

Minutes of  
**BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>.September 2012 in Bridge Village Hall

- Present;** Cllrs Hill, (Chairman), Atkinson, Corfield, Edmonds, Hodges, Oakey (to item 10), Wilmshurst, CCC Cllr Cook and KCC Cllr Northey
- 49/12-13** **Apologies for absence;** There were apologies for absence from Cllr Ward
- 50/12-13** **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.**  
There were declarations of interest by Cllr Oakey on agenda item 9c – member CCC Development Management Committee. Cllrs Atkinson and Corfield item 9c - Both reside close to SHLAA/201 site.
- 51/12-13** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup>. July and 15<sup>th</sup> August 2012 were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman.
- 52/12-13** **Matters arising;** There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- 53/12-13** **Report from CCC Cllr Simon Cook**  
Cllr Cook reported that this month the budget process would begin and the city council would be seeking to make savings without cutting services. Residents were urged to make their views known on the Westgate Towers consultation. The draft Local District Plan would be published in November and there would be a 6-week consultation period. A further consultation period would take place in April 2013 before the plan was submitted to the Inspectorate. It was intended that the Plan would be adopted in 2014. Residents were encouraged to make their views known on all aspects of the Plan for the District. More information was available on the city council's website.
- 54/12-13** **Report from KCC Cllr Michael Northey**  
Cllr Northey had asked KCC what was being done to register its concern at the size of the increase in rail fares for passengers in Kent. There would be no rise in Council Tax next year for the third year. A saving of £60 million was required in the budget and this was leading to promotion of new ways of doing things by KCC, for example more care in the home for the elderly.
- 55/12-13** **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation Ground-** Cllr Hodges thanked people who had donated plants and seeds to the wild flower project. She announced that a working party would take place on the recreation ground on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Volunteers should meet at the pavilion at 9.00am. The fence by the pavilion had been damaged. It was agreed to decide how it should be replaced at the next parish council meeting  
Cllr Wilmshurst said that special brackets had been made to help to protect the pavilion guttering from damage by footballs. Cllr Corfield reported that Wicksteed had repaired the larger A frame swing. The Clerk reported that Digley Associates had carried out the playground safety inspection and that it was likely that the A frame swings would need replacing. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.  
An application for funding for the renewal of the wet pour had been made to the city council. An application would be made to Viridor for funding as soon as all the required documentation had been obtained.
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Mr Connor reported that an exhibition showing the results of the analysis of the questionnaire up to that date had been held in the village hall on 25<sup>th</sup>. August. A decision would be taken by the Committee as to whether to use the services of a volunteer professional planner. It was expected that the Neighbourhood Plan would take about 2 years to complete.
- c. **Bus shelter seat** – Deferred to next meeting

**56/12-13 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation area**

The following proposals were noted;

Land just past Bridge Health Centre

Remove branch of tree at narrowest point currently below car height (Exempt)

11 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA

Pollard damson in front garden. Remove low branch of hazel in front garden. Remove low branch of hazel over roof & crown lift to give approx 2 m clearance. Remove branches of hazel growing over no 13. Remove 2 branches of hazel growing towards BT cables. Pollard elder by the BT box to approx 2.5 m

18 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Fell Leylandii in rear garden

Fell leylandii in front garden

It was reported that the willow by the tennis court needed attention.

**Action; Tree Warden & Clerk**

**57/12-13 Matters for Discussion and Action**

- a. **Resignation of Cllr Simon Cook** – Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Cook for his work as parish councillor. The vacancy had been notified by the city council in the normal way.
- b. **Audit of Parish Accounts 2011/12** – Councillors noted that the Audit Commission had completed the audit of the parish accounts without qualification.
- c. **Boundaries for possible housing development of SHLAA sites** – Following much discussion, it was agreed to draw the boundary of the area acceptable for housing development on SHLAA site /201 (land west of the A2) alongside the present boundary of Bridge Health Centre, to finish level with the Centre's perimeter fence and approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the proposed site wide. A maximum of 10 houses for families to be built on this site during the period of the District Plan. It was agreed to draw the boundary for SHLAA site /186 (Brickfields) along the top of the field, to follow the line of the existing affordable housing and extend it as far as necessary to accommodate a maximum of 8 affordable housing units to be built during the period of the Local District Plan. A map showing the extent of the two areas for development would be submitted to the city council with the parish council's formal response to the SHLAA site proposals.  
The above was agreed by a majority of 6 councillors with one councillor voting against. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Proposed Introduction of electronic payments for parish councils**- It was agreed that the response from KALC to this consultation was sensible. It was pointed out that as yet no system had been suggested that would be easier to operate and as secure as the current cheque system. The parish council would continue to monitor developments.
- e. **Overhanging branches** It was agreed that in future a letter would be sent by the parish council to residents who failed to cut back overhanging branches which impeded pedestrians. Cllr Oakey undertook to obtain an example of a letter used for this purpose in one of his ward villages. **Action; Cllr Oakey & Clerk**
- f. **Bridge in Bloom** – Cllr Edmonds announced that the presentation of awards for 'Bridge in Bloom' would be held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>. September at 3.00pm in Mansfield Court. All councillors were welcome to attend. Flowers would be presented to Mansfield Court, which won the Community Garden award again, Penny Spencer would be presented with a garden token and the Red Lion would be awarded a shield, which was being engraved. Cllr Edmonds thanked Viv Brazier for her help in judging the competition. Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Edmonds for organising the competition again.
- g. **Volunteers for the recreation ground** – Cllr Hodges informed the parish council that she would be setting up a task force of volunteers to work on the recreation ground. She would welcome offers of help from anyone who was able to give some time to this. Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Hodges for her work on the wild flower project.

**58/12-13 Correspondence – Noted**

**59/12-13 Bank transfers:**

The council noted the transfer of £2,500 between Parish Council accounts

**60/12-13.** The following receipt was noted;

HMRC – Reimbursement of VAT payments - £150.53

**61/12–13** 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	£593.21	Clerk's salary and allowances for July 2012
*Post Office Ltd	£160.30	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution July
*AJL Garden Services	£141.80	Recreation ground maintenance July 2012
Tony Walder – Footpaths Officer	£16.18	Consumables for strimmer £13.49 + £2.69 vat
Digley Associates Ltd	£48.00	Playground safety inspection for July 2012 = £40.00 + £8.00 vat
Christobel Seath – Clerk	£593.39	Clerk's salary and allowances for August 2012
Post Office Ltd	£160.32	PAYE & Employer NI Contribution August 2012
Audit Commission	£342.00	Audit fee for 2011/12 - £285.00 + £57.00 vat
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	£26.40	2 X Pentagon Keys + p & p for swings £18.00 + £4.40 vat
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	£234.84	Spare parts and labour costs for fitting bolts & washers, tie bars and end caps to log swing £195.70 + £39.14 vat.
M J Gulvin	£222.75	Reimbursement of expenses for materials used for Neighbourhood Plan Exhibition £185.63 + £37.12 vat
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£33.94	Petty cash
Savills Client Account	£275.00	Rental for recreation ground 25/3/12-28/9/12
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£96.00	Invoice 64 Hire of hall for Parish Council June, July, August + exhibition = £48.00. Invoice 77 Hire of hall parish council Sept to Dec 2012 = £48.00
AJL Garden Services	£141.80	Recreation ground maintenance August 2012

\* Paid during August

**62/12-13 Any Other Business**

- a. **Highways & Transportation Seminar** – Cllr Atkinson agreed to represent the parish council at KCC's Highways & Transportation Seminar in Ashford on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October

The meeting closed at 9.32 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>. October 2012 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.