

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bridge Parish Council held in the Hunter Room on Thursday 13 September 2001 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs Anderson, Beer, Corfield, Dobson, Gulvin, Hill, Monk and Walder. Cllr Connor attended from 7.58 pm.

Before the meeting commenced the Chairman asked for one minute silence in memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attack in America this week. The meeting commenced at 7.32 pm.

71 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

72 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2001

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

73 BUS SHELTER

The repair work to the fire damaged bus shelter in the High Street has been carried out and the clerk advised that the insurance claim has been settled. Canterbury City Council have agreed to the Parish Council's request for the bus shelter to be swept at the same time as the High Street which is done every Friday.

74 TRAFFIC CALMING

The clerk reported that the floodlighting problem for the neighbouring properties at the zebra crossing has now been resolved. It was reported that there have been several incidents of the pelican crossing lights being damaged probably by high sided vehicles and Cllr Anderson advised that the lights were to be fitted on brackets to alleviate this problem in the future. It was **NOTED** that the clerk had received a letter from a parent using the crossing with two children advising of a potential dangerous incident in which cars failed to stop. This incident had also been reported to the school and the relevant authorities by the parent concerned.

75 MOLE TREATMENT

A further treatment has been carried out by Bounty Pest Control. However, Cllr Gulvin reported that new activity was now evident in another area of the recreation ground and it was **AGREED** that the clerk should contact Bounty Pest Control to arrange for this new area to be treated.

76 SANDBAG STORAGE

Cllr Monk reported that she had met with the representative from Canterbury City Council to discuss the agreed position for the sandbag storage container and that work to extend the existing base at the recreation ground and erect the storage container is scheduled to begin within the next two to three weeks.

77 ALLOTMENTS

The clerk reported that a reply had been received from Mr C Gooch of FPD Savills with reference to the proposal for a woodland area in the upper allotments stating that he cannot consider the request as there are at least 2 allotments occupied at the current time. Mr Gooch suggests planting other areas in Bridge which in due time would improve the environment of the village rather than having a woodland in just one area. Confirmation that the clearance of the lower allotments has been completed has not yet been received and it was **AGREED** that the clerk would write to Mr Gooch to see if this had now been completed and to advise him that quotes for the water supply have been received and the Parish Council are in a position to proceed with the installation as soon as the land is cleared.

78 CONYNGHAM LANE

The clerk reported that school will be including the matter of traffic congestion in the first newsletter to parents in an effort to help alleviate the problems being experienced by the residents. The clerk also reported that the enquiry to Canterbury City Council as to whether there is further funding available for additional street lighting was still in hand.

79 VANDALISM

A police meeting has been arranged at the Village Hall on Thursday, 20 September 2001 at 7.30 pm to

discuss the matter of vandalism within the village.

80 POLICE FORUM MEETING

Cllr Beer attended the meeting on 24 July 2001 and reported that the matters under discussion included the three year community safety plan and the rural warden scheme funded by Kent County Council.

81 UNKEMPT LAND

The clerk reported that Kent Highways have advised that the areas of unkempt land in Western Avenue adjacent to Ford Close and Green Court will be attended to by them in the future.

82 FLOODING

Cllr Connor reported that he had attended three meetings of the Little Stour and Nailbourne River Management Group. A representative of Southern Water had attended one of the meetings and highlighted the need to look at surface water management. Cllr Connor also advised that the Management Group are collating information on incidents of flow back of sewage and requested that any villagers who were affected should write to Jill Thomas, Cobham Court, School Lane, Bekesbourne, Kent CT4 5ET with details of the incident and date of occurrence. Cllr Connor reported that although the flow has decreased in the River Nailbourne in the last few months it was not confirmed as being at its original level and it was likely to flood if excessive rain was experienced over the next few months. It is hoped to be able to give affected households 10 to 14 days advance notice of increased flow in the rivers and it was **AGREED** that an amber and red alert system should be operated within the village with the information sent by post if necessary and Cllr Gulvin **AGREED** to operate the alert system. It was **AGREED** that all affected households would receive personal notification of the alert system and that all villagers would be advised about it in the next Parish Newsletter.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 8.20 pm and invited Rev Paul Filmer to address the Parish Council on the matter of a youth group in the village. The meeting resumed at 8.40 pm.

83 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

(a) **Authorisation of items for payment:** The following items were authorised for payment:

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Oakleigh Building Services	£176.25	Repairs to vandalised bus shelter.
BT	£36.91	Clerk's telephone bill & advance rental.
J Connor	£39.77	Travel expenses to KRCC & KAPC meetings.
Seaboard Contracting Services	£73.14	Repairs to street light - PL 50 -Riverside Close.
Seaboard Contracting Services	£73.14	Repairs to street light - PL by Ford Mill Lane.
Seaboard Contracting Services	£250.50	Fit lighting lantern - PL 46 - Riverside Close.
Seaboard Contracting Services	£32.14	Repairs to street light - PL 47 Bridge Down.
Landscape Services	£587.95	Half yearly grounds maintenance - 2001.
D R Possee	£45.00	Supplying plants & compost for planters & maintenance.
RBS Accounting Solutions	£152.75	Year end accounts preparation.
FPD Savills	£225.00	Half yearly rents.
Joan Stingemore	£5.60	Police Meeting Notice

(b) **Payments received:** £101.25 Cornhill Insurance - bus shelter claim and £367.86 VAT reclaim.

84 RECREATION GROUND FEES

The clerk advised that there will be no U 15's team this season as the club have insufficient members to form a team. It was **AGREED** that the fees for Broomfield United FC and Brymore Sports FC should be reduced to £175 and £65 respectively as poor weather conditions last season prevented the teams making full use of the pitches.

85 AUDIT

The clerk advised that an audit of the accounts had been carried out by the District Audit and she had attended the interview on 12 September 2001. The clerk understood that the audit was satisfactory and will be confirmed in writing in due course. It was **NOTED** that Cllr Hill had carried out an internal check of the accounts in July.

86 BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE SCHOOL

i) **School Roof:** It was unanimously **AGREED** to endorse the decision made at an informal meeting of the Parish Council on 25 August 2001 at which the letter to Bill Murphy, Head of Planning at Kent County Council was agreed. The Parish Council is to take no further action.

ii) It was **AGREED** that the Chairman of Governors, Mrs Grace Goodman, should be invited to address councillors at the next meeting.

87 VILLAGE HALL DISABLED ACCESS

Cllr Gulvin reported that planning permission had been granted and tenders to carry out the work requested. Cllr Gulvin also reported that the proceeds from the Art in Bridge Exhibition to be held in October would be going to the disabled access fund.

88 DRAFT CONSULTATION ON NEW PROCEDURES FOR CONCURRENT FUNCTIONS GRANTS

It was **AGREED** that, before making any amendments or suggestions to the draft consultation document, the clerk should invite Cllr Bill Oakey and the Community Development Officer, Debbie Adams, to address the Parish Council on the matter at the October meeting.

89 NEWSLETTER

Cllr Dobson provided the proof for the Autumn/Winter Newsletter and requested that councillor's contributions to the newsletter should be with her by the end of September. It was **AGREED** that the newsletter should be distributed before the October meeting.

90 GREEN BURSARY AWARD APPLICATIONS 2001/2002

Councillors were asked whether they knew of any community groups who might be interested in applying for an award and Cllr Corfield thought the Red Lion Association could be interested and **AGREED** to provide them with the details.

91 PLANTERS

It was **AGREED** that, as the response to the floral competition was poor and did not go ahead, the prize would be presented to Mrs Possee for her splendid planter display on the corner of the High Street and Western Avenue as a token of the Parish Council's appreciation for her work in planting and maintaining them for the benefit of the whole village.

92 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) **Applications received:** The following new application has been received and considered:
CA/01/0869/BRI - Erection of detached garage/log store at Old Renville Farm House, Renville, Bridge.
- (b) **Planning applications granted:** The following planning applications have been notified as granted:
CA/01/0701/BRI - Replacement porch including pitched roof over garage at 55 Bridge Down, Bridge.
CA/01/0292/BRI - Two single storey extensions and external alterations at The New Close Residential Home, Conyngham Lane, Bridge.
CA/01/0684/BRI - Access ramp to rear of village hall at Bridge Village Hall, 28 High Street, Bridge.
CAL01/0071/BRI - Demolition of existing conservatory and replace with single-storey extension at 90 High Street, Bridge.
CA/01/0487/BRI - Single-storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory at 90 High Street, Bridge.
CAL01/0081/BRI - Slab reinstatement to basement floor at 67 High Street, Bridge.
- (c) **Applications refused:** No applications have been notified as refused.
- (d) **Notice of Intention:** The following notice of intention has been received and will not have a Tree Preservation Order served by Canterbury City Council:
Fell small tree in front garden at 11 Riverside Close, Bridge.

93 RURAL WHITE PAPER

Cllr Corfield reported that the sub-committee had met and although the need for a parish plan was recognised they felt that there would be benefit in doing substantial preliminary work first. It was felt that to proceed with the village directory in the first instance would be beneficial and that the Parish Council should consider standing orders. The clerk was requested to obtain a model for standing orders and circulate these to councillors before the next meeting.

94 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) **Environment, Footpaths & Trees: i) Footpaths:** Cllr Connor reported that all footpaths were open and he had walked them all in the last two months and they were well used and in reasonable

condition. ii) **Trees:** A resident in Riverside Close has reported that trees in the recreation ground are close to her roof and Cllr Beer has reported a tree on the land adjacent to Ford Close which may need attention. Cllr Monk has **AGREED** to contact Mr J Lambourne, Tree Preservation Officer, of Canterbury City Council and will meet with him to assess what work may be need to be carried out.

- (b) **Recreation Ground:** Cllr Gulvin reported that there is a problem in the playground and the posts of the old slide have now become exposed. The clerk confirmed that Wicksteed had already been notified and they were due to call out and inspect during the past week but to date had not done so. The clerk was requested to contact them again and arrange for them to inspect immediately and to also report on the wet pour surface under the swings which is in need of attention. The chain link fence near the gate also requires repairs and the clerk was requested to ask Oakleigh Building Services to attend to this matter. It was reported that the the grounds had been cleared of rubbish and debris.
- (c) **Streets, Footways and Lighting:** Maurice Smith has reported the following direct to Canterbury City Council: hole, blocked drain and street light out in Union Road, hole in Mill Lane, foliage obscuring signs on approach road to A2, oil drum by chicanes, damage to belisha beacon x 2 and broken hydrant sign in Saxon Road. There is a dislodged metal cover adjacent to the pavilion which needs to be attended to. The stop sign in Union Road is to be renewed in due course. Maurice Smith also reported that action was slow when street monitors reported faults and the clerk was requested to write to Cllr Oakey to request his help in getting the City Council to respond more quickly.

95 **KAPC/KRCC MATTERS**

Cllr Connor had nothing to report as there had been no meetings during August.

96 **ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION AND INFORMATION**

The following items had been received and were available for distribution:

- (a) Better Healthcare - Consultation Document
- (b) Rural Revival Annual Report
- (c) Kent Police Authority News - July 2001
- (d) Kent Trails - Issue 3
- (e) CPRE Rural Matters - July 2001
- (f) Pfizer News - August 2001
- (g) CPRE Kent - Autumn/Winter 2001-2001
- (h) New Approach to Local Council Audit
- (i) North Downs Way Annual Report and Leaflets
- (j) Local Council Review
- (k) Clerks & Councils Direct
- (l) Local Council Review
- (m) Environment Agency Business Plan 2001/02
- (n) CPRE Planning Update

97 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 11 October 2001.

The chairman thanked councillors for all their hard work and there being no further business closed the meeting at 9.55 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....