cllrs Corfield and Wilmshurst for installing the new swings. It had been found that one of the shackle pins needed to be replaced. Cllr Corfield would supply the details to Wicksteed so that a replacement could be ordered. **Action; Cllr Corfield**
Quotes to replace the hinges on the sand bag store and to replace the wire / fencing between Riverside Close and the pavilion and raise its height were accepted. **Action; Clerk**
Cllr Hodges thanked the volunteers who had joined the working party on the recreation ground on 20th October. She also thanked those who had donated plants and seeds and the volunteers who had signed up to work throughout the year on the recreation ground. Cllr Hodges reported that Bridge School Eco Club had planted narcissi on the riverbank and she thanked the school for their help.
- b.** **Neighbourhood Plan;** Mr Joe Connor reported on a constructive meeting between three members of Bridge Neighbourhood Plan Committee and Adrian Verrall of CCC, in charge of drawing up the Local District Plan. It had been suggested that Bridge should put forward a small number of proposals for inclusion in the Plan, based on data from the questionnaires. It was

important that the Neighbourhood Plan Committee should consider other issues apart from housing. Another meeting of the Committee would be held before Christmas with the aim of putting further proposals to the parish council in January. The District Plan draft was not now expected until March 2013. Mr Verrall had agreed to come to address the village at a future date.

- c. **Overhanging tree letter**. Cllr Oakey explained that there was no generic letter from one of his other parishes. Bridge would issue individual letters to householders when required, pointing out that it was an offence to allow vegetation to block the footpaths.
- d. **Design of St Andre twinning notice**- Cllr Northey was assisting in obtaining a suitable design, approved by KCC, to indicate the twinning of Bridge and St Andre. When the layout had been agreed, it would be put to the parish council for approval. Cllr Oakey said that there would be no cost to Bridge for the sign. **Action; Cllr Oakey**
- e. **'Walkers are Welcome' report** Cllr Atkinson had reported that 20 walkers visited Bridge on 21st October as an inaugural visit of the scheme. Two circular walks had taken place despite wet weather

84/12-13

Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation area

The following proposals were noted;

41 Union Road, Bridge, CT4 5LW

Fell mountain ash due to root rot. Remove a limb from yew tree hanging over Union Rd, bent over due to weight of creeper – Exempt.

1a Meadow Close, Bridge

Reduce the height of a holly tree located on northern boundary by 6 feet

Bridge Recreation Ground, Patricbourne Road, Bridge

Clear willow tree round floodlight by tennis court to give at least 5' clearance

Raise the lower canopy to height of 20' of sycamore tree by Mansfield Court and reduce back the lower canopy by 30% over the garden close to the fence.

Barberry Cottage, Patricbourne Rd, Bridge

Remove self sown ash tree from back garden, leaning over neighbour's garden. Lower crown of alder tree leaning over neighbour's garden by one third.

85/12-13 **Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Budget & Precept requirement**: The precept and the budget requirements for 2013/14 were discussed and agreed. **Action; Clerk**
- b. **Revision of Financial Regulations**: The Finance Committee had reviewed the Internal Audit arrangements and had not recommended any changes. Changes to Financial Regulations recommended by the Internal Auditor were agreed. These included raising the level above which three quotations for work should be obtained from £1,000 to £3,000. **Action; Clerk**
- c. **Recreation Ground Maintenance Contract 2013/14** It was agreed to award the contract for grounds maintenance to AJ Garden Services again. The price of the contract would be raised by 5% but this would be held for two years. Councillors praised Mr Longley for his good work and his helpful approach. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Bus shelter seat**; It was agreed to accept the quotation for a new seat for the bus shelter near the pharmacy. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Diamond Jubilee Account** ; Cllr Oakey reported that the balance in the Diamond Jubilee Account was £670.42p and that this would be transferred to the parish council as soon as possible. Councillors agreed that the balance of the £1,000 loan made to the Diamond Jubilee Committee would be written off. Cllr Oakey reported that there were still about 150 Jubilee coins available for sale. **Action; Cllrs Oakey & Atkinson**
- f. **Snow and ice removal from pavements** – Cllr Oakey would compile a list of volunteers who would be willing to help to clear ice and snow from the street when required. **Action; Cllr Oakey**

- g. **Purchase of commemorative plaque for Diamond Jubilee oak tree** – A decision on this item was deferred because Cllr Atkinson was absent from the meeting.
- h. **December Parish Council meeting** : It was agreed that the Planning Committee would take place at the earlier time of 6.00pm and the Parish Council at 6.15pm on Thursday 13th. December.

86/12-13 Correspondence – Noted

87/12-13 Sealing of Documents

Agreements between Dayspring Football Club, Bridge Football Club & Bridge Athletic Football Club and Bridge Parish Council were signed

88/12-13 Bank transfers:

The council noted the transfer of £1,000 between Parish Council accounts

89/12-13. The following receipts were noted;

Dayspring FC – fees for 2012/13 season £300.00
 Bridge Athletic FC fees for 2012/13 £250.00

90/12–13 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£581.07	Clerk's salary and allowances for October 2012
Post Office Ltd	£172.51	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution October 2012
AJL Garden Services	£58.40	Recreation ground maintenance October
Cllr Sue Hodges	£23.79	Gardening materials for wild flower project £19.83 + £3.96 vat
Kevin Funnell	£40.00	Independent Internal Audit fees
Global Cleaning Supplies	£33.70	4 X Selden Graffiti remover £28.08 + £5.62 vat
Wicksteed Leisure	£260.92	Two replacement swings + carriage £217.43 + £43.49 vat
Cllr Atkinson	£16.80	Mileage claim 42 miles @ 40.0p per mile

91/12-13 Any Other Business

- a. Cllr Oakey reported that the PCSO and City Cllr Cook would be holding a meeting for young people in Bridge later in the month. He would check on the venue, which could be the Hunter Room **Action; Cllr Oakey**
- b. Cllr Wilmshurst was in contact with the man who would install the brackets on the pavilion.
- c. It was reported that the football pitch had been severely damaged by a team playing in very wet conditions the previous Sunday. As a result the contractor had taken emergency action to repair some of the damage but the pitch would be unfit for matches until December. It had been recommended that the pitch be rolled two more times at a cost of £75 per time. The Chairman of BVST was taking steps to recover the costs from the football team concerned and had instructed all the teams to make alternative arrangements for matches until December.
- d. Cllr Hill reported on the Rural Area Member Panel meeting he had attended on 5th. November at which Concurrent Function Funding was discussed.
- e. It was agreed to invite Helen Bennington of the City Council to the February Parish Council meeting to talk about the new recycling system for Canterbury District. **Action; Clerk**

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 13th. December 2012 at **6.15** pm in Bridge Village Hall.