

Minutes of
BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 th. September 2009 in Bridge Village Hall

Present; Cllrs Edmonds (Chairman), Hill, Beesty, Beinder, Corfield, Esdale, Gulvin, Lewis and County Councillor Northey (after item 44b)

37/09-10 Apologies for absence; There were apologies for absence from Cllr Wilmshurst

38/09-10. Declaration of Interest & Lobbying on agenda items. There were no declarations of interest or lobbying on agenda items.

39/09-10. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th. July 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

40/09-10 Councillor Northey had been made a Deputy Cabinet Member – Corporate Policy, with responsibilities covering property, human resources and communications. He reminded councillors about the £25,000 members' fund to be spent on local projects. He asked to be kept informed about negotiations over the re-siting of the bus stop outside the butchers and the zig zag lines by the zebra crossing.

41/09-10 Disposal of business from the last meeting

- a. Recreation Ground – The nuts on one of the swings had come loose and someone had subsequently removed the bolt. The swing had been removed for safety reasons and was awaiting new parts from Wicksteed leisure. **Action; Cllr Esdale**
It was agreed to obtain quotations for patching the safety surface of the play area and removing the concrete strip. **Action; Clerk**
Bridge Health Centre had been asked to repair their fence behind the youth shelter. A new litter bin was required for the youth shelter as the existing one had had the lid removed and had been damaged. **Action; Clerk**
Cllr Beesty would take over the Recreation Ground Folder in October.
- b. Affordable Housing – Southern Housing Group anticipated that the planning application would go to Development Control in October. A greater crested newt survey would be undertaken and a recent housing needs analysis had shown a probable increase in need for local affordable housing.
- c. Speedwatch – Lower Hardres Parish Council would be approached to set up an agreement to loan their Speedwatch equipment to Bridge Speedwatch team once a month. **Action. Cllr Esdale**
- d. Bus shelter – There would be a meeting on 17th September with representatives from Kent Highways and Stagecoach to look at the proposed site.
- e. Bridge Environment Group – A bid for support from the Kent, Surrey & Sussex Energy Saving Trust had been submitted. It was planned to hold an inaugural meeting later in September. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- f. Allotment Lease- Cllr Gulvin would draft a letter to Savills concerning the proposed lease. **Action; Cllr Gulvin**
- g. Newsletter – The text of the newsletter had been agreed and the newsletter would be distributed to all the properties in Bridge in the following week.

42/09-10 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies

Meeting of Canterbury Ramblers Assoc – Cllr Edmonds

Report circulated by email

Kent Highways Parish Portal Technical Meeting 2nd Sept – Cllr Esdale

Report circulated by email.

Concurrent Function Funding Working Group 9th Sep – Cllr Esdale

The group was set up to make recommendations on potential savings. It was unclear when its recommendations would be implemented.

BVST 9th September – Cllr Gulvin

It was feared that there would be difficulty in finding enough participants for the Trust to continue after the AGM next spring.

43/09-10 Notice of Proposed Work to Trees in a Conservation Area

The following proposals were noted;

Churchill Close, Bridge

Thin and trim trees along road at Churchill Close to allow more light to properties

Little Bridge Place, Mill Lane

Remove ash tree from bank located on Mill Lane

The Firs, Town Hill, Bridge

Various tree work to hedges on boundaries of the garden

44/09-10 Matters for Discussion and Action

- a. The future use of the Recreation Ground by Canterbury City FC – Representations were made to the council by several residents of Riverside Close who complained about the frequency of matches and practises and of the litter, noise and disturbance caused by the frequent use of the pitch. A representative of the football club denied that the club had overused the pitch and suggested that several of the practises taking place were not connected with the club. After much discussion it was agreed that Canterbury City FC's use of the pitch would be restricted to one team. Practises would be limited to one evening per week and the club would ensure that litter was cleared up. The goal posts would be removed from the recreation ground at the end of the season and would not be replaced until August at the start of the following season. These conditions would be incorporated into the new season's lease for the club.
Action; Clerk
The parish council asked residents of Riverside Close to monitor the use of the pitch closely and immediately report any team practises that were taking place by groups not connected to Canterbury CFC or Bridge FC to Cllr Gulvin or Cllr Esdale.
- b. Tree work to sycamores on the recreation ground – It was agreed that the parish council would arrange the removal of two of the lower branches on one of the sycamore trees (T2) on the recreation ground. This work would be done in November. The council did not sanction the crown reduction of T2 or any work to be done to T1.
Action; Cllr Lewis & Clerk
- c. Bridge Village Initiative – It was decided to discuss this matter at the October Parish Council meeting when councillors had had an opportunity to talk to local business people about their ideas.
- d. Possible Skateboard area on Recreation Ground – It was agreed to draw up a scale plan of the area of the recreation ground with potential for a skateboard ramp. There would then be consultation within the village to ascertain residents' views about creating this facility.
Action; Cllrs Gulvin & Esdale
- e. Pavilion Renovations – Item deferred
- f. Re-siting of the bus stop outside the butcher's shop – A meeting between Kent Highways, Stagecoach and parish councillors had been arranged for 17th September to resolve the problem of the bus stop, the new position of which had created difficulties over the siting of a refrigerated van at Christmas.
- g. Recreation Ground Maintenance Contract – Following restrictions placed by the city council on the amount of grass cutting which would be funded under Concurrent Function Funding, it was agreed to seek tenders for recreation ground maintenance limiting the grass cutting for the entire area to 22 cuts per year plus 5 strims round the river bank area. Contractors would be asked to quote separately for these two activities.
Action; Clerk
- h. Flytipping at the Recycling Point – It was decided to ask the city council for advice about preventing fly tipping as the city council was currently undertaking a fly tipping initiative in the District. This would be discussed further at the October parish council meeting.
Action; Clerk
- i. ACRK's Parish Plan and Small Projects Grants Scheme – It was decided not to submit a bid for funding at this time.
- j. The Whitstable Society's Initiative on recording Canterbury City Council meetings & retaining public open spaces - The parish council agreed to pursue both these initiatives through the Canterbury Branch of the KALC -
Action ; Cllr Hill

- k. Tree in memory of John Purchase – The parish council agreed to a request from Canterbury Liberal Democrats to plant a tree in Bridge in memory of John Purchase. The Tree Warden would liaise over a suitable location on the recreation ground.
Action; Cllr Lewis & Clerk
- l. Purchase of bulbs for the Recreation Ground – It was agreed to purchase bulbs for the recreation ground and to authorise Cllr Beinder to fund refreshments for helpers. A working party to weed the pavilion flower beds and plant bulbs would take place on Saturday October 24th. Volunteers should meet at the sports pavilion at 9.30am.
Action; Cllr Beinder
- m. Applause Rural Touring Company – No councillor was available to attend one of four receptions to be held in Kent to celebrate the 10th anniversary of this group.

45/09-10 Correspondence – Noted

46/09-10 Bank transfers:

The council noted the transfer of £2,000 between Parish Council accounts

47/09-10. The following receipts were noted ;

Headley Bros reimbursement of overpayment for NALC subscription - £13.50

48/09–10 The following items were authorised for payment; (note that 2 signatures are required on the invoice, cheque stub and cheque)

Payee	Amount	Purpose
*NALC	£13.50	Subscription to Local Council Review 2009/10
*Christobel Seath	£665.47	Salary & office allowance for July 2009
ROSP (Playsafety Ltd)	£129.95	Annual Inspection fee £113.00 + £16.95 vat
Christobel Seath	£73.98	2 colour printer cartridges £64.33 + £9.65 vat
Christobel Seath	£665.47	Salary & office allowance for August 2009
John E Hill	£9.00	Mileage Claim for Rural Area members Panel & Development Control Cttee
Wicksteed Leisure	£283.99	Replacement cradle seat & rapid link fittings £246.95 + £37.04 vat
Savills	£225.00	Rental for Recreation ground 25/3/09 – 28/9/09
Christobel Seath - Clerk	£43.26	Petty cash
Mark Esdale	£9.95	Engraving for Bridge in Bloom Trophy

* Authorised between parish council meetings

The meeting closed at 9.44p.m.

The next meeting of Bridge Parish Council be on Thursday 8th. October 2009 at 7.30 pm in Bridge Village Hall.