

SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2014 at 7pm

Present: Chairman Cllr Vanessa Reay

Councillors: Gary Fuller, Tim Prater, Leo Griggs, Tom Heselden

and Michael Fitch

Minute Taker: Miss G Thomas

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.

Cllr Reay was proposed and elected as stand-in Chairman

Proposed by: Cllr Michael Fitch Seconded by: Cllr Leo Griggs

Agreed by all

- **1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Nina Bliss, Robert Bliss, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Jan Holben and Richard Grundy.
- **2. Declaration of Interest** none declared.
- **3. Minutes of the last meeting** the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2014, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by: Cllr T Prater **Seconded by:** Cllr M Fitch

Agreed by all

4. Communications

- 4.1 The assistant clerk read out a number of emails relating to problems of graffiti, fly-tipping, drainage, and inappropriate use of vehicles on the beach that had been received in the summer and reported to and resolved by Environmental Services and other Shepway departments.
- 4.2 An email had been received on 29th July from Melanie Wrigley, who congratulated the Parish on the beaches, flags, boards and planters.
- 4.3 An email had been received on 29th July by Sam Stevens Highway Steward, in which she had said that the bottom of Brewers Hill had been made safe by KCC with barriers and Southern Water were to take over the site due to the ongoing drainage problems. Cllr Prater told the committee that he had passed the area recently and it had been newly resurfaced.

5. Transport and Parking Advisory Group

- 5.1 Cllr TP said that he had emailed his Parking Survey to all the council earlier that day and suggested the councillors read them through and make any suggestions by Monday and he would send round finalised amended copies on Tuesday prior to the Full Council meeting.
- 5.2 '20 is plenty'- The committee discussed the best way for this campaign to be run and it was decided that the Parish Clerk should ask in the newsletter for a volunteer from the community to assist the parish in running this campaign.

6. High Street Innovation Fund

- 6.1 **Sandgate Entrance Enhancements Boats.** The councillors agreed that the enhancements to the entrances to Sandgate were very attractive and that there had been many positive comments from the community. Cllr Prater asked if all the monies from the first phase of HSIF have now been claimed back and asked that the Parish Clerk could provide an update.
- 6.2 **Parking signage** Cllr Reay said that an email had been received by Cllr Findlay-Stone from Joy at Saga which confirmed that the sign was regularly being put out over the weekends
- 6.3 **Windows into the Past-** Cllr Griggs said that he had still not submitted a request for Listed Planning permission as he was waiting for a definitive answer that the boards were ready. Cllr Prater asked if the consent of the owners had been received and the assistant clerk said that she believed this was the case but would confirm this to the committee.
- 6.4 **Wells, Wells, Wells**, Cllr Reay read out an email from David Cowell dated 2nd September in which he thanked David Shields, Tim Prater, Michael Chalk, Alice Sanders and Rosemary Sanders for helping to clear up the cobbled area at the back of 82 Sandgate High Street. Mr Cowell said that the area would be painted ready for the Open Day. The email included an invitation for the official launch on Sunday 21st September at 12.01.

Cllr Prater said the exhibition was making some income, which nearly matched the rental cost. Cllr Prater said that the Community Trust was actively exploring extending the exhibition after December.

- 6.5 **Phase Two Signage Project-** The assistant clerk showed the committee the work on the signs that had been done up to date and the committee felt that the measurements should be in metric. Cllr Prater said that further discussion would need to take place but the specification for the signs and finger posts were nearly complete.
- 6.6 **Flags-** Cllr Reay told the committee that Allied Forces flags would need to be sourced for next year and the cost needed to be agreed as they were likely to be double this year's costs. She also said that some of the flags had suffered in the strong winds and needed to be taken down.

Cllr Prater said that an audit needed to be done by Colin Miles which ascertained which poles and brackets needed replacing, how many flags were needed to be replaced prior to making decisions of costs for next year's flags. The assistant clerk was asked to arrange this.

7. Beach Management update

- 7.1 **Beach cleaning** The committee agreed that the beach is looking very clean
- 7.2 **Kiosk-** Cllr Reay told the committee that a draft lease was due to be submitted and that discussions had resulted in the main principles being agreed
- 7.3 **Dog Fouling -** The assistant clerk said that Karyl Rimmer's team of enforcement officers had now been increased. The committee asked the assistant clerk to find out how many dog offenders had been prosecuted.
- 7.4 **Parking on the maintenance gangway** Cllr Reay told the committee that SPC was still awaiting a response from Shepway
- 7.5 **Anne Nevill bequest**-The committee looked at the planters which had been proposed and suggested that a tall, plain, grey urn in keeping with the colour of the wall and memorial would be the most suitable. It was proposed to spend up to £600 on the planters

Proposed Cllr Prater

Seconded Tom Heseldon

Agreed by all

Cllr Reay said that the wording on the plaque should be further discussed with the family.

7.6 **Beach Advisory Group -** Cllr Heseldon agreed to liaise with the assistant clerk to discuss the agenda of the next meeting.

8. **Christmas Lights**

Cllr Prater displayed the solar Christmas globe that he had purchased and said that he felt that it would be nice to have a number of these hanging from all the lamp posts which previously had held the hanging baskets. He also said that this Christmas, two or three 15ft Christmas trees would be placed at the entrances of the parish and that there would still be the reindeer and sleigh decorations in the valley.

9. **Environmental Improvements**

- 9.1 The committee agreed that there was now a better bin emptying service in the parish.
- 9.2 It was proposed that the Parish Clerk write to SDC Environmental Services outlining the committee's concerns that the rainfall on all the hills drains onto Sandgate, which causes a build-up of silt in the cutter. This is further compounded by leaf litter and detritus which collects and blocks the drains and looks unsightly. A monthly mechanical cleansing would be required to resolve this problem.

Proposed Tim Heseldon Seconded Vanessa Reay Agreed by all

- 10. Business and Tourism Advisory Group report Cllr Prater- nothing to report.
- 11. **Information from Sandgate Society -** Cllr Reay told the committee that the summer party was a great success. There was now a new treasurer called Terry Petrie and the Young Sandgate Society was under different leadership as Adele Wilson was no longer in post.

The Sandgate Society now had a monthly programme which would include events such as quizzes and talks and other functions. The committee said that the monthly programme could be advertised by the parish council

Shorncliffe Development- No update at present 12.

13. Summer events-

Cllr Prater said that there had been many very good events over the summer especially the Fun

Cllr Griggs said that the Boules event at the Fun Day was a great success and that the Boules Club had also run a cake stall at the Sea Festival at the end of August which had been very profitable.

14. Information-

Cllr Griggs said that earlier he had seen the minutes of the Town and Parish User Group which had included information about proposals of making the process of planning applications more efficient. Cllr Griggs said that he would circulate the minutes to all the committee.

15.	Date of next meeting – Tuesday 7 th October 2014	
The m	eeting ended at 8:02pm	
Signed	by the Environment Committee Chairman	.Date