

#### SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL

# Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 at 7pm

Present: Chairman Cllr Tim Prater

Councillors: Nina Bliss, L Griggs, G Fuller, Vannessa Reay

and M Fitch (arrived at 7.20pm)

Clerk: Ms A Oates

The Chairman of the Council also attended

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.

#### **VOTE IN STAND-IN CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Tim Prater was proposed as stand-in Chairman for the meeting

**Proposed:** Cllr R Bliss **Seconded:** Cllr Nina Bliss **Agreed** unanimously

- **1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Richard Grundy, Thomas Heselden and Jan Holben.
- **2. Declaration of Interest** none declared.
- 3. **Minutes of the last meeting** the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Nina Bliss **Seconded by:** Cllr Vannessa Reay

Agreed: unanimously

#### 4 Communications

It was noted that a complaint had been received from Ms Fisher re stone damage to front door; the clerk reported on the background to this complaint and her response to the complainant. No further action was required.

## 5 Coastal Strategy for Sandgate – update

The Beach Advisory Group needed to be re-convened. Cllr Heselden had agreed to lead the group. Alex Samson, SDC's Coastal Coordinator, had requested to be included. The group should look at all aspects of the seafront and produce a strategy on the way forward, to include suggestions for possible grants and funding streams. The strategy should then be discussed by the Environment Committee and subsequently be presented to full council. All agreed.

# 6 Sandgate Heritage and WW1 Commemorations

The clerk reported that the council was putting in a request to receive the commemorative paving slab to honour the Sandgate-born Victoria Cross recipient, William Cotter.

## 7 Transport and Parking Advisory Group

7.1 150 people from Saga were keen to take up the discounted tickets offers with Stagecoach.

- 7.2 Saga was not interested in paying for spaces in the Castle Road car park; it was reported that the Leas Cliff Hall car parking charges had changed and more people were now using the car park.
- 7.3 It was suggested that a meeting should be set up with SDC Cllr Malcolm Dearden and Bob Porter to discuss the pricing structure and possible discounts for Saga employees Cllr Prater to arrange this.

# **8** High Street Innovation Fund

- 8.1 **Flags** these had been removed for the winter. It was agreed they had had a positive impact. The design had been questioned by some people but it was explained that they had been designed to complement the Seaside Award flags. The high street flags could be flown again next year but KCC's application form would need to be completed and submitted. The clerk reported that retrospective permission for the hanging baskets had been received. It was agreed that the 2014 application to hang items on the lampposts would need to be submitted earlier; this should include both the baskets and the flags, to be erected from May to September. The clerk would note this in next year's calendar.
- 8.2 **Boats enhancement** there was no update on this matter as quotations were still awaited from SDC.
- 8.3 **New Parking Signage to Saga Car Park** Cllr Prater advised that the contractor had let him down but that the handyman team would be erecting the signage on Thursday 3rd October.
- 8.4 **Windows into the Past** It was proposed that SPC should submit a planning application to fix the John Moore boards onto the wall of the end Coastguard Cottage. Cllr Griggs queried whether the council would need to apply for planning permission as no permission had been sought for the previous displays. The clerk was asked to contact a planning officer for advice. If planning permission was required, the Finance Committee would need to be advised as there would be a fee to pay. It was stressed that permission needed to be obtained in writing from the owners of the end house.

**Proposed by**: Cllr R Bliss **Seconded by**: Cllr Mrs N Bliss

**Agreed**: unanimously; subject to the above conditions.

- 8.4.1 It was noted that the Fred Moore boards had been taken down. Cllr Findlay-Stone was looking into who had taken them and getting them returned.
- 8.5 **Wells, Wells –** Cllr Prater advised that this was a working title only. Meetings had been held with David Cowell and Maggie Brinsden of the Sandgate Community Trust and a structure was being put together. The funding arrangements and audit trail needed to be agreed and created. KALC had been approached for advice. The clerk would check with Jeremy Whittaker at SDC whether these arrangements would meet with SDC's approval. An update would be taken to the November meeting.
- 8.5.1 Cllr Prater would compile a list of all commemorative events in Shepway and would circulate this in two weeks.
- 8.6 **Phase Two Signage Project** the parish council had submitted a bid to Phase II of the HSIF and were successful in being awarded further funding. Village and beach signage would be erected: finger sings and wall-mounted signage. Cllr Prater would re-circulate the bid, some details would need tweaking. Appropriate quotes for the work to be sourced the clerk and Cllr Prater to work together.

### 9 Beaches Advisory Group

- 9.1 The re-convening of the group was discussed under item 5 above.
- 9.2 Seaside Award inspection: the inspector had outlined various issues to be dealt with, addressing specifically: signage re dog ban area, demarcation of the beach designated as being within the award area; clearer notices on the noticeboards; address issues of inconsiderate cyclists the inspector was nearly knocked over at 7.30am. The council would be informed in

- November whether or not it had passed the inspection. Cllr Findlay-Stone was querying with Tidy Britain whether the flags should be removed at the end of the summer season, and was awaiting information on next year's flags.
- 9.3 Tidy Britain campaign on beach littering: Sandgate beach doesn't have a big litter problem as described in the campaign literature so it was agreed not to participate.
- 9.4 It was agreed that a letter be written to SDC thanking Maria and her team for all their hard work in keeping the area clean and tidy.
- 9.5 There was no update on the kiosk; but there were two 19 year-olds keen to start a business should the kiosk become a viable option.

# 10. Environmental Improvements

- 10.1 Further chasing was needed to get the remaining heavily silted gutters cleared.
- 10.2 Two new double bins had been ordered and received; the clerk would get these installed.
- 10.3 Wheelie Bins screening: it was mentioned that a meeting had taken place with residents and management of the building. It was proposed and agreed that the council was unable to offer funding for the screening of any bins as this was the responsibility of the management of the building but that it would support proposals for the screening of the bins if this came forward in terms of a planning application.

**Proposed:** Cllr Michael Fitch **Seconded:** Cllr Nina Bliss

For: 6, 1 abstention

- **Maintenance Gangway** issues covering walkers, cyclists, parked cars etc would now be looked at by the re-formed Beach Advisory Group.
- **12. Christmas Events** the Christmas lights switch-on event would take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 6.00pm. Folkestone's lights would be switched on at 5.00pm.
- **13. Business and Tourism Advisory Group report** a meeting had been held on Monday but only one person attended.
- 14. Village Design Statement update the clerk reported that the designers were currently making all the amendments and the final document would then be ready for printing. The cost of these final changes was raised; the clerk was awaiting information on this.
- **15. Sea Festival update** Cllr Nina Bliss advised that the firework display had been re-scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> September and it had been an excellent display with perfect weather.
- **16. Chichester Memorial Hall update** there was no update. It was agreed that this item should be deleted from future agenda unless there was anything to report. The Farmers' Market continued to be successful.

# 17. Information

The meeting ended at 8:11pm

- 17.1 Cllr Reay would research other festivals, e.g. Divali, for next year.
- 17.2 Fire Hydrants the clerk queried whether local residents could help with the audit but this would not be possible as the map could not be produced for circulation.
- 17.3 The next Sandgate Newsletter should be produced in advance of the Christmas Lights November event. The clerk to liaise with Cllr Reay.
- 17.4 The clerk reported that PCSO Laura Zazo had been relocated to Cheriton and a newly appointed PCSO would be assigned to Sandgate.
- **18. Date of next meeting** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Signed by the Environment Committee	Chairman	.Date