

Minutes of  
**BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th June 2006 in Bridge Village Hall

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

19. **Apologies for absence;** There were no apologies for absence
20. Amanda Sparkes of Canterbury City Council and Sue Radcliffe, Police Community Support Officer, discussed the possibility of setting up a youth shelter in the village. It was agreed that a local consultation would be carried out. Amanda would arrange for separate questionnaires for young people and older people to be drafted. These would be available at the village fete, where there would be a presentation with promotional literature/ catalogues. The village youth group would be consulted at its next meeting. The scouts and guides would also be consulted. Following the consultation process, local residents' views would be sought. It was agreed that the clerk would obtain as many catalogues as possible for display at the fete. Sue Radcliffe would obtain feedback from other PCSOs with experience of youth shelters in their areas. **Action; Amanda Sparkes/Sue Radcliffe/Clerk**
21. **Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items.** There were no declarations of interest.
22. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2006 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
23. **Disposal of business from the last meeting**
- a. **Recreation ground** – Cllr Beinder agreed to take over the recreation ground folder from Cllr Lewis at the end of the month. Mr Mortley had installed the repaired bench on the recreation ground. Cllr Lewis had trimmed the damaged willow tree. It was reported that the tennis club had planted trees to replace the trees overhanging the courts that had been removed. It was reported that the concrete on the bench near the surgery had been smashed by vandals. Cllr Gulvin agreed to get a quotation for its repair. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
  - b. **Information Board** – Cllr Hill was obtaining catalogues and would report back to the next meeting. **Action; Cllr Hill**
  - c. **Flood Map** –Deferred to next meeting. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
  - d. **Low cost housing** - It was reported that the Low Cost Housing Committee would meet with Jennifer Shaw of ACRK and Sally Richards of the Southern Housing Group on 12<sup>th</sup>. June to discuss the next steps with the group likely to take on the affordable housing project.
  - e. **By-pass celebrations** – Cllr Esdale would organise the information panels and he and Cllr Hill would provide gazebos for the exhibit and the youth shelter display. Councillors were asked to assemble at 10.00am at the school field if they were able to assist with setting up the display and to be available during the afternoon to help with manning the exhibits. **Action; Councillors**
  - f. **Western Ave Bollards** – Following the parish council's letter, Kent Highways Dept had requested a site meeting with councillors to discuss the possibility of erecting bollards on the corner of the High St and Western Ave. It was agreed that the clerk would set up a meeting. **Action; Clerk**
  - g. **Restoration of old street and house names** – Cllr Beinder had identified three streets whose former names could be incorporated into new street signs. There were also several house and terrace names that could be restored with the owners' permission. It was agreed that Cllr Beinder would write an item for 'On the Nail' asking for residents' views on restoring the old names. It was also reported that the old sign for Bridge Hill had been removed and replaced with a new sign that was not in keeping with the village. It was agreed that the clerk would write to Highways Dept to ask them to restore the old sign and not to

remove any more of the historic signs from the village. **Action; Cllr Beinder/Clerk**

**24. Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Parish Council Forum Report - Cllrs Lewis & Esdale  
BVST Report – Cllr Gulvin

**25. Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area**

The council had no objection to the following proposals;

Trees, Bridge Hill, Bridge

Fell one conifer from left hand boundary

Silver Birches, Patrixbourne Rd, Bridge

Reduce crown and thin one lime tree on left hand boundary

The Vicarage, 23 High St. Bridge

Reduce crown of mature yew on driveway by up to 25%

Plus other exempt works

Old Renville Farm, Bridge

Remove ivy restricting the growth of holly trees

Remove dead wood in sycamore trees

The Firs, Town Hill, Bridge

Reduce line of conifers in rear of garden

Remove line of 6 dying conifers

Remove line of immature hedging conifers on rear boundary

Reduce conifers by 1m.

1 Riverside Close, Bridge

Reduce willow tree at side of house to previous cutting point **Action; Clerk**

**26. Matters for Discussion and Action**

**a. County Councillor's Discretionary Fund** There was to be a meeting organised by Kent County Council in Seasalter on 26<sup>th</sup> June to discuss cooperation with parish councils and possible funding bids. It was agreed that Cllr Hill would represent the parish council. **Action; Cllr Hill**

**b. Wild flower area on the recreation ground –** Cllr Beinder had put her proposals to the sports clubs using the recreation ground and had received a positive response. She had also approached Bridge Primary School and it might be possible to involve the children in the project. The doctors' surgery had informed her that their plans for planting a wild flower meadow had been abandoned. Jo Hesketh of the Stour Valley Project had visited the ground with Cllrs Corfield and Beinder and might be able to suggest sources of funding. She was willing to address residents and discuss plans. It was important that the scheme was of low maintenance and that there was a band of willing local people to assist. It was agreed that Cllr Beinder would set up a meeting, probably in September, to assess the level of support in the village. It was also agreed to ask SERCO to provide another litterbin at the top of the recreation ground by the double access gate near the school. **Action; Cllr Beinder/ Clerk**

**c. Departure of Chris & Melanie Maclean from the Plough & Harrow –** It was agreed that Cllr Bennett would write an appreciation for 'On the Nail' looking back over Chris Maclean's 15 year tenancy of the Plough & Harrow. The parish council would write to Chris expressing its gratitude for the contribution he had made to village life. A letter would also be sent to Shepherd Neame commending the Maclean's tenancy and expressing the hope that the new tenant would continue the community tradition set by the Macleans. **Action; Clerk**

**d. New bench for Patrixbourne Rd –** It was agreed to purchase a new bench for Patrixbourne Rd. A decision on a new bench for Union Rd was deferred until next month to allow councillors to inspect a possible site. **Action; Clerk**

**e. Kent Highway Services Parish Council Briefing –** It was agreed that Cllr Lewis would represent the parish council at this meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June. The clerk would supply Cllr Lewis with a list of issues that the council had raised with Kent Highways and on which action or a reply was still outstanding. **Action; Cllr Lewis /Clerk**

**f. Parochial Church Council –** It was agreed to contribute £100.00 to the Parochial Church Council towards the production costs of 'On the Nail'. **Action; Clerk**

**g. Angled parking on Western Avenue** – Following a negative response from Canterbury City Council, it was agreed that the parish council would approach the four landowners concerned to find out whether they would be willing to release land to enable angled parking bays to be constructed outside the parade of shops on Western Avenue. CCC would be approached for the names of the four landowners concerned. **Action; Clerk**

**h. Recreation ground maintenance contract** – It was agreed that the clerk would approach three local companies, in addition to Kent Landscape services, to invite them to tender for the recreation ground maintenance contract for 2007. **Action; Clerk**

**27. Sealing of documents**

The new agreement with Exiles Cricket Club for the hire of the cricket pitch for the 2006 season was signed.

**28. Correspondence - Noted**

**29.** Letter of authorisation to transfer £1,000 between the two bank accounts held by Bridge Parish Council was agreed. **Action; Clerk**

**30.** The following receipt was noted;  
Exiles Cricket Club - £300.00

**31.** The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Kent Association of Parish Councils	£52.88	Chairmanship training Day- Ann Edmonds
Christobel Seath	£403.18	Clerk's salary and office expenses – April 2006
Christobel N Seath	£13.60	Travel expenses Bridge-Teynham return 34 miles @ 40 p per mile
Parochial Church Council	£100.00	Contribution to 'On the Nail'

**32. Any other business**

- a. **Dering Rd Yellow Lines** – Cllr Anderson had reported that Kent Highways now intended to put double yellow lines along the fence at the Union Rd end of Dering Rd and not in front of any of the houses.
- b. **Yellow lines at the bus stop** – Cllr Esdale reported that the new yellow lines at the bus stop at the pharmacy were too long. It was agreed to write to Kent Highways Dept to point this out. **Action; Clerk**
- c. **Welcome pack for new residents** – Cllr Esdale had prepared a pack of information for new residents of Bridge. It was agreed to circulate this to councillors for their comments. **Action; Cllr Esdale/Clerk**

The meeting closed at 9.43 pm

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.