



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 7th May 2013 at 7pm

Present: **Chairman** **Cllr Mrs M Findlay-Stone**
 Councillors: **M Fitch, T Heselden, G Fuller, T Prater, Mrs V Reay**
 Minute Taker: **Miss A Sanders**

These Minutes will only be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting when approved and signed at the next meeting
There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs R Grundy, Mrs J Holben, Mrs N. Bliss
2. **Declaration of Interest** – none declared.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2013, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
 Proposed by: Cllr T Heselden
 Seconded by: Cllr Mrs V Reay
 Agreed: unanimously
4. **Communications**
 - 4.1 Clearing Footpaths – It was suggested that a list be compiled of all public rights of way footpaths in the local area and that the specific footpaths (marked in yellow) must be submitted to require cutting.
 - 4.2 Regarding comment from a member of the public at the Sandgate Society AGM asking why a 200m strip on Sandgate High Street had been resurfaced in a ‘silent top surfacing’ whilst the ‘whole high street is crying out for silencing’. Cllr T Prater has requested that the A259 be surfaced again as soon as possible. Cllr T Prater stated that he has been in contact with Kent Highways and has been told there is no budget for this, but he will continue to pursue the matter. It was agreed that the reasons are unknown as to why only a 200m strip of road has been resurfaced. A response to the Sandgate Society would be made to this effect.
 - 4.3 Kent Environment and Community Network (ECN) letter – The letter proposed the need for an Environment Resource Centre. The ECN asked that, if the council agreed on the necessity of such a centre, a letter could perhaps be sent in agreement to the proposal (so that the bid is shown to be valid). The council agreed that it is unclear how this centre would benefit the area and would like more information. The PC would respond to this effect.
5. **Transport and Parking Advisory Group** – No report

- 6. High Street Innovation Fund – proposal –**
6.1 Cllr T Prater has previously circulated the innovation fund and it has been discussed with the Sandgate Business Forum. The flags, pop-up shop and museum must be submitted as a series of individual bids from the Parish Council by 09/05/2013.
- 6.2 Castle Road Car Park – Two options were discussed, a) 1 hour free parking and b) free parking after 2:30pm. The Business Forum would like one of these options in place and have asked the Parish Council's views. Option b) was the preferred option.
- 7. Beaches Advisory Group**
7.1 **To receive the latest report – Seaside Award** – Sandgate has received the award in principal but the formality of the award will be subject to an 'in person' visit (before the end of the month). It therefore needs to be made sure that all preparations for this are completed as soon as possible.
7.2 **New and existing litter bins - update** – Regarding letter: the bins have been cleaned and emptied. Thoughts were expressed that Sandgate doesn't have enough bins. It was agreed that more bins are needed (so that the repaired ones can be used). Lucy Sharp from Shepway District Council (SDC) had contacted to say that Veolia were going to help us acquire more bins. Suggested that 4 barbeque bins are needed.
7.3 **Walkway Signage – update** – The 'keep dogs on leads' signs are up. The other signs are not yet up: Lucy Sharp (SDC) says she is waiting for the cost to be confirmed. It was suggested that the 'bikes and pedestrians' signage needs to be revisited.
- 8. Business and Tourism Advisory Group report** – Cllr T Prater stated that the next Business Forum meeting will be on 20th May. In regards to the flags: we are currently bidding for flags (innovation fund bid). If this falls through it was discussed that the council should perhaps fund the flags. Mock designs will be shown and discussed next week at council. By the end of the current week Cllr T Prater will have the exact costs of the design and printing.
- 9. Village Design Statement Update** – The consultation period finishes on 14/05/2013 and goes to cabinet in June. If all goes well we can launch in July.
- 10. Windows into the Past – a proposal to spend £163.72 on the Fred Moore boards**
Proposed by: Cllr Mrs M Findlay-Stone
Seconded by: Cllr T Prater
Agreed: unanimously
- 11. Sandgate Hill Traffic Scheme – KCC's proposal to alter the entrance/exit to Coolinge Lane**
There was a negative response to Kent County Council's suggestions of widening the road: it was unclear how this would help the situation - perhaps only the pedestrians crossing the road would benefit. In response to KCC's proposed changes:
i) The changes would make the turn from Sandgate Hill to Coolinge Lane extremely difficult as cars will be forced further out into the carriageway.
ii) It is not understood how removing the guard rail will improve safety
iii) Buses will find it increasingly difficult to turn
iv) The widening of the road seems the only worthwhile change.
These points were entered onto the response form.
- 12. Coastal Regeneration – a proposal to submit an expression of interest**
Cllr T Heselden would like to submit an expression of interest for funding of a boardwalk and sandpit. Approval was needed that a bid should be submitted for £250,000 from the coastal regeneration fund.
Proposed by: Cllr T Heselden
Seconded by: Cllr M Fitch
Agreed: Unanimously

- 13. **Sea Festival** – Cllr T Heselden on behalf of Cllr Mrs N Bliss. Everything is progressing.
- 14. **Chichester Memorial Hall update** – Cllr T Prater on behalf of Cllr Mrs J Holben. AGM meeting to be held on 22nd May. Location: to be confirmed.
- 15. **Sandgate Society**
 - 15.1 **To receive the latest report** – No report
 - 15.2 **Sandgate Byways and Landmarks Leaflet** – The original leaflet was put together by the Sandgate Society. It is now out of date and needs re-doing. However there are currently no funds for this. SAGA has agreed to provide funding for the maps (£600) – Sandgate Parish Council has no problem being proxy to this. Cllr Mrs M Findlay-Stone will contact Phillip Rutt.
- 16. **Information** – no other information.
- 17. **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 4th June 2013 (provisional – to be confirmed at annual PC meeting)

The meeting ended at 8:00pm

Signed by the Environment Committee Chairman.....Date.....