

Minutes of  
**BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Bridge Village Hall

**Present;** Cllrs Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges, Oakey, Ward and Wilmshurst

- 58/11-12**        **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Cook
- 59/11-12.**        **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items
- 60/11/-12**        The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011 were amended at para. 51/11-12 c as follows; 'The bulbs were to be delivered in the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> October and this would be followed by planting on a date to be arranged.' The minutes were then confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 61/11-12**        **Report from KCC Cllr Northey**  
Cllr Northey reported that an unannounced inspection of the Children's Social Services in several districts in Kent had found significant improvements in the service. Youth services were being organised into local hubs in each district to enable efficiency savings to be made without loss of service. A leadership election for the Conservative Party in KCC would be held the following day. Cllr Northey still had a small amount of money available for grant to local projects.
- 62/11-12**        **Report from Cllr Cook** – In the absence of Cllr Cook, Cllr Oakey gave a report on the City Council. KCC and CCC would combine on funding for youth services and other local issues. The new Localism Bill should devolve greater powers to parish council. They would have more say in planning matters and, for example, be able to appoint their own traffic wardens.
- 63/11-12**        **Disposal of Business from last Meeting**
- a. **Recreation ground-** One of the picnic benches had been smashed by vandals. This would be reported to the police, along with recent anti-social behaviour in the Health Centre car park. **Action; Clerk**  
It was reported that the swing seats on the larger set of swings were too low. It was agreed that the Recreation Committee would investigate.  
**Action; Recreation Ground Committee**  
It was agreed to replace the barbed wire along the fence between Riverside Close and the recreation ground with plain wire and to tighten the wire fence so that planting could take place along the fence.  
**Action; Cllr Wilmshurst**  
Pictures of the damaged wet pour would be sent to the suppliers.  
**Action; Cllr Atkinson**  
It was noted that the Environment Agency had cleared the stream bed up stream of the bridge but not downstream.  
It was agreed to publicise the places where the keys to the sand bag store could be obtained in the Newsletter and on the website.  
**Action Cllr Corfield**
- b. **Affordable Housing** – Present and former parish councillors would visit the site on 4<sup>th</sup> November at the invitation of Southern Housing Group. Details of the bid process for the houses would be included in the next Newsletter.
- c. **Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations-** Cllr Atkinson had approached some village groups and would be presenting a request for funding to the November parish council meeting. **Action; Cllr Atkinson**

- d. Mill Centre – Cllr Cook had reported that Canterbury City Council had produced a paper on the future of the Centre, which would be presented to the Executive. There was currently an issue over the valuation of the site.
- e. Methodist Chapel – The chapel had been locally listed by Canterbury City Council as a building of heritage value within a Conservation Area. This would place limits on what could be done with the building in future and should protect it from demolition. An application had been made to English Heritage for national listing.

64/11-12

**Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Rural Area Members' Panel 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 2011 – Cllr Cook Report circulated  
 Canterbury Branch KALC – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 – Cllrs Wilmshurst & Hodges  
 Cllr Wilmshurst reported on a talk on Rural Broadband, which had been given at the KALC District meeting.

65/11-12

**Notice of work to trees in a Conservation Area**

The following proposals were noted;

16, Riverside Close, Bridge

Remove holly tree at rear of property

38 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Remove 2 low hanging ash branches in front garden

Remove small prunus from rear boundary & spindly ash from between specimen beech & sycamore trees

Bridge Recreation Ground, Patrixbourne Rd, Bridge

Remove ash and plum trees with other saplings around sand bag store

Cut back branches of willow overhanging Patrixbourne Rd pavement

Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Remove 2m from low branch of beech tree in front garden growing towards house (Application refused by City Council.)

8 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Crown lift horse chestnut tree on right corner of front boundary to 6m & reduce crown by 30%

14b Riverside Close, Bridge

Remove one old diseased tree from outside the house

66/11-12.

**Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Parish Council's Autumn Newsletter-** The council discussed various topics to be included in the Autumn Newsletter. Copy should be given to the Editor by 25<sup>th</sup> October and the Newsletter would be delivered before the next parish council meeting. **Action; Cllr Corfield**
- b. **Christmas trees-** It was agreed unanimously to erect Christmas trees in the village again this year. Mark Esdale had kindly agreed to organise this. The trees would be put up on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and be taken down during the latter part of the week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. All volunteers to help to put up and take down the trees would be welcome.
- c. **Parking in Patrixbourne Rd-** The council considered a proposal by a resident for passing places to be created in Patrixbourne Rd but decided not to support this suggestion.
- d. **Bus shelter seat-** It was agreed to investigate the possibility of installing tip up seats in the bus shelter near Bridge Pharmacy. **Action; Cllr Wilmshurst**
- e. **Mill Centre Repairs-** The council approved the expenditure of £830 on urgent repairs to the Mill Centre, to be met from Concurrent Function Funding. **Action; Clerk**
- f. **'Friends of Bridge Parish Council'-** It was agreed to encourage the formation of a group, separate from the parish council, willing to raise funds to be spent by the parish council on items for the benefit of the village. The group would include a member of the parish council on its

committee. It was suggested that the name should be amended to 'Friends of Bridge' **Action; Cllr Oakey**

- g. 'Twinning with St Andre** – After much discussion, the parish council agreed in principle to go ahead with the proposal to further the arrangements to facilitate a twinning arrangement with St Andre les Lille in the Pas de Calais, This would be conditional on Bridge residents showing support, a statement from the mayor guaranteeing that Bridge Parish Council would bear no cost and that no additional work would be caused to the Clerk. Residents would be asked to give their views by means of a voting slip in the Autumn Newsletter. **Action; Cllr Oakey**

**67/11-12** **Correspondence List** – Noted

**68/11-12** **Sealing of Documents**

The agreement between Dayspring Football Club and Bridge Parish Council was signed.

The agreement between Bridge Junior Football Club and Bridge Parish Council was signed.

**69/11-12** **Bank Transfers**

The transfer of £2,000 between Parish Council accounts was noted

**70/11-12** **Receipts**

The following receipt was noted;

Dayspring Football Club - £150.00

Bridge Junior Football Club - £100

**71/11-12** The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
*KALC	£72.00	Finance Training Day £60 + £12 vat
~BT	£103.26	Telephone account £86.05 + £17.21 Vat
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£633.57	Clerk's salary and allowances for September 2011
Post Office Ltd.	£100.14	Employer PAYE & NI Contributions for September 2011
Kent County Council	£126.00	KSCP Volunteers weeding hedge on recreation ground £105 + £21 vat
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£48.00	Hire of hall for parish council Sept – Dec £12.00 X 4 = £48.00
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£39.38	Petty cash
AJL Garden Services	£193.95	Recreation ground maintenance September 2011

\* Authorised in September ~Paid by Direct Debit

**72/11-12** **Any other business**

- a. KALC** -Cllr Wilmshurst reported that only two parish councils out of the 26 in the District were not members of Kent Association of Local Councils.
- b. Art in Bridge** – Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Corfield for the excellent Art in Bridge exhibition and said that the exhibition had become part of village tradition.
- c. Photo competition** – Cllr Hill suggested that a local photography competition might form part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.
- d. Time capsule** – Cllr Hill suggested that the school might be asked to create a time capsule to be buried when the affordable housing was formally opened. This would be an agenda item for November.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>.November 2011 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.