

BRIDGE



**BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE C.E.P. SCHOOL**

Conyngham Lane, Bridge  
Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5JX  
Tel: (01227) 830276  
Fax: (01227) 830649  
Mobile: 0802 405948

Headmistress: Mrs A. Newton, M.A.  
Dip.S.M.E.M.S.

Deputy Head: Mrs J. Vye

25th March 1997

Mrs M Church  
Clerk to the Council  
72a New House Lane  
Canterbury  
CT4 7BJ

Dear Mrs Church,

Thank you for your letter informing me of the discussion that took place between Bridge Village Playgroup, Woodpeckers Nursery and The Parish Council.

I am happy to confirm what Mrs Ann McKeever put in her letter, namely that attendance at Woodpeckers Nursery in no way confers an advantage when applying for entry to Bridge and Patribourne C.E.P. School. All applications are judged alongside our published Admission Criteria.

Below I list for your information that Admissions Criteria for Bridge School. These criteria are laid down by the County and must be adhered to by and L.E.A. Primary School.

1. Parental Choice
2. Denominational Preference
3. Siblings
4. Health and Social Grounds
5. Geographical distance from the School

The fact that Woodpeckers Nursery shares the same site as the School, is immaterial to our Admissions Criteria, a fact that is clearly stated in the Nursery Prospectus.

I do hope this letter will lay to rest any misunderstandings that my have arisen, because of the proximity of the Nursery School to the Primary School.

Parish Councillors should be assured that the Woodpeckers Nursery is an independent organisation and as such manages its own affairs.

Yours sincerely

*Jennifer A. Vye.*

Mrs J Vye  
Acting Headmistress

**Chairman: R. J. Franklin**

**Clerk: Margaret Church**

Mrs. A. McKeever,  
Waterham Farm  
Hernhill  
Faversham ME13 9EG

21 March 1997

Dear Mrs. McKeever,

**PARISH APPRAISAL: NURSERY EDUCATION**

Thank you for your letter of 25 February last. As you may be aware, representatives from both Woodpeckers Nursery and Bridge Playgroup attended the Parish Council meeting on 13 March. Both groups were able to discuss their respective organisations with councillors and to air several issues which were of concern - not least the viability of both organisations.

While such viability is difficult to predict, councillors welcomed the increased provision in the village and were pleased to see that a working relationship now appears to exist between both organisations. Councillors noted that Mrs. Sheppard stressed that no preferential treatment existed for Woodpeckers children when applying to Bridge School and I have been asked to confirm that with the Head Teacher.

The Parish Council wished both organisations success for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Church  
Clerk to the Council

**Chairman: R. J. Franklin**

**Clerk: Margaret Church**

Mrs. J. Vye,  
Acting Head Teacher  
Bridge and Patixbourne CEP School  
Conyngham Lane  
Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5JX

21 March 1997

Dear Mrs. Vye,

**NURSERY PROVISION**

At its last meeting the Parish Council discussed the provision of nursery and playgroup places with the village. The meeting was attended by representatives of both Woodpeckers Nursery and Bridge Play Group and a useful discussion took place.

The Parish Council welcomes the facilities offered by both organisations and wishes them every success. However, I have been asked to confirm with you that attendance at Woodpeckers Nursery does not confer any advantage when applying for entry to your school. Although Mrs. McKeever did put this in her letter, it would be helpful if you could confirm it for the benefit of councillors.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Church  
Clerk to the Council

Reg: What next? (I sent a list  
of questions, some of which  
she has answered, most of  
which she has not.)

Legal

Watesham Farm

Hemhill

Faversham

Kent

ME13 9EG

25.2.97

Dear Mrs Church,

P parish Appraisal - Nursery Education.

With ref to your letter of the 21.2.97. As a  
Governor of Budge School we have no connection  
with the Woodpeckers Nursery School other than keeping  
a friendly eye on them.

The person you need to contact is  
Mrs. A. Sheppard, 53 Pinners Road, Tankerton,  
Whitstable, Kent CT5 2QF. She is in charge of the  
Woodpeckers Nursery & can give you all the answers  
you need to your questions. There is no preferential  
treatment given to children who have been to Woodpeckers,  
when applying for admission to Budge Primary school.  
I hope this helps you. Sorry we can't answer your  
questions but Mrs Sheppard will be able to  
Yours sincerely  
Anne McKee.

**Chairman: R. J. Franklin**

**Clerk: Margaret Church**

Mrs. A. McKeever  
Waterham Farm  
Hernhill  
Faversham  
Kent ME13 9EG

21 February 1997

Dear Mrs. McKeever,

**PARISH APPRAISAL: NURSERY EDUCATION**

The Parish Council has recently begun to debate the recommendations of the recent Parish Appraisal, one of which relates to nursery education in the village.

A number of issues were raised during the discussion on which councillors felt they needed more information and I am asked to invite you to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council to discuss these points in relation to Bridge School and Woodpeckers Nursery. In order to make best use of your time I list below the matters raised:

What is the relationship between Bridge School and Woodpeckers: - landlord/tenant, partners, other?

How was the need for a nursery identified?

How local is the need for this facility?

Where are the children coming from and what are the selection criteria, if any?

What are the stated aims and objective of Woodpeckers?

What steps are being taken to meet the full criteria of being a nursery school?

Are the new facilities as good as Bridge Playgroup's in terms of space, equipment and trained staff?

Did Woodpeckers liaise with the Playgroup before deciding to open?

Will Woodpecker children get preferential treatment when applying for Bridge School?

What are the advantages of Woodpeckers to Bridge School?

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 13 March 1997. I hope very much that you will be able to come and look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Church  
Clerk to the Council

*Please reply to: The Clerk, 72a New House Lane, Canterbury CT4 7BJ*



Nursery Manager  
Woodpeckers Nursery  
Bridge School  
Conyngham Lane  
Bridge  
Canterbury  
Kent. CT4 5JX  
01227 831159

01/03/1997

Dear Mrs. Church.

I have had a message from Bridge School, that you are seeking information regarding Woodpeckers Nursery. We are not directly connected with Bridge School and therefore they are unable to answer your questions. However if you would like to contact me personally, I would be only too pleased to help you in any way that I can.

I can be contacted at the Nursery from 08.30am-12.00 noon Monday - Friday.  
Alternatively, at home after 6pm. My home address is: 53 Princess Road  
Tankerton  
Kent. CT52QF.  
01227 275248

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely.

Mrs.A.Sheppard  
Nursery Manager.

**Chairman: R. J. Franklin**

**Clerk: Margaret Church**

Mrs. A. Tapley  
Chairman - Bridge Play Group  
Sunnyside Cottage  
Pett Bottom  
Canterbury CT4 5PB

19 February 1997

Dear Mrs. Tapley,

Thank you for your letter addressed to Mr. Franklin. The issues raised in it were briefly discussed at last week's Parish Council meeting and deferred while additional information is sought on Woodpeckers Nursery School. I would expect the matter to be discussed at the March meeting and will be in touch with you again after that.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Church  
Clerk to the Council

*Please reply to: The Clerk, 72a New House Lane, Canterbury CT4 7BJ*

01227 830473

Sunnyside Cottage,  
Pett Bottom,  
Canterbury,  
Kent. CT4 5PB.

4th February 1997.

Dear Sir,

Bridge Village Playgroup.

I am writing to ask if it would be possible for the playgroup to place an advertising poster in the Village Noticeboard - outside by the supermarket.

As you know, we are facing stiff competition from other nurseries and we are looking to advertise as much as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.  
Yours faithfully,

Anne Tapley  
Chairman.

R. Franklin Sec.



**The Cottage  
Bridge Hill  
BRIDGE  
Tel: 830 787**

7 February 1997

R J Franklin Esq  
Chairman Bridge Parish Council  
20 Windmill Close  
BRIDGE

Dear Mr Franklin

### **BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP**

Further to our recent telephone conversation, I enclose two copies of each of the following:-

1. Draft Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account for the seven months ended 31 December 1996, (showing comparative figures from the set of annual accounts ended 31 May 1996 audited by Mr Whitten).
2. Financial Projections for the Spring and Summer terms 1997.

As you can see, prior to the opening of the "Woodpeckers Nursery", the Bridge Village Playgroup was operating quite successfully with a negligible deficit at the end of the day and in the majority of years a small surplus has arisen.

### **HISTORY**

Bridge Village Playgroup was established in 1982 and is a member of the national Pre-School Learning Alliance, receiving charitable status in November 1992.

The Playgroup is run by a committee of parents (usually mothers) which is elected annually on a voluntary basis. The committee and employed supervisors work together to organise excursions, fundraising events and essentially to ensure the smooth day to day running of the Playgroup.

The Playgroup, which is registered to take 24 children, was thriving and indeed over the years has often opened additional sessions to cope with demand.

Cont..../

However, following the opening of the "Woodpeckers Nursery", approximately half of our existing children left to take up places offered at nursery together with the majority of our waiting list, despite the fact that the nursery is charging a much higher fee of £4.50 per session. Our own fees of £2.80 per session, shortly to be increased to £3 are comparable with other local village playgroups.

We have an extremely loyal and dedicated staff and excellent facilities within the Village Hall, together with an abundance of toys, books, equipment and art and craft materials, but we have already been forced to drop one session and obviously the income of the village hall will suffer if we have to drop more sessions or close altogether. Indeed, I believe that our hire fees represented almost a third of the income of the village hall in the years to 31 December 1996.

#### CONCLUSION

The effect of the loss of a substantial number of the children is that the Playgroup is currently operating at a loss. As the financial projections show, losses at the current level are sustainable only until the end of the Summer term, or at longest the Autumn term, after which the Committee would be obliged to close down the Playgroup.

We are currently advertising to attempt to increase our numbers and have implemented a modest fee increase, but unless external funding can be introduced to permit a breathing space, the Playgroup may well be within its final year of operation.

Yours sincerely



Angela Walker (Mrs)  
**Playgroup Treasurer**

Encs

P.S. I can be contacted on the above telephone number if you should wish to discuss any of the above at any time, apart from the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 12 February.

I would also like to add that apart from an initial grant of £100 from the Pre-school Learning Alliance in 1982 to assist with the purchase of toys, the Playgroup has not in the past ever asked for any outside funding and has depended ~~entirely~~ <sup>ed entirely</sup> on income from fees and fundraising, such as jumble-sales and Bazaars, but I feel the situation has become much more serious.

**BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP**

**DRAFT BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

For the seven months ended 31st December 1996

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	7 months ended 31st Dec 1996 £	12 months ended 31st May 1996 £
<b>INCOME</b>		
Fees	4018	7558
Disco	0	78
Commissions – Webb Ivory catalogue	118	95
Interest	0	29
Raffle	0	117
Jumble Sale	122	89
Bazaar & Christmas Play	121	285
Photographs	0	27
Jigsaw Library	9	30
	<b>4388</b>	<b>8308</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Supervisors Salaries	2830	5868
Hire of Hall	570	1150
Equipment & Materials	412	562
Donations & Gratuities	196	108
Parties & Outings	181	151
Refreshments	68	(41)
Printing Postage & Stationery	99	108
PSLA Sub & Insurance	7	146
Advertising	65	65
Training	0	126
Sundries	42	88
	<b>4470</b>	<b>8331</b>
<b>NET LOSS FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>(82)</b>	<b>(23)</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

	31st Dec 1996 £	31st May 1996 £
Net loss for the period	(82)	(23)
Surplus Brought Forward	2253	2276
<b>SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>2171</b>	<b>2253</b>
Represented By :-		
Bank Current Account	1037	1394
Bank Deposit Account	1388	792
Cash in Hand	68	67
Milk Refund Due	80	0
	<b>2573</b>	<b>2253</b>
Less :- Fees Received in Advance	(50)	0
Webb Ivory Creditor – Due 1/2/97	(320)	0
Expenses due to Committee Member	(32)	0
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2171</b>	<b>2253</b>

**BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP**  
**1997 FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS**

	SPRING TERM ( 9 Weeks) £	SUMMER TERM ( 14 Weeks) £	TOTAL £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Fees	838	1376	2214
Bank Interest		30	30
	<b>838</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>2244</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Supervisors Salaries	770	1197	1967
Hire of Hall	180	280	460
PSLA Membership & Insurance	150		150
Lotteries Licence	17		17
KCC Inspection		10	10
Materials ,Refreshments , PPS & Sundries	90	140	230
	<b>1207</b>	<b>1627</b>	<b>2834</b>
<b>NET LOSS FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>(369)</b>	<b>(221)</b>	<b>(590)</b>

<b>NET ASSETS AT 1st JANUARY 1997</b>	<b>2171</b>
<b>LESS Provision for Supervisors Redundancy</b>	<b>1300</b>
	<b>871</b>
<b>NET LOSS FOR THE PERIOD ( as above )</b>	<b>(590)</b>
<b>REMAINING FUNDS</b>	<b>281</b>

**NOTES**

- 1) Fees Projected are based on current attendance figures and the fee increase to be implemented shortly.
- 2) Redundancy calculations are based on Statutory Guidelines .
- 3) No Projections have been prepared for the Autumn Term because these figures are heavily dependant on the Autumn intake.

**CONCLUSION**

On the basis of the above figures , if numbers of children do not increase and if no outside financial support can be obtained it would be irresponsible for the Committee to continue to operate the Playgroup beyond the Summer term because to do so would render the Committee members personally liable for any resultant unpaid debts.

**BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP**

**DRAFT BALANCE SHEET AND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

For the seven months ended 31st December 1996

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Chairman: R. J. Franklin

Clerk: Margaret Church

Mrs. Starling  
8 Bifrons Road,  
Bekesbourne  
Canterbury, Kent.

31 December 1996

Dear Mrs. Starling,

**WOODPECKERS NURSERY**

Thank you for your application for lottery assistance. While I will place it before the Parish Council at its next meeting, you are no doubt already aware that the funds now available for distribution through Canterbury City Council's former lottery fund are very small indeed.

It would be helpful to councillors in deciding whether they are able to support your application to have a little more information about the project. Perhaps you could let me know the age-group for which you are catering, where the children who will attend the nursery are coming from, and whether the nursery will be open throughout the year.

If you could let me have the information before 9 January, the matter could be dealt with at the January Parish Council meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Church  
Clerk to the Council

Status / whose auspices  
Prospectus

Date Ack: .....

Ref. No: .....

Date to Cllr: .....

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

CITY TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Application by a local organisation for a contribution from lottery fund

Name of Organisation

....WOODPECKERS NURSERY.....

Address of Organisation

..BRIDGE & PATRICK BOURNE..C.E.P....

HQ or Meeting Place

..CONGYHAM..LANE...OUTSIDE..MOBILE.....

Name/Address of Secretary

..MRS..STARLING.....  
8..Bifrons..Road..Bekebourne.....

Purpose of Organisation and area of activity

..NURSERY...SCHOOL.....

How long established

..Due...to...open...in...Jan...97.....

Project for which assistance is required

..To...Buy...Play...Equipment...and...  
..pave...area...outside...building...To  
..put...in...adequate...and...appropriate...heating.....

If the project involves land or buildings:-

(a) Is the above Organisation the Owner ...No.....

(b) If not the Owner, state remaining period of the lease .....

Estimated actual cost of project .....£2,000.....

Amount of contribution requested ....£1000...(for...heating...system).....

Has any other application for assistance been made elsewhere e.g. Sports Council .....see...below.....

Amounts raised by Organisation during past 12 months for above project (a) Main source\* £ 250.00... British Gas donation  
\*Please specify .....

(b) Other sources £ 150.-... Early Initiative Fund.....

Total amount already raised by Organisation for above project £ 400.00.....

Target date for completion of project ..September...1997.....

Are facilities available to general public ...YES.....

Estimated number of people able to make use of facilities 22 children per morning  
5 mornings per week

WHERE AVAILABLE, PLEASE ENCLOSE A COPY OF THE LATEST SET OF PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS

Signature of Chairman and Secretary

.....  
.....  
(Chairman)

.....  
.....  
(Secretary)

Dates: ...19/12/96....

..19/12/96.....

Notes: see over



**NOTES:**

1. If the organisation is based in the area of a Parish Council, the support of the Parish Council is required to the proposed project. A letter of approval from the Clerk to the Parish Council should be attached to this application.
2. Send the application form to the City Treasurer, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury.
3. The project must be one which comes within the declared objectives of the lottery, i.e.:  
  
the provision of assistance to charities working with or helping children, the elderly, the handicapped, those in housing need and animals, in each case in the district of this Council: and  
  
the provision of, and the improvement of facilities for sporting, leisure and disabled persons' organisations in the district, and for the provision of an entertainment of any nature.
4. Contributions are made on the understanding that if the purpose(s) for which the money paid from the lottery fund cannot eventually be achieved, then the sum contributed should be repaid to the Council or utilised for a further purpose as approved by the Council.

**DIVISIONS OF FUND**

Please indicate in which area(s) the great majority of members of your organisation (or other persons who are to benefit from the donation) are resident.

CANTERBURY [  ] WHITSTABLE [  ] HERNE BAY [  ] RURAL PARISHES [  ]

This is to help decide whether the donation should be made from the General District part of the Fund or that of one of the above areas.