

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2009 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill, Lewis, KCC Cllr M Northey and City Cllr J Anderson. Also Cllr Ash & Prof Field from Bekesbourne PC for item 123b.

116/08-9. Apologies for absence; There were apologies for absence from Cllr Wilmshurst

117/08-9 Cllr Northey outlined changes to the funding of Kent Highways which would mean that County Councillors had a budget of £25,000 for local traffic and transport scheme in addition to the funding they currently hold for local projects in their constituencies. This would be implemented after the elections in June 2009.

118/08-9 City Councillors John Anderson commented on the recent disputes there have been between himself and the parish council and requested a meeting to resolve some matters of contention.

119/08-9. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items. There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

120/08-9. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th. February 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

121/08-9 Disposal of business from the last meeting

- a. Recreation ground – Cllr Gulvin holds the recreation ground folder. The posts erected by CCC to warn dog owners to keep their dogs off the children’s play area had been broken off. Cllr Gulvin would ensure there were no sharp spikes left in the ground. It was agreed that the notices would be re-positioned at the entrances to the ground.

Action; Cllr Gulvin

Cllr Beinder thanked the large number of residents who had helped with the weeding & planting round the pavilion the previous Saturday. Sadly one plant had been removed during the week.

It was decided not to apply anti-climb paint to the drainpipes on the pavilion. It was thought that this would not deter children. The pavilion guttering needed repair and it was intended that this would be done when the pavilion extension was carried out. Cllr Gulvin would report on this in April.

Estimates would be obtained to fill in the depression by the practice goal and re turf the area.

Action; Clerk

A resident of Riverside Close had complained that the branches of the sycamore trees were touching her roof. Jon Lambourne, the city arboriculturist would be asked to advise on the matter.

Action; Clerk

- b. Affordable Housing – Canterbury City Council had informed the parish council that the application for affordable houses would not go to the Development Control Committee before May as there were still some technical matters to resolve.
- c. Skateboard Park Visit – There had been no response to the proposed skateboard park visit. If a sufficient number of young people contacted the council in the next two weeks the visit could still go ahead.
- d. 'Litter Blitz' arrangements- Cllr Lewis was now unable to supervise this. Cllr Edmonds agreed to take over responsibility for it. It was agreed that volunteers would meet outside Bridge Pharmacy at 10.00am on Saturday 28th March as planned. A shorter litter pick would take place and a larger event would be re-scheduled for later in the year. The Guides had expressed a willingness to carry out a litter pick later in the year as a service to the village and it was suggested they might work on the footpath from Renville Farm to Whitehill Woods.
- Action; Cllr Edmonds**
- e. Letter from Cllr Anderson – A letter from the parish council had been sent to Cllr Anderson correcting the factual errors in his letter to the council. The matter would now be taken up with the city council. They would be asked to clarify the city

councillors role, particularly in regard to representing the views of local residents at Development Control meetings. **Action; Clerk**

122/08-9 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Kent Highways Road Show 27.2.09 – Cllr Esdale (Report circulated)
 Police Forum 28th.February 2009 – Cllr Esdale (Report circulated)
 Mill Centre Management Committee 9th March – Cllr Esdale

123/08-9 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. Marquess Conyngham –The parish council agreed to send a message of condolence to the family of Lord Conyngham who died earlier this month and to express the hope that the new Marquess would visit Bridge at some time. **Action; Clerk**
- b. Speedwatch – Representatives from Bekesbourne with Patribourne Parish Council discussed a joint Speedwatch initiative with Bridge. It was agreed that representatives of both parishes would visit Lower Hardres to see the equipment in operation and that the possibility of hiring the equipment from Lower Hardres would be explored. **Action; Cllrs Esdale & Lewis**
- c. Methodist Hall – The possible use of the Methodist Hall by the parish council was discussed. It was agreed to tell Rev Rowlands that the parish council were interested in making use of the hall in future. **Action; Cllr Hill**
- d. Mill Centre – Cllr Esdale had had further discussions on the future of the Mill Centre with the city council. It was agreed to investigate whether there was a precedent for an organisation buying a building with a promise to give the original owner first refusal to buy it back at a future date, as was proposed in the case of the Mill Centre. The parish council would seek advice on this. **Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk**
- e. 'Dogs on Lead by Direction – Dog Control Order – The parish council supported the proposed Dog Control Order, a draft of which had been put out to consultation. **Action; Clerk**

124/08-9 Correspondence – Noted

125/08-9 The following receipt was noted;
 Bridge Junior Football Club - £100.00

126/08-09 Bank transfers;

The council noted the transfer of £3,500 between Parish Council accounts

127/08-9.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*ACRK	£27.50	Parish Planning for Climate Change Event
Christobel Seath	£55.52	Petty cash £53.07 + £2.45 vat
Christobel N Seath	£635.33	Clerk's salary and office allowance for February 2009
Mervyn Gulvin	£45.20	Photocopying services Jan/Feb 09 £39.31 + £5.89 vat
Savills	£225.00	Recreation ground charge 29/9/08 to 24/3/09
Mark Esdale	£163.91	Web site maintenance £140.00 + £23.91 (2006/7 & 2007/8)
Mark Esdale	£38.92	Travel expenses & engraving
Mervyn Gulvin	£23.48	Travel expenses Lenham/Bridge 40 miles @ 58.7p per mile
Bridge Village Hall Management Committee	£967.18	Annual insurance cost for village hall
Simon Gomm	£310.00	Renovation of George Pratt memorial bench
John Hill	£17.61	Travel expenses meetings of CCC, KALC in Nov 08, Dec 08 & Jan 09

Bridge Village Sports Trust	£500.00	Contribution towards costs of maintenance & insurance for sports pavilion
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*Already authorised because of deadline for applications

128/08-9. Any other business;

- a. Restoration of Old Street Signs – Cllr Edmonds thanked Cllrs Beinder, Gulvin and Esdale for arranging for the signs showing the old names for Brewery Lane and Conyngham Lane to be put up in the village.
- b. Western Ave bollard – It was noted that this had now been replaced.
- c. KCC Seminar on Village Greens & Common Land – Although the parish council would not send a representative to this meeting, it was agreed that it would send a question to the seminar. **Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk**
- d. Bridge Place Country Club – The parish council had been asked by the owner to confirm that it had received no complaints about noise or nuisance since the club re-opened. The parish council confirmed this. **Action ; Clerk**
- e. A2 Sliproad – It was reported that the grass needed cutting along the A2 sliproad. Inter-route would be asked to do this. **Action; Clerk**
- f. BTCV – The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers were having an open day on 25th. March. Cllr Lewis would attend. **Action; Cllr Lewis**
- g. Kentish Stour Countryside Project – Cllr Beinder would meet with this organisation the following week. It was hoped that volunteers would help with maintenance on the area by the fence on the recreation ground. It was agreed to discuss providing refreshments for the volunteers from parish council funds at the April council meeting **Action ; Cllr Beinder**
- h. School Art & Music Day & Bookfair - Cllr Beinder drew the council's attention to the Art & Music Day at the Primary School and the Book Fair. The school had also asked for volunteers to help with listening to children read. Anyone interested should contact the school office. The parish council expressed its willingness to publicise events at the school on the village website if it was given sufficient notice.
- i. Four Counties Joint Forum Venture 24th. March – It was decided not to send a representative to this meeting as most of the subject matter did not relate to parish councils.

The meeting closed at 9.03 p.m.

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