

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th June 2009 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmunds (Chairman), Hill, Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Lewis and County Councillor Northey

15/09-10 Apologies for absence; There were apologies for absence from Cllr Wilmshurst

16/09-10. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items. There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

17/09-10. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th. May 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

18/09-10 Cllr Northey thanked those people who had voted for him in the County Council elections and said he would serve all residents of the constituency. The County Council now comprised 71 Conservative councillors, 7 Liberal Democrats and 2 Labour. Cllr Northey outlined the Members Highway Fund, which was being created to fund small local projects. The possibility of using some of this money to prevent parking on the zigzag lines by the pharmacy zebra crossing was discussed.

19/09-10 Disposal of business from the last meeting

- a. Recreation Ground- Cllr Beinder noted that the riverbed was choked with weeds. These would be removed in the autumn when the Environment Agency next trimmed the river banks. There had been graffiti on the slide and pavilion. The Pratt memorial bench had been painted white after renovation. Cllr Esdale would find out whether it was intended that it should remain this colour. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
A request had been received from Mrs Kollhoff for permission to plant a tree on Patricbourne Rd by the recreation ground in memory of Mr & Mrs Stevens. The council was happy to agree to this. Cllr Lewis, the Tree Warden, would liaise with Mrs Kollhoff in the autumn regarding the species and siting. **Action; Cllr Lewis & Clerk**
The footpath map had been re-erected in the wrong place by KCC's Countryside Access Service. They would be asked to re-site it in its original position by the layby and also to support the map on concrete spurs. **Action; Clerk**
Cllr Lewis had cleared the path across the recreation ground to the school in preparation for the village fete. Cllr Gulvin would inspect the playing field following wet weather to ascertain whether it could be used for car parking at the fete
Action; Cllr Gulvin
There had been a complaint about the old metal goal posts which had been left on the ground by the pavilion. Cllr Gulvin would arrange for these to be collected. It was also noted that more guttering had been removed from the pavilion by vandals.
Action; Cllr Gulvin
- b. Affordable Housing – Revised plans had been received from the city council showing build outs on the footpath on Western Avenue to improve pedestrian safety. The parish council had no objection to these plans. **Action; Clerk**
- c. Speedwatch – The Speedwatch signs would be delivered to the Clerk in the next few days. Cllr Esdale would arrange to borrow equipment from Lower Hardres. The parish council would be grateful for volunteers willing to undergo training and join the project. **Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk**
- d. Bus shelter – Deferred to next meeting

20/09-10 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Police Forum Meeting- 6th. June – Cllr Lewis - Report emailed
Emergency Planning Meeting Hawkinge – Cllr Beinder – Verbal report
ACRK Village Hall Meeting, Bossingham – Cllr Beinder – Verbal report

21/09-10 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Pavilion Renovations-** Deferred to next meeting
- b. **Parish reserves for 2009-10** These were presented by Cllr Esdale and approved by the council.
- c. **Statement of Internal Control for 2009** – This was approved by the council and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer. It was agreed to re-appoint Kevin Funnell as the internal auditor for 2009-10. An amendment to the Annual Return for the Audit Commission was signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer
Action; Clerk
- d. **Bridge over the Nailbourne, Patricbourne Rd-** Cantley Estates had confirmed that the up-keep of the bridge was the responsibility of the parish council. They had forwarded an engineer's report and estimate for the repair and refurbishment of the bridge. Further estimates would be required. Matter deferred to July Parish Council meeting
- e. **Reducing Bridge's Carbon footprint** – The parish council agreed that it wished to carry forward plans to reduce the village's carbon footprint, following the presentations given at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was decided to ask Mr & Mrs Wicker if they would be willing to co-ordinate a committee for this purpose. It was suggested that they might liaise with the successful project already under way in Elham. The Energy Saving Trust would have a stall at the village fete.
Action; Clerk
- f. **Bench outside Bridgeway Stores** – The owner of Bridgeway Stores had asked the parish council to remove the bench from outside his shop. The parish council reluctantly agreed to this and would re-site the bench near the planters in due course. Mr Dhaliwal would be informed of this decision.
Action; Clerk
- g. **Highland Court Cricket Club Licencing Application** – The Chairman of the parish council had discussed the application with the Chairman of the cricket club. He had assured the parish council that the extended licence would only be used for small parties organised by team members. There were no plans for large gatherings, concerts etc. He supplied the parish council with a contact number in case of any complaints about noise. In view of this the parish council had no objection to the application.
Action; Clerk
- h. **Cycle Route to Canterbury** – Cllr Hill informed the parish council there had been some progress in negotiating access for the route from local landowners. Mr Stewart was pursuing this and there would be a stall at the village fete outlining the possible routes and asking for comments from residents.
- i. **Western Avenue parking bays** – It was agreed to write to local businesses to point out that a 20 minute parking restriction was already in force in the layby in Western Avenue, although the parish council had not been informed about this and there were no signs at the layby. If local businesses objected to the current proposals under consultation for a one hour limit, the twenty minute restriction would be enforced by the city council. The parish council supported the one hour limit as it prevented cars from being parked all day by commuters, staff of businesses and local residents thereby deterring shoppers from visiting the village to the detriment of local businesses.
Action; Clerk
- j. **Annual Parish Meeting 2010** It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting in 2010 would be held on Thursday 20th May
- k. **Power of Wellbeing Training** – It was decided not to participate in the training courses being organised by KALC
- l. **Bus shelter** – In removing the graffiti from the bus shelter in the High Street, the city council had removed much of the paint from inside the shelter. It was agreed to have the bus shelter interior re-painted.
Action; Cllr Gulvin
- m. **Bridge bakery** – It was reported that the bakery would not re-open and that the lease had reverted to the owners

22/09-10 Correspondence – Noted

23/09-10 Bank transfers;

The council noted the transfer of £1,500 between Parish Council accounts

24/09-10.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
Kate Harrison	£200.00*	Expenses & fee for Speaking at APM Sec137 expenditure
Ann Edmonds	£78.26	Chairman's allowance - Annual Parish Meeting costs
Christobel Seath	£665.47	Salary & office allowance for May 2009
Kevin Funnell	£35.00	Fee for Final Audit of 2008-9 records
Kent County Playing Fields Association	£20.00	Annual subscription 2009-10
Kent County Council	£91.56	Mulch mat & hedgerow plants for recreation ground £79.62 +£11.94 vat
Mark Esdale	£25.42	Travel costs, APM refreshments and bench fixings
Christobel Seath	£14.00	Travel costs to attend Clerk's Information Day, Teynham 19 th May - 35 miles at 40p per mile

* Authorised and paid on 21st May at APM

~It was decided not to renew the map copying licence for a further year as the parish council did not require it. Therefore the item of expenditure of £62.96 for Ordnance Survey was not approved.

Action ; Clerk

25/09-10. Any other business:

- a. **Layby by Recycling Point** - Cllr Lewis pointed out that large quantities of cardboard had been dumped at the site behind the bins. This area was becoming an eyesore despite the efforts of Serco and the city council to keep it clean.
- b. **45 High Street** – Cllr Lewis noted the improvement to the building, which was now undergoing renovation
- c. **Skateboard area** – Cllr Lewis had submitted a preliminary application for a grant for a skateboard area. It was confirmed that no action would be taken until extensive local consultation had been carried out. This would be an agenda item for September.
- d. **20 mph limit through village** – It was confirmed that a national consultation on speed limits was still being undertaken. Until this had reported there would be no further consideration of local speed limits.
- e. **Mrs Olive Knight** – The parish council expressed regret on the recent death of Olive Knight who had been a parish councillor, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and former headmistress of Bridge Primary School.

The meeting closed at 9.17p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 9th.July 2009 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.