

Draft Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2008 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill, Lewis and Wilmshurst also County Cllr M Northey

- 94/07-8. Apologies for absence**; There were no apologies for absence
- 95/07-8. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items**. There was a declaration of interest on agenda item number .6 Cllr Esdale (owner of Lynton House)
- 96/07-8.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th. December 2007 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 97/07-8** Cllr Northey informed the Parish Council that the KCC budget was being prepared and would be set on 19th. February.
The Audit Commission is currently carrying out a Corporate Performance Assessment of KCC. It is hoped that KCC will retain its four star status which allows for fewer inspections and more freedom. If its star status is reduced the council will be subjected to more government intervention and scrutiny. Cllr Northey undertook to represent the view of the Parish Council at the forthcoming parking regulation review (see item 107a.below)
- 98/07-8. Disposal of business from the last meeting**
a. Recreation ground – The hedge between the children’s play area and the Health Centre needs to be trimmed back. Cllr Lewis volunteered to do this.
Action; Cllr Lewis
A hawthorn tree near the new hedge planting has been up-rooted and needs to be re-planted. Cllr Esdale volunteered to do this. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
Cllr Gulvin reported that the football pitch would not be used for two weeks to enable the grass to re-grow and the pitch to recover from seasonal damage. Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllr and Mrs Corfield for picking up litter on the recreation ground.
The new signs indicating that dogs, golf and cycling were not permitted on the recreation ground would be erected shortly. **Action; Cllrs Gulvin & Esdale**
b. Higham Park- Planning Consultant Dr Wendy Le-Las had agreed to act for the Parish Council at the appeal hearing by the Planning Inspectorate concerning Higham Park’s planning application on Tuesday 19th. February at 10.00am at the City Council offices. It was agreed that Cllr Gulvin would liaise with Dr Le-Las and attend the meeting. Details of the meeting would be placed on the village website and posters would be put up in the village informing residents of the date and time of the meeting and it was hoped that many residents would attend to support the parish council in its objections to this development. **Action :Cllrs Gulvin, Esdale & Clerk**
c. 24 High Street – The Kent Law Clinic had submitted the application to the High Court for a judicial review regarding the decision on 24 High St and a copy had been sent to Canterbury City Council.
- 99/07-8 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Cllrs Hill and Wilmshurst reported on the meeting of the Canterbury Branch of the KALC. There had been a presentation about the Canterbury Credit Union Ltd which offers low interest loans to members. Information sessions were held on Saturdays at the Canterbury Library between 10.00am and 12.00pm. Posters would be put up in the village giving details of this organisation. **Action; Clerk**
- 100/07-8 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area**
The following proposals were noted;

32 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Remove a conifer tree from right hand side at the back of the rear garden

Lynton House, 83 High Street, Bridge

Remove holly tree from garden to restore Victorian greenhouse

8a Conyngham Lane

Fell conifer in front garden to allow connection to main services

The Burrden 2 Conyngham Lane, Bridge

Fell scotts pine growing too close to proposed extension

101/07-8 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Kent Air Ambulance** – After discussion it was agreed not to make a donation to the Kent Air Ambulance Service. The Council fully supported the aims and work of this charity but believed that it was not able to set a precedent by giving charitable donations from Parish Precept funds.

102/07-8 Sealing of Documents

The agreement between Bridge Junior Football Club and Bridge Parish Council for 2007/8 Season was signed.

Signing of Kent Parish Council Website Agreement deferred to the next meeting

103/07-8 Correspondence - Noted

104/07-8 Transfer – The transfer of £1,000 between Parish Council accounts was noted

105/07-8 The following receipts were noted;

Christmas tree donations -£368

Allianz Insurance claim for stolen bench - £444.00

EDF Energy (Riverside Close rental) - £3.45

106/07-8.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

| Payee | Amount | Purpose |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---|
| Christobel N Seath | £610.89 | Clerk's Salary and office allowance – December 2007 |
| BT (paid by DD) | £58.95 | Telephone account £50.17 + £8.78 vat |
| Ann Edmonds | £47.93 | Chairman's allowance |
| Campaign to Protect Rural England | £27.00 | Annual Subscription |

107/07-8. Any other business;

- a. **Parking Regulation Review** – The Parish Council disagreed with the proposals to be put by the Canterbury City Council Transport Team to the Joint Transportation Board in February. The proposal R04 for a double yellow line down one side of Filmer Rd would not solve the problems of the area and would cause more problems in other parts of the village as cars needed to be parked somewhere. Similarly the council was against proposal R07 to put double yellow lines at the corner of Union Rd and Dering Rd. This was unnecessary. The proposal R09 for double yellow lines at the junction of Aunt Betsy's Hill and the High Street was not the preferred option of the Parish Council. It would result in the loss of many parking spaces. The council had asked for kerb extensions to be placed at this and other junctions along the High Street. The proposal to place double yellow lines at the junction by the recycling point at Town Hill R10 was regarded as completely unnecessary. There had never been a parking problem in that area. The council expressed concern at the assumption by the city council that increasing the number of yellow lines in the village would solve its parking problems. There were serious difficulties over enforcement and it was felt that the proliferation of yellow lines was inappropriate in a rural area. It was agreed to write to the city council outlining the Parish Council's objections to the proposals and asking why previously agreed measures had not been implemented. The issue of rumble strips for the A2 slip road would also be raised. A copy of the letter would be sent to Cllr Michael Northey.
- Action; Clerk**

- b. **Mill Centre** – Negotiations on the new lease were continuing. It was agreed to send a copy of the draft lease to KAPC for comment and advice. **Action ; Clerk**
- c. **Western Ave/Mill Lane junction** - It was reported that the contractors repairing the gas mains in Brewery Lane and the High Street had been dumping their equipment on the grass verge at the corner of Western Avenue and Mill Lane. This had damaged the verge and it was agreed to write to Morrisons asking that they made good the verge once the work had been completed. **Action; Clerk**
- d. **Affordable Housing** – Southern Housing Group had not contacted the parish council for some time and it was agreed to ask SHG for an update on the current situation regarding the project. **Action; Clerk**
- e. **Skate Park** – Cllr Hill reported that he had visited several skate parks in the area recently and remarked on their popularity with young people.
- f. **CPRE Conference on Climate Change** – Cllr Hill agreed to represent the Parish Council at this meeting. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- g. **Parish Forum Meeting 1st March** – Cllr Esdale agreed to represent the Parish Council at this meeting. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
- h. **Writing Better Bids 14th. February** – Cllr Edmonds agreed to represent the Parish Council at this meeting. **Action; Cllr Edmonds**
- i. A letter of sympathy had been sent to Dr Peter Giles on the recent death of his wife.
- j. Following a complaint from a resident, it was agreed to find out the width of a fire engine to ascertain whether it would be possible for emergency services to reach the houses at the rear of the Laurie Wakeham's shop when the butcher's van was parked there overnight and at weekends. **Action; Clerk**
- k. **Welcome Pack** – ACRK had funding available to assist parishes to implement their parish plans and had suggested to Bridge Parish Council that it would be willing to help with funding the Welcome Pack for new residents. It was agreed that samples of the welcome packs from other villages would be obtained with a view to deciding whether the Bridge pack could be improved with the help of funding from ARK . **Action; Cllr Edmonds & Clerk**
- l. **Christmas trees** – Cllr Edmonds thanked all those councillors and village residents who had helped to take down the Christmas trees and especially Cllr Esdale who had organised the Christmas tree display again. It was agreed to write and thank Mr & Mrs McNeill for providing sandwiches and coffee to the volunteers during the morning. **Action; Clerk**

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 14th. February 2008 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.