

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th October 2005 in Bridge Village Hall

Present ; Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Edmonds and Esdale

- 56. Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Corfield, Gulvin and Lewis
- 57. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying** on agenda items.
Cllr Hill declared an interest on Agenda item 7 as President of Bridge Tennis Club
- 58.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 2005 and the Cooption meeting on 21st September were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman.
It was noted that at the last meeting Cllr Beesty had reported that supplies of the Data Link pots had been taken to Bridge Pharmacy for distribution.
- 59. Information item regarding co-option of new councillor.**
Following the cooption meeting of 21st September, the successful candidate subsequently withdrew without having signed an acceptance of office form. The co-option process has therefore had to begin again and notices of the casual vacancy were posted in the village on 6th October 2005.
- 60. Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. Recreation ground**
 - i. Maintenance; KCC Landscape Services had sent a verbal report to the clerk of work carried out during September
 - ii. The RoSPA Report has been considered by the Recreation Ground Committee and they had agreed that no further action was required.
 - iii. Cllr Beinder will hand over responsibility for recreation ground inspections to Cllr Beesty at the end of this month.
 - b. Flood Map** – Discussion deferred to next meeting.
 - c. Speed Watch** –Cllr Esdale reported that a flashing speed indicator would cost £1,750. He was investigating the cost of a solar powered version which would be moveable.
 - d. Street Runner-** It was confirmed that after City Council funding ceases in March 2006, children will be asked to pay for attending the Street Runner sessions. It was also confirmed that the Council's decision to opt to pay the City Council to provide the services of two youth workers to work with one volunteer per session will be paid for out of the precept. A note to this effect will be put into the next village Newsletter. Pam Dobson will also be informed of this. **Action;** Clerk
 - e. Recreation Ground Leases** – Mr Gooch of FPD Savills had advised that no decision had been taken by the Directors of Cantley Estates concerning the extension of the recreation ground lease, which currently has 21 years to run. There was a possibility that the request would be refused. It was agreed to write to the Chairman of Bridge Tennis Club, which had originally asked for an extension of the current lease to 25 years, to inform them of the position. It was expected that the lease for the allotments would be issued within the next two weeks. **Action;** Clerk
 - f. Restoration of old street and house names** – Bridge History Society had agreed to do further research on this. It was agreed to put an item into the precept for the possible cost of some new street signs.
- 61. Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Cllr Beesty reported on the KAPC meeting of 12th October 2005
Cllr Beinder reported on the Kent & Medway Structure Plan Consultation Meeting of 11th October. It was agreed to write to the Strategy Division of Kent County Council to question the concept of the plan and the basis on which the questionnaires were drawn up.

Action; Clerk

62. Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

i) Springfield, Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Reduce two Cyprus trees to side of bungalow to previous cutting points

Reduce a sycamore in rear garden to previous cutting points

(All three trees cut about 5 years ago.)- No objection

ii) Request from tennis club for tree work on the recreation ground.

It was agreed that the parish council do not want major work to be carried out on these trees. However, while the trees by the tennis court are in no danger of falling over and damaging property, some limited work may be justified, such as raising the crowns. The tennis club would be asked to pay for work carried out. It was agreed that John Lambourne of CCC should be asked to consider whether work on the trees is required. **Action;** Clerk

63. Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. Parish Council Environmental Policy** – Cllr Beesty was congratulated on drafting a policy which covers the entire environment and was not confined to recycling. It was agreed to include a clause covering protection of natural habitats, biodiversity and wildlife. The policy will be formally adopted at the next council meeting. **Action;** Cllr Beesty
- b. Use of Cars on the Recreation Ground-** It was agreed to insert a clause into the lease agreement with the Exiles Cricket Club when it is renewed stipulating the maximum speed for cars crossing the recreation ground and setting down conditions for the use of cars on the ground. **Action;** Clerk
- c. Liaison with Bridge Primary School** – It was agreed the Chairman should ask the new Headmistress to attend the next Parish Council meeting to meet the councillors. A decision on which councillor should act as a liaison with the school was deferred until the vacancy for a new councillor has been filled. **Action ;** Cllr Hill
- d.** It was agreed to purchase of wet pour for the recreation ground at a cost of £75 +vat + carriage –**Action ;** Clerk
- e.** It was agreed to make an *ex gratia* payment of £200 to Carol Baker, former temporary Parish Clerk, for her work on completing the accounts. **Action;** Clerk
- f.** The Audit was agreed and signed. The Concurrent Function funding was also agreed and thanks expressed to those councillors who had worked to complete it. Cllr Esdale agreed to complete the form for the City Council. **Action;** Cllr Esdale
- g.** It was agreed to purchase a replacement bench in memory of George Pratt for the recreation ground at a cost of circa £190.00. It was also agreed to repair one picnic table and the concrete ended bench near the surgery. **Action;** Cllr Hill
- h.** It was agreed that the clerk should attend a Finance Information Day, Sat 15th October at a cost of £52.88 (£45.00 + £7.88 vat) **Action;** Clerk
- i.** Cllr Hill agreed to help Cllr Edmonds to plant bulbs on the first island at chicane at the top of the High St. **Action;** Cllrs Edmonds and Hill
- j.** It was agreed under the powers conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act of 1972 and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, that the council would pay up to £500.00 expenses towards the cost of the production of Bridge Parish Plan. **Action;** Cllr Hill
- k.** It was agreed to increase the clerk's office expenses to £55 per month with immediate effect

64. Sealing of documents

The Agreement with Bridge Football Club for hire of football pitch 2005/6 season was signed.

- 65. Correspondence** Noted and it was agreed to put an item about the KCH taken from East Kent Hospital's Patient Notes into the Newsletter and onto the website **Action;** Cllrs Beinder & Esdale
- 66.** Letter of authorisation to transfer £3,000 between the two bank accounts held by Bridge Parish Council was agreed, the amount of the transfer having been increased from £2,000 because of further accounts having been presented.
- 67.** The following receipts were noted;
Broomfield United Football Club £350.00
Bridge Football Club £150.00
- 68.** 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	£380.31	Clerk's salary and office expenses – September
BT	£60.91	Parish Office telephone account £51.84 + £9.07 vat
Cantley Estate	£225.00	Half Yearly rents
Christobel Seath	£45.12	Petty Cash
Mark Esdale	£67.85	Graffiti removal wipes & 'Bridge in Bloom' trophies & engraving
Wicksteed Leisure	£101.64	Wet pour kit £ 75.00 plus packing & carriage £11.50 + vat £15.14
Wicksteed Leisure	£1,063.97	Repainting play equipment £883.00 + £22.50 carriage + £158.47 vat
Seeboard Energy	£294.69	Final electricity payment for lighting a/c

- 69. Any other business**
- The council agreed to consider an application from the Fish Scheme for a donation from the £250 prize received by Bridge as winners of the Kent Village of the Year contest, Older People Category. It was agreed that a probable donation of £150 would be put to the next Parish Council meeting.
 - The Archways planning application will be heard at the next meeting of the Development Control Committee later this month. It was agreed that Cllrs Edmonds and Esdale would attend. (Cllr Beinder declared an interest regarding this item)
 - The dilapidated state of the former hairdresser's shop in the High St was raised. It was agreed that it was not possible for the parish council to take any further action on this but the situation would continue to be monitored.
 - Cllr Esdale reported the uprooting of a large tree in the grounds of Bridge Place and of the planting of two saplings near the churchyard.
 - The loss of one bus an hour from the village to Canterbury was noted.
 - It was agreed that the Christmas trees would be put up in the High St on 3rd December

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 10th. November 2005 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.