

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2008 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Beinder, Esdale, Gulvin, Hill (items 1-3 and 7a) and Wilmshurst

62/08-9. Apologies for absence; There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Beesty, Corfield and Lewis also from City Cllr Anderson and County Cllr Northey

63/08-9. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items. There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

64/08-9. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th. October 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

65/08-9 Disposal of business from the last meeting

- a. **Recreation ground –** The Recreation Ground inspection folder was taken over from Cllr Beinder by Cllr Gulvin.
The litter bin by the youth shelter had lost its lid. This had been reported to Serco but no replacement had been supplied. Serco to be contacted again. **Action; Clerk**
It was agreed to seek additional tenders for filling in the hole by the practice goal as the Kent Landscape Services quotation seemed high. **Action; Clerk**
The roller was still in the stream bed but in a different place. It would be difficult to move. It was agreed that Cllr Wilmshurst would approach the owner of a skip in Patixbourne Rd to explore the possibility of the roller and an abandoned child's bicycle, which had been left for some time near the pavilion, being put into the skip. **Action; Cllr Wilmshurst**
- b. **Affordable Housing –** Southern Housing Group had reported that the Section 106 Agreement had now been approved by Canterbury City Council and a copy would be sent to the parish council for its approval. It was now expected that planning permission would be sought for the project in December.
- c. **Annual Parish Meeting –** Dr Sarah Anderson, Climate Change Project Officer at KCC, had agreed to speak at the 2009 Annual Parish Meeting. Kate Harrison of Ashton Hayes had also been approached to talk about the experiences of Ashton Hayes in trying to become the UK's first carbon neutral village. The matter of her possible expenses was being explored. **Action ; Clerk**
- d. **Bus shelter –**Cllr Gulvin had obtained quotes for the proposed new bus shelter in the High Street. It was thought this would cost around £4,500 including delivery costs. It was hoped that a grant of 50% of this would be made available by KCC. Kent Highway Services would erect it. It was agreed to ask Stagecoach if they would contribute to its cost. Cllr Gulvin would initiate planning permission procedures. **Action; Cllr Gulvin & Clerk**
- e. **Canterbury Sign at A2 sliproad –** Kent Highway Services had agreed to replace the sign to Canterbury at the junction of the road to Canterbury and the A2 sliproad. KHS would be approached again about the possibility of erecting a sign pointing left to Canterbury at Bekesbourne Road. **Action; Clerk**

66/08-9 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

KALC AGM – Ditton 8th November – Cllr Esdale -Written report circulated
Allotment Association Committee 28th October – Report Circulated by Cllr Gulvin
It was agreed that Cantley Estates would again be asked to draw up a lease for the allotments
Action; Clerk

67/08-9 Notice of proposed work to trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposals were noted;
Old Forge, High Street, Bridge
Pollard lime tree outside the old forge
98 High St, Bridge
Various work including reduce laurel hedge

Fell dead cherry
Reduce apple tree and silver birch tree
Reduce ancient fruit tree and tidy ivy
Remove basal growth from two rowan trees
Remove willow sapling and feel ceanothus
Bournes Corner, Bekesbourne Rd, Bridge
Prune horse chestnut trees

Action; Clerk

68/08-9 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. **Visits to Skateboard Parks** – It was agreed to hire a mini bus in the spring to take Bridge children to visit skateboard parks in the area. These visits would indicate the level of interest in skateboarding in the village before local consultation was organised and before any firm commitment was made to providing a skateboard area on the recreation ground. It was pointed out that Lyminge village had a skateboard area that might provide a suitable model for Bridge. Councillors agreed to visit Lyminge. The skateboard trips would be an agenda item for March. Cllr Hill would contact the appropriate officer in CCC to discuss.
Action; Cllr Hill
- b. **New Proposals for the Making & Enforcement of Bye-Laws**- It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would compile a response to the Departments of Communities and Local Governments new proposals on bye-laws, taking account of the parish council's comments.
Action; Cllr Edmonds & Clerk
- c. **Speed Reduction Measures on Patricbourne Rd** - Cllr Esdale had proposed to Kent Highway Services that the 30mph limit should be moved nearer to the village, where it would be more obvious to motorists that the village was close by. Kent Highways would also be asked to consider a speed bump at the entrance to the village. A 'Kill Your Speed' sign had been lent to Bridge by the police and was in place on Patricbourne Rd as an experiment. If this were effective the parish council would consider buying one. Bekesbourne with Patricbourne PC would be asked to consider setting up a joint 'Speedwatch' team. Enforcement would be a problem as the parish council had no powers to enforce the speed limit.
Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk
- d. **Cyclists on the path by Mansfield Court** – There had been incidents when elderly residents had been put at risk by reckless cyclists using the footpath. It was agreed to ask Kent Highway Services to erect a half barrier on Bifrons Path at the point where it became a footpath to slow cyclists down on the path past Mansfield Court.
Action; Clerk
- e. **Improvement to Area of Recreation Ground behind the Pavilion** – It was agreed that the land needed to be cleared and it was suggested that the area could be planted with shrubs. A working party would be organised to clear the ground. This matter would be discussed at the January parish council meeting to arrange a suitable date for the working party. It was hoped that all age groups of villagers would get involved.
Action; Cllr Beinder
- f. **Ladders** – The parish council thanked Cllr Gulvin for his gift of two aluminium ladders.
- g. **Street Signs** – The quotation received for supplying the street signs was higher than the allocated budget. It was agreed to ask the residents at 1A High St if they would agree to a sign being fixed to their wall. This would be a cheaper option than the free standing signs. Cllr Esdale would provide a proto-type photograph.
Action; Cllr Esdale & Clerk
- h. **Parish Accounts** – The council noted that the government's guarantee to underwrite bank accounts up to £50,000 did not extend to parish councils The council accepted the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the parish council should continue to hold its accounts with Lloyds TSB Bank.
- i. **Youth Club Equipment** – It was agreed that the equipment formerly used by the Youth Group should be loaned to Bridge Explorer Scouts. Cllr Esdale would provide an inventory of the equipment.
Action; Cllr Esdale
- j. **Press Enquiries** – It was agreed that the Chairman would be the contact to whom all press enquiries should be referred. In her absence the Vice Chairman

would be the contact point. As a rule, statements to the press would be made in writing and emailed to journalists to avoid misquotation.

69/08-9 Correspondence – Noted

70/08-9 Sealing of Documents

Agreement between Bridge Football Club and Bridge Parish Council
Agreement between Canterbury City Football Club and Bridge Parish Council

71/08-9 The following receipts were noted:

Bridge Football Club - £300.00
Canterbury City Football Club - £400.00

72/08-09 Bank transfers:

The council noted the transfer of £1,000 between Parish Council accounts

73/08-9.The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*Audit Commission	£358.38	Audit Fee 2008 £305.00 + £53.38 vat
Mrs A Edmonds	£15.00	Bridge in Bloom Awards
Mr D Possee	£50.00	Supply of plants and compost and maintaining High St planters
Christobel N Seath	£717.23	Clerk's salary and office allowance for October 2008 + arrears of salary from April 1 st following pay award (£81.90)
Mr K Funnell	£35.00	Interim audit fee for 2008-9
A C Osborn	£44.06	Tree work on Recreation Ground £37.50 + £6.56 vat

* Already authorised because of 28 day deadline

74/08-9. Any other business:

- a. **Pratt Commemorative Bench** – Cllr Esdale would investigate whether the bench needed to be treated with preservative. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
- b. **Kent Highway Services Independent Survey** – Cllr Esdale agreed to complete this on-line survey of Kent Highway Services performance. **Action; Cllr Esdale**

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council will be on Thursday 11th. December 2008 at 7.00 pm in Bridge Village Hall.