

DRAFT Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th October 2010 in Bridge Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Beesty, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Lewis, Wilmshurst

55/10-11 **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Beinder, Edmonds and KCC Cllr Northey.

56/10-11. **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.**
Cllr Esdale declared interests in agenda items 7a Member of Farmers' Market Committee, Bridge Going Green and 7b Treasurer of Mill Centre.
Cllr Gulvin declared interests in items 7a Member of Bridge Going Green (Farmers' Market) and 7b PC Rep committee member of Mill Centre.
Cllr Beesty declared an interest in agenda item 7b Chairman of Mill Centre Committee.

57/10-11. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th. September 2010 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

58/10-11 Disposal of business from the last meeting

a. Recreation Ground – Cllr Esdale reported that a fire had been lit in the youth shelter and a petrol can found at the scene. The matter is to be reported to the police. **Action Cllr Esdale**

The bench adjacent to Patricxbourne Road is in need of varnish. Cllr Corfield agreed to re-varnish it. **Action Cllr Corfield**

b. Affordable Housing – The Parish Council has received notification from the High Court of Justice, Queens' Bench Division Administrative Court that permission to apply for a Judicial Review against the planning permission to build 8 Affordable Houses at Brickfields had been refused. Subsequently the Parish Council has received Notice of Renewal of claim for permission to apply for Judicial Review in respect of the City Council's planning decision. The Parish Council deplores the action and regrets the possible delay to its long standing plans for Affordable Housing.

The wording of the above statement was the subject of a vote with 6 members for and 1 against.

c. Bus shelter – Cllr Gulvin reported that the grant from KCC for the bus shelter had now been confirmed and that the order for the frame was to be placed immediately. Serco will install the shelter when ready. **Action Cllr Gulvin**

59/10-11 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

ACRK AGM 15th. September, Lenham – Cllr Esdale

Report circulated by email

Rural Area Members' Panel 27th September – Cllr Hill

Bridge Allotment Association 5th October – Cllr Gulvin

KALC meeting 13th October - Cllr Gulvin

60/10-11 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposals were noted;

Walnut House, Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Remove dead tree & 2 grey alders on boundary with 23 High St

Remove dead wood from walnut tree & clean crown

69 High St, Bridge

Pollard weeping willow in rear garden to approx 1-2 metres below previous pruning points

Bridgeford House, Brewery Lane, Bridge

Fell one leylandii between vegetable patch and pond garden

51 High St, Bridge

Remove growth from trunk of lime tree below pollard points (No Tree Preservation Order applies to this work)

61/10-11 Matters for Discussion and Action

a. **Farmers' Market** - Cllr Esdale reported that the Farmers' Market was to begin on the 13 November and to run fortnightly thereafter on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. The venue was the Red Lion Pub garden and it was hoped to have 10 stalls on the first week with an increasing number in the future. The venture was to be a non profit making organisation and is a formally constituted community group. Cllr Esdale requested £750 from the Parish Council to cover start up costs which it was hoped to repay. It was agreed that £400 could be used from already allocated reserves but that a further grant of £350 should be an agenda item for next month. **Action Cllr Esdale, Clerk**

b. **Ownership of the Mill Centre** - Due to the on going difficulties over the future ownership of the Mill Centre, Cllr Beesty proposed that a joint letter from the Mill Centre Committee and the Parish Council be sent to the Chief Executive of Canterbury City Council, Colin Carmichael with copies to the leader of Canterbury City Council, John Gilbey and local MP, Julian Brazier. The purpose was to outline the various options relating to the purchase or lease of the Mill Centre. It was noted that the Mill Centre committee were not in a position to apply for funding for its purchase, whereas the Parish Council was and the Parish Council would not wish to enter into a lease agreement whereas the Mill Centre Committee would be willing to do so. **Action Cllrs Beesty, Esdale, Clerk**

c. **Playground Report** - No immediate problems were highlighted from the playground report but Cllr Esdale requested that Digley Associates be asked to produce the full report including playability levels for the equipment.

Action Clerk

The spring motorbike and moon were in poor condition and it was agreed to obtain a quote for their replacement.

Action Clerk

The picnic benches were considered a medium risk. For the winter they are to be chained and stored on the hard standing outside the tennis courts.

Action Cllrs Gulvin and Wilmshurst

d. **Parish Newsletter** - It was agreed to include the following topics in the forthcoming Parish Newsletter; Affordable housing, Hedges, Farmers' Market, Christmas Trees, Adult fitness equipment, Recreation ground working party; Art in Bridge. **Action Cllr Corfield**

e. **Payment for Village Hall Renovations** - It was agreed to make payment of the balance of the village hall renovations account between parish council meetings as soon as payment is received from KCC if necessary.

f. **George Pratt Memorial Bench** - Councillors were pleased to accept the generous offer from the family of George Pratt to renew the memorial bench donated in his memory. **Action Cllr Hill**

g. **Christmas Trees** – Despite a complaint from one member of the public it was agreed to install Christmas Trees again this year. Cllr Esdale recommended that the trees were put up on 4th December and removed on 3rd January.

Action Cllr Esdale

h. **Elham Valley Visitors' Group** - It was agreed to refuse a request for funding from the Elham Valley Visitors' Group. **Action Clerk**

i. **Advertisement for Village Bonfire** - It was agreed to allow Bridge Primary School PTA to erect an advertisement for the Village Bonfire on the recreation ground. **Action Clerk**

62/10-11 Correspondence – Noted

63/10-11 Bank transfers:

The council noted the transfer of £26,000 between Parish Council accounts

64/10-11. The following receipts were noted;
 BVHMC for hall renovations £6,650.00
 Payment for Parish Notes July & Sept – £22.08

65/10–11 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*BT	£97.63	Telephone account June/Sept 2010 £83.09 + £14.54 vat
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£693.42	Clerk's salary & allowances for September 2010
Post Office Ltd	£27.83	Employer NI Contributions for September
Mark Esdale	£54.44	Travel to ACRK meetings Lenham, 27 th July & 15 th . Sept = 81 miles @ 40p per mile = £32.40 & Bench fixings for 2 benches = £22.04 (£18.75 +£3.29 vat)
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£50.50	Petty cash
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£24.00	Hire of Village hall Sept – December 2010 =£6.00 X 4
Ann Edmonds	£39.60	Reimbursement 'Bridge in Bloom' prize £20.00 and Chairman's allowance £19.60 Public Inquiry expenses
Ann Edmonds	£19.	
Mark Esdale	£656.99	Expenses for village hall work £559.13 + £97.86 vat
Green Construction Ltd	£22,461.89	50% of Village hall renovation costs (£19,116.50 + £3,345.39 vat)
Saunders House Landscapes Ltd	£1,087.77	Scarification of recreation ground £607.76 + £106.36 vat = £714.12 Grounds maintenance Aug/Sept £318 + £55.65 vat = £373.65
Digley Associates	£47.00	Recreation ground safety inspection £40.00 + £7.00 vat
D Possee	£50.00	Plants, compost etc for High St planters

* Paid by Direct Debit

54/10-11 Any Other Business

- a. Cllr Lewis reported that the cost of the materials purchased for the planting of 3 trees on the recreation ground was £165.50.
- b. It was reported that the post with a reflector in the top "build out" on Town Hill needed re-instating and pot holes were causing a problem at the junction of Bridgefod Way and Brewery Lane. Kent Highways to be informed. **Action Cllr Esdale**
- c. Cllr Hill congratulated the Art in Bridge Committee for the success of the Art exhibition.
- d. It was reported that the new owners of the Red Lion were very community minded and it was understood that they had sponsored the Bridge Sunday football club and donated the proceeds of their official opening day to the school.
- e. Parish councillors wished to record their thanks to Janet Potter for taking the minutes of the meeting in the absence of the clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 11th November 2010 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.