



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 11th November at 7.00pm**

Present: **Chairman** **Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone**
 Councillors: **Nina Bliss, Michael Fitch, Nabin Siwa, J Holben, Tim Prater and**
 A Watts
 The Chairman of the Council was also present
Clerk: **Mrs G Thomas**

These Minutes will only be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting when approved and signed at the next meeting

Meeting started 7.00pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr G Fuller and G Valentine-Neale
2. **Declaration of Interest** – none declared
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2015, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
 Proposed by: Cllr N Bliss
 Seconded by: Cllr M Fitch
 Agreed unanimously
4. **Communications**
 4.1 Emails received 29th October and 30th October from Mr F Miller, SDC Transportation Manager. To be discussed in item 5.
5. **Business Community Update**
 5.1 Cllr Findlay-Stone informed the committee that Beech Tree Total Care had moved from Sandgate due to an increase of business and that Sally Taylor wished to thank the parish council for all its support.
 5.2 Serena Stores would be closing and moving to Folkestone
 5.3 A further antiques store would be opening at 97 Sandgate High Street.
6. **Traffic and Parking Group**
 6.1 An email had been received from Fred Miller regarding the controlled parking consultation: Military Road had scored less than a number of other roads when decisions had been taken about which roads should be included in the consultation. A controlled parking application form was included for nomination of roads for the future schemes.
 Action: Cllr Findlay-Stone to complete form to include Military Road, Riviera and Bybrook Way.
 6.2 An email had been received from Fred Miller proposing dates for meeting to discuss Sandgate Parking proposals.
 Action: Clerk to arrange meeting for early November

7. Beach Management Group

7.1 Cllr Watts said that a Beach Advisory Group meeting had been arranged for next week.

7.2 A complaint had been received that no signs regarding the replenishing of the beach seemed to be up; two signs had been seen lying on the beach.

Action: clerk to contact SDC to get signs reattached to the sea wall

8. Environmental Improvements

8.1 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that there was a balance of £1000.00 in the Street Furniture budget and she proposed to purchase planters for the exterior of Riviera Court for placement after the completion of the wheelie bin screening project.

Proposed by: Cllr M Findlay-Stone

Seconded by: Cllr N Bliss

Agreed by 7

There was 1 abstention

8.2 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that there was a balance of £984.00 in the Environment Improvement budget and she proposed to purchase a board listing all the units stationed at Shorncliffe Barracks during WW1, to be placed on the Village Green.

Proposed by: Cllr M Findlay-Stone

Seconded by: Tim Prater

Agreed unanimously

8.3 Wheelie bins update: Cllr Findlay-Stone said that at a meeting that morning with Mr R Joyce and Miss M Godden, it had been decided that Mr Joyce would draw a possible wheelie bin screen plan using the wave design from the Leas Coastal Park and incorporating planters and seats. This screening would wrap around the front of Riviera Court and it was hoped that Orbit South could be persuaded to use the same design. Mr Joyce was to produce the initial sketch by 9th November and Ms Godden was to show the design to the residents of Riviera Court for agreement.

8.4 Drains: Cllr Findlay-Stone said that repeated build-up of silt in the drains outside Castle Glen was a severe ongoing problem and flooding could result from blocked drains.

Action: clerk to invite Cllr Hod Birkby to have a meeting with Cllr Findlay-Stone to walk around the parish and look at this problem.

8.5 Signs: Cllr Holben said that Alan Lague had confirmed that new signage for the parish had been delivered but he was unable to provide information regarding the progress of the installation work.

9. Community public access defibrillator awareness sessions

Cllr Prater said that an offer had been received from the committee of the Men's Club to host a defibrillator and that this might be a good site, if the parish purchased one.

Action: Cllr R Bliss to contact the Rotarians to see if they would gift the parish a defibrillator

10. KALC Community Award

Cllr Findlay-Stone proposed Mr Geoffrey Stinchcombe for his invaluable work as a computer buddy in Sandgate Parish Library.

Proposed by: Cllr M Findlay-Stone

Seconded by: Cllr N Bliss

Agreed unanimously

11. Proposals for 2016/17 Budget

11.1 Councillor Findlay-Stone had previously circulated to the committee her proposals for projects for the 2016/17 financial year. It was decided to accept proposals for actual sums and defer discussions on the projects to later meetings.

Cllr Findlay-Stone proposed £1000.00 for the Street Furniture budget.

Proposed by Cllr M Findlay-Stone

Seconded by Cllr A Watts

Agreed unanimously

11.2 Cllr Findlay-Stone proposed £1000.00 for the Environment Improvement budget.

Proposed by Cllr Findlay-Stone

Seconded by Cllr T Prater

Agreed unanimously

12. Sandgate Society update

12.1 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that negotiations for the lease of the Fire Station were ongoing with Sandgate Heritage Trust

12.2 The Sandgate Society Christmas event would be taking place on 4th December and tickets would be available from 11th November.

12.3 On 11th November, Sandgate Society would hold a Cheese and Wine evening at the Chichester Memorial Hall.

13. Maidstone Parish Charter

Cllr Findlay-Stone said that she thought that the Maidstone Parish Charter was an excellent idea; the parish council was completely apolitical. It was felt that Sandgate Parish Council by words and actions also operated in a completely non-political manner.

14. Events - Christmas Lights event update

Cllr Findlay-Stone gave an outline of the event and said that unfortunately the Sandgate Primary School choir was no longer available.

Action: clerk to ask The Reverend Mrs Kate McNeice if her singing group were available.

15. Information

15.1 Cllr Watts said that Hythe beach cleaning would take place on Sunday.

15.2 Cllr Siwa said that his group would be taking part in a litter pick in Cheriton and would be willing to do the same in Sandgate.

15.3 It was noted the Kurt Stephens would be a new trustee for the Chichester Hall.

15.4 Cllr R Bliss said that an extra-large gazebo formally belonging to Shepway was now the parish council's property.

Action: clerk to arrange for Vic Harmer to collect the item from the Rowing Club and store in his yard.

15.5 Cllr Fitch said that it had now been a year since the bus stop had been damaged and he asked that the clerks should ask for regular updates from SDC regarding the status of the insurance claim and the refurbishment of the shelter.

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st December 2015

The meeting ended at 8:15pm

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