

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th.November 2014 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hill (Chairman,) Corfield, Edmonds, Moon, Ward, Wilmshurst, Wortham and CCC Cllr Cook.
- 71/14-15** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Hodges & KCC Cllr Northey.
- 72/14-15** **Declarations of Interest & Lobbying and written Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on agenda items.** Cllr Hill declared an interest in item 10e of the agenda as President of Bridge Tennis Club
- 73/14-15** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th.October 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 74/14-15** **Matters arising;** There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 75/14-15** **Report by CCC Cllr Simon Cook** ; Cllr Cook reported that he, Cllr Hill and Cllr Atkinson had spoken at the Rural Area Member Panel meeting against the Concurrent Function Funding settlement proposed by the City Council which would substantially reduce the amount of funding available for CFF functions in the parish and potentially lead to a higher precept being levied to make up the short fall. The matter had been passed to Executive and city council officers to resolve and it was hoped that the Executive would agree a settlement at least at the same level as the previous year.
Cllr Cook asked villagers to nominate to him those in need in Bridge who would benefit from the Lord Mayor's Gift Fund, which was again distributing Christmas parcels to all ages.
Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Cook for his support at the RAMP meeting.
- 76/14-15** **Report by KCC Cllr Northey;** (by Email) Cllr Northey reminded villagers of the budget consultation which KCC was carrying out. Residents could respond on line to a questionnaire via the KCC website. He also drew residents attention to the advice issued by the Canterbury & Coastal Commissioning Group regarding winter illness. Patients were advised to seek help from local pharmacies in the first instance and take sensible precautions. Winter flu jabs were available free for over 65s and some carers.
- 77/14-15** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation Ground** Cllr Ward reported that the river bed had been partially cleared of weed and rubbish by the Environment Agency. She had also removed rubbish from the river banks where possible. It was agreed to write to the Environment Agency asking that the roots of encroaching weeds be removed from the river as well as the rubbish and pointing out that the channel was getting narrower as the vegetation built up. **Action; Clerk**
The Council thanked the children of Bridge Primary School and volunteers who had worked on the recreation ground in October.
 - b. **Pavilion repairs** Cllr Wilmshurst reported that all the showers were working, the windows had been secured and rubbish removed from the pavilion. The council unanimously agreed to the expenditure of up to £11.500 as set aside in the current budget for the repairs to the pavilion, including new flooring, electrical work, new floor in the showers and repairs to the windows.
 - c. **Neighbourhood Plan** Dr Connor reported that the draft Neighbourhood Plan had been published and distributed to every house in Bridge together with a response form. Responses were being returned in paper format and via the website. The Neighbourhood Plan Committee would contact various statutory

consultees over the next few weeks and a comprehensive list was being compiled. The Committee would meet again on 21st November. It was agreed to put the Village Design Statement, which was referred to in the Neighbourhood Plan, onto the village website.

- d. **Emergency Plan** Cllr Wortham reported that the Committee was now producing a Flood Plan and was in the process of approaching village societies and groups in order to compile a list of vulnerable residents who might require additional help in an emergency. A meeting with local organisations to identify vulnerable residents would take place the following week. Flood gauge boards had been installed in the village and the Environment Agency (EA) would be agreeing levels for flood alerts and warnings. The EA recommended that people undertook their own flood protection. Property protection grants were no longer available. Leaflets for properties that had been flooded had been provided by the EA and could be useful for tenants to share with landlords. There was a suggestion that several Flood Wardens might be needed in an emergency. There would be a Flood Resilience Training event for councillors on the Emergency Planning Committee the following week.
- e. **Sandbag Storage** Richard McCarthy, Bridge's Flood Warden had undergone Flood Warden training. He said that at present there was a lack of structure in the central planning, which it was hoped would emerge as the plans developed. All three Bridge pubs had agreed to have sand bag storage boxes in their car parks. Shepherd Neame had confirmed that they had no objection to two boxes being located in the Plough & Harrow car park. Ted Edwards, CCC's Chief Engineer, had confirmed that the City Council would provide free of charge three lockable boxes each holding 100 sand bags for immediate emergency use. Cllr Moon suggested that two boxes should be located in the Plough & Harrow and one in the Red Lion. Sand bags were still available in boxes at the Mill Centre and it may be useful to fit locks to these boxes at a later date. Cllr Wilmshurst pointed out that in an emergency additional sandbags would be available from the City Council/Serco and the stores in Bridge were only meant to cover immediate needs. Laurence Dunderdale had agreed to take on the job of Deputy Flood Warden. Cllr Hill thanked Richard McCarthy for his work.
- f. **School Parking** The Headteacher of the Primary School had sent out a letter to Conyngham Lane residents asking for comments and ideas about the parking problems. Cllr Moon would be attending a meeting at the school to discuss this the following week. The PCSO had visited the school twice recently. Cllr Moon would let the Clerk have any information about traffic calming measures that came out of the meeting to pass to the City Council Parking Review. **Action : Cllr Moon**
- g. **Community First Responders** The Clerk reported that there had been two enquiries about volunteering as CFRs and they had been put in touch with the CFR scheme organisers. Publicity material that had been promised was still awaited.

78/14-15

Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Canterbury KALC Meeting – 15th. October – Sue Hodges – Minutes circulated
Kent Highways Parish Seminar 7th.November – Cllr Hill –Report circulated
Bridge Village Sports Trust – 10th November Cllr Wilmshurst
Cllr Wilmshurst reported that Bridge Athletic FC had been disbanded. They had been asked to return the pavilion keys. Mervyn Gulvin had agreed to continue as Treasurer for the interim as he was a cheque signatory. Bridge Juniors had not paid their fees or returned the contract. Cllr Wilmshurst provided a new address. **Action; Clerk**
BVST had been invited to apply for discretionary rate reduction. Mr Gulvin would complete the documentation.

79/14-15

Notice of Proposed Tree Work in a Conservation Area

85/14–15 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	£663.89	Clerk's salary & allowance for October 2014
Post Office Ltd	£145.56	PAYE and Employer NI contribution for October 2014
Sue Hodges	£40.17	Travel Bridge / Samphire Hoe 33 miles @ 0.45p =£14.85 Stationery £13.61 + £2.72 vat =£16.33 Wild flower project bark & compost £8.99
AJL Garden Services	£219.55	Recreation ground maintenance for September 2014
Kevin Funnell	£75.00	Independent internal mid year audit
Sue Hodges	£13.95	Mileage claim Bridge/Faversham Finance Seminar 17th. October 31 miles @ 0.45p per mile
Bridge and Patricbourne PCC	£200.40	Contribution towards upkeep of St Mary's churchyard, Patricbourne
Christobel Seath	£17.94	Plastic pockets for Neighbourhood Plan draft.£14.95 + £2.99 vat (Neighbourhood Plan Account.)
Mervyn Gulvin	£53.73	Materials & printing for Neighbourhood Plan Consultation event £49.10 + £4.63 vat (Neighbourhood Plan Account)
John Hill	£25.00	Wreath for Remembrance Day Service – Royal British Legion
VP Heating & Plumbing Services	£1,418.00	Plumbing work to sports pavilion
Matthew Wilmshurst	£102.00	Repair of walls, windows and French doors etc of sports pavilion
Canterbury City Council	£848.25	Printing costs for draft Neighbourhood Plan and accompanying documents £810.00 + £38.25 vat (Neighbourhood Plan Account)

86/14-15 Any Other Business

- a. **Police Forum;** Cllr Edmonds would be unable to attend the Police Forum on 25th. November. Since Bridge Parish Council had lobbied for these to be re-introduced it was important that the parish was represented. Cllr Hill therefore agreed to attend.

Action; Cllr Hill

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 11th. December 2014 at **7.00 pm** in Bridge Village Hall.