

Parish Council Elections

5th May 2011



Your village needs you

On May 5th there will be nine seats to contest.

Several existing Councillors will not stand for re-election this year.

There will be new faces on the Council.

One of these could be yours or someone you know.

Perhaps there are people you would want to have on the Council, so

– **encourage them to stand.**

Perhaps there are people you would not want to have on the Council, so

– **ensure that you stand or get others to stand for election.**

You will only get the Parish Council you want, if you and those like you get involved.

These are exciting times to be on the Council as the Government promotes the **Big Society** and promises more power to Parish Councils, especially in Planning matters.



Out with the old Parish Council and in with YOU?

Almost any voter can stand for election – you only need have certain connections with the village.

If you are interested in standing for election as a councillor do talk to the Parish Clerk on 831085, or contact Electoral Services at Canterbury City Council on 01227 862003 who will also answer your questions and provide Nomination papers (which must be returned between 18th March & 4th April).

What services does the Parish Council provide?

Their work falls into three main categories:

- **representing your local community**
- **delivering services to meet local needs**
- **striving to improve the quality of life in Bridge**

The Parish Council provides, maintains or contributes to services such as:

- allotments
- bus shelters
- parks and open spaces
- crime reduction
- planning
- community centres
- leisure facilities
- street cleaning
- cycle paths
- traffic calming
- youth projects

How does the Parish Council make decisions?

Your Parish Council is made up of nine councillors, who are elected every 4 years, who meet regularly. As an elected body, the Parish Council is responsible to the people they represent – that is, Bridge village.

Where do they get their money from?

Each year a sum of money called a 'precept' is collected through your council tax.

This money is invested back into your local neighbourhood by your Parish Council to improve facilities and services for you and your neighbours. The Council can also apply for grants.

Annual Parish Meeting

7.30 pm Wednesday 27th April
Bridge Village Hall

Come and hear what the Parish Council has done and how it has spent your money. There will also be speakers talking about **applying for the new affordable housing**.

This is your opportunity to question your local and Parish Councillors and talk to them over a drink after the meeting. Everyone welcome.

Farmers' Market 12th & 26th March

Every 2nd & 4th Saturday
9am – 12 noon
Red Lion Inn, Bridge, CT4 5LB



Spring Clean Litter-Pick

Please come to the Post office at
2.00 pm Saturday 12th March
and help clean up the village.

Use your Library

Did you know that the Mobile Library visits the village every **Thursday afternoon**, in Green Court, from **4.15 pm until 5.15 pm**?

Unless more people use it, with the cutbacks in funding, the village could well lose this valuable asset. So do go along, **your Library needs you!** Hint – their results are judged on the number of *books* borrowed, rather than the number of *borrowers*, so that is why on a Thursday evening you may see the 'regulars' leaving the library van with armfuls of books. **See you there!**

To contact the Council

Please write, telephone or email the
Parish Clerk: Christobel Seath, Bridgeford House, Brewery Lane, Bridge, CT4 5LF,
tel: 01227 831085
email: clerk@bridgevillage.org.uk

Bridge Parish Councillors

- Ann Edmonds** **Chairman**, Affordable Housing, Footpaths, Parish Forum
01227 830795
ann@bridgevillage.org.uk
- John Hill** **Vice-Chairman**, Planning, Rural Area Member Panel, Affordable Housing
01227 830215
johnh@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Colin Beesty** Recreation Ground, Mill Centre, BVST
07989 495202
colin@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Barbara Beinder** Village Hall, Recreation Ground, Bridge School
01227 830514
barbara@bridgevillage.org.uk
- John Corfield** Recreation Ground, Newsletter, Web site
01227 830976
johnc@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Mark Esdale** Affordable Housing, Village Hall, Mill Centre, Police Forum, Web site
01227 832740
mark@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Mervyn Gulvin** Recreation Ground, Mill Centre, BVST, Allotment Association, Nailbourne Group
01227 830881
mervyn@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Selwyn Lewis** Planning Committee, Trees, Police Forum
01227 830186
selwyn@bridgevillage.org.uk
- Terry Wilmshurst** Planning Committee, KAPC
01227 830310
terry@bridgevillage.org.uk

Bridge village web site

Visit the web site for village news, information, agendas & minutes of Council and Planning meetings

www.bridgevillage.org.uk

BRIDGE

Parish Council

Caring for the village

Spring 2011 Newsletter



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Next Parish Council meeting

7.15 pm Planning Committee
7.30 pm Full Council

Thursday 10th March 2011
Bridge Village Hall - all welcome