

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th July 2007 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds(Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill Lewis and Wilmshurst.

- 31/07-8. Apologies for absence;** There were no apologies for absence.
- 32/07-8. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were declarations of interest and lobbying made by Cllr Beinder (Item 7e), Cllr Esdale (item 7c) Cllr Hill (item 7c) and Cllr Wilmshurst (item 6).
- 33/07-8.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th June 2007 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 34/07-8. Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation ground** – Cllr Beinder has taken over the weekly inspection folder. It was agreed to make no changes to the specifications against which quotations are invited for maintenance of the ground. SERCO would be starting work on the pavilion, which would include minor internal alterations. A dressing had been applied to the football pitch. It was hoped that in future Canterbury City Football Club would give notice of such work so that Kent Landscape Services could be informed. The new bench by the children's play area had disappeared. If not found, its theft would be reported to the police. **Action; Cllrs Esdale /Beinder & Clerk**
- b. **The Mill Centre**- David Kemp, CCC's Senior Surveyor would be submitting a request for the current lease to be taken over by Bridge Parish Council at the next meeting of the Executive. Meanwhile he had asked the Mill Centre Committee to supply details of the daily activities at the Centre, information about the repairs needed and their approximate costs and for a site visit. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
- c. **Affordable Housing** – Cllr Esdale reported on the meeting held between the Affordable Housing Committee and representatives of the Southern Housing Group, Canterbury City Council and ACRK on 9th July. As a result of this meeting, several small changes to the draft Section 106 Agreement would be put to the parish council for approval at the September meeting. These changes had been proposed by Alan White of CCC to achieve consistency with other local rural housing schemes. The draft 106 Agreement was being vetted by the SHG lawyers. Meanwhile the parish council would publicise the scheme and seek firm applications for housing by distributing application forms and covering letters to every house in the village. ACRK would supply the forms and pre-paid reply envelopes and SHG would send a covering letter outlining probable rents. **Action; Councillors/Clerk**
- d. **Restoration of Old Street Names** – Cllr Beinder had asked for permission from the property owners to fix a name plate on the wall of Brewery Lane. A request for a quotation had been sent to the sign maker. Cllr Beinder would pursue this. **Action Cllr Beinder**
- e. **Proposed Changes to Development Control Procedures** – There had been a positive response from other parish council to this. More replies were expected once parish council had met during this month. There had also been support at the KAPC Canterbury Branch meeting. It was agreed that the next step would be to ask City Councillors to support it **Action; Clerk**
- 35/07-8 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**
Cllr Wilmshurst reported on the KAPC Canterbury Branch Meeting held on 11th July
Cllr Beinder would circulate a written report on the ACRK 'Strawberries and Cream' Council Meeting held on 9th July.

36/07-8 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposals were noted;

Barberry Cottage, Patricxbourne Rd, Bridge

Fell one silver birch in middle of rear garden

Fell one middle aged Ash growing into adjacent yew

Fell one partially collapsed silver birch growing over neighbours

Fell two dying Norway spruce

Remove dead wood from alder and a dead elder at rear of house

11 High St, Bridge

Remove one fir tree and three alders growing close to property

1 Riverside Close, Bridge

Remove one dead rowan tree

The Rectory, 23 High St, Bridge

Fell line of 6 cypress trees from boundary of rear garden

Lift lower branches of an oak, yew, Norway maple in front garden

Fell leaning elder in rear garden and lift branches of adjacent holly over neighbours garden

Action; Clerk

37/07-8 Matters for Discussion and Action

a) **Cycle Route from Bridge to Canterbury** – The Parish Council congratulated Dermott Stewart on his report and the work he had done in getting the community involved in plans for the cycle route. The road route appeared to be the worst option. It was agreed to write to Mr Stewart and ask if he needed any assistance from the parish council. The issue could be included on the September agenda once Ruth Goudie's report had been received.

Action; Clerk

b) **Affordable Housing Applications**; This was discussed under item 34.c. above.

c) **Youth Shelter** ; It was agreed to proceed with this project. Following a site meeting it was decided to put the shelter by the Health Centre fence, in the corner near the goal post. It was agreed to review the success of the shelter twelve months after its installation. The Youth Group would be asked to submit the application for funding. Cllr Beesty and the Clerk would liaise over quotations for the preferred design to be submitted with the funding bid. Adding a basket-ball hoop and skate board area was also agreed as a longer term aim.

Action; Cllrs Beesty & Esdale and Clerk

d) **September Newsletter** ; Items to be included in the next newsletter were discussed. 1st. September would be the deadline for submitting copy for inclusion in the September newsletter so that a draft could be prepared for approval at the September meeting of the parish council.

Action; Councillors

e) **Bridge Primary School Admissions policy** ; Following the response from the Headteacher at Bridge Primary School, it was agreed to write to the local MP and Kent County Councillor to ask for the order of the criteria for admissions to be changed so that proximity to the school was given the second priority, after children in local authority care. A letter would also sent to the Headteacher advising her of this decision. It was noted that Sebastian Apps had been given a place at the school following an appeal.

Action; Clerk

f) **Annual Financial Return 2006-7** – This was amended and signed as requested by the Audit Commission.

Action; Clerk

g) **Bus Shelter** - It was agreed to seek a quotation for the repair of the bus shelter at the top of Bridge Hill, which had been vandalised.

Action; Clerk

h) **Overgrown Section of Conyngham Lane** – It was agreed to write to Cantley Estates to draw their attention to this area. However, it was felt that some light pruning by residents could resolve the problem. It was also agreed to write to the Agents of Cantley Estates pointing out that fly tipping was occurring at the Old Timber Yard and asking them to secure the gate. The pothole at the entrance to Conyngham Lane would also be reported to the agents.

Action; Clerk

i) **Dogs on the Recreation Ground**; The council considered a letter from Mrs Shirley asking that dogs on leads be allowed on the paths on the recreation ground. Whilst the

parish council recognised that legally dogs could not be excluded from the right of way that crosses the recreation ground, it was decided to take no action because the parish council wishes to discourage dog owners from taking their dogs onto the ground.

Action; Clerk

- j) **Zebra Crossing beacons outside the post office** – It was agreed to ask Kent Highways Authority to fit longer shields on the beacon lights because a resident living nearby had complained about disturbance caused by the flashing light.

Action; Clerk

- k) **Safety measures at the zebra crossing outside the post office-** It was agreed to write to Kent Highways Agency to point out that drivers were continuing to park illegally on the zig zag lines outside the post office and to ask them what solution they could propose to prevent this.

It was also agreed to write to the Headteacher of Bridge Primary School in time for the start of the Autumn term to ask her to send out a letter to parents pointing out that parking on the zigzag lines to drop off their children was dangerous and illegal.

It was agreed to write to Superintendent Joanna Young to request morning and the end of afternoon school time monitoring of the zig zag lines from time to time.

It was further agreed that Cllr Esdale would produce a notice to be placed on windscreens or given to drivers who parked on the zig zag lines explaining that this was illegal and dangerous.

Action; Cllr Esdale/ Clerk

38/07-8 Correspondence – Noted.

39/07-8. It was noted that the sum of £1,000.00 would be transferred this month between the two accounts held by Bridge Parish Council.

Action; Clerk

40/07-08 The following receipt was noted:

Bridge Tennis Club Subscription for 2007 - £100.00

41/07-8.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
KAPC	£64.62	Chairmanship Day, 14 th . July 2007 £55.00 + £9.62 vat
BT	£65.17	Telephone account £55.46 + £9.71 vat (paid by direct debit)
Parochial Church Council	£100.00	Contribution to the cost of 'On the Nail'
Christobel N Seath	£585.28	Clerk's Salary and office allowance –June 2007
Mark Esdale	£176.24	Paper Folding Machine £149.99+ £26.25 vat
Christobel Seath	£37.68	Petty Cash
Society of Local Council Clerks	£85.00	Annual subscription 2007-8
Mark Esdale	£186.12	2 filing cabinets £158.40 + £27.72 vat
Ordnance Survey	£55.81	Paper Map Copying Licence £47.50 + £8.31 vat

42/07-8. Any other business

- a) Fly tipping at the top of Bridge Hill was reported by Cllr Lewis. He had gathered evidence of the perpetrator and handed it to Serco for action. Cllr Lewis had also recently cleared overgrown vegetation from the bridge at the Nailbourne ford and cleaned the steps on Bridge Hill
- b) There had been no response so far to the Higham Park issue referred via KAPC to NALC's legal team but it was pointed out that they were unlikely to suggest a solution.
- c) Cllr Hill reported that lorries were still getting lost in the High Street and he had received a letter from a resident complaining about this. Cllr Hill had also reported

details of fly tipping of double glazing materials at the re-cycling point to the authorities.

- d) Cllr Gulvin reported that the new smoking area at the Plough and Harrow was making the area very noisy at night. It was impossible to go to bed until after closing time.
- e) Cllr Esdale reported that the path from Renville to Whitehill Woods CB309 was very overgrown. This had been reported to the Public Rights of Way on several occasions.
Action; Clerk
- f) The possibility of the parish council buying a strimmer was discussed.

The meeting closed at 10.16pm.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 13th. September 2007 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.