



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7pm on Tuesday 14th April 2015

At Sandgate Parish Council/Library Offices
James Morris Court, Sandgate High Street, Sandgate.

Present: **Chairman** **Cllr Robert Bliss**
 Councillors **Nina Bliss, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Michael Fitch, Tom Heselden,**
 Jan Holben, Tim Prater

Clerk **A Oates**

The parish clerk informed the members that the current PCSO was on extended leave and Sandgate was being covered temporarily by the previous PCSO, Lis Jepsen. A written report for March had been received and had been circulated; this was noted. The clerk had asked for an update on the situation from the PSCO Inspector.

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

The meeting commenced at 7pm There were no members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Gary Fuller, Leo Griggs, Richard Grundy and Vannessa Reay.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – there was none.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2015, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
 Proposed by: Cllr Tim Prater
 Seconded by: Cllr Tom Heselden
 Agreed by all
4. **Chairman's Opening Remarks**
 - 4.1 The election was uncontested. The parish councillors for Sandgate Village Parish Ward were: Robert Bliss, Nina Bliss, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Jan Holben, Tim Prater and Adrian Watts. The councillor for Sandgate Valley Parish Ward was Nabin Siwa.
 - 4.2 There were two casual vacancies; it was hoped that these could be filled by co-option. The terms of the co-option would be decided at the next parish council meeting, which would be when the new administration would take effect. It was hoped that Leo Griggs would be one of the co-opted councillors, as he had been expected to re-stand but his nomination form had been lost. One other nomination form had been mislaid and it was expected that that person would also be put forward for co-option.
 - 4.3 Thanks were extended to the outgoing councillors: Richard Grundy, Tom Heselden and Vannessa Reay.
 - 4.4 The Annual Parish Council meeting would be the next full council meeting, which would be Tuesday 12th May. The Annual Parish meeting would take place the same evening, one hour earlier. Two speakers were being invited: David Cowell to update on the 'War of the Words' HG Wells Exhibition and Euan Williamson to speak about the Sandgate Society.

4.5 A photographic session had been held before a previous council meeting, to record the current administration; a copy of one group photo would be sent to each councillor. The single photo of the Chairman would be mounted and displayed on the wall. It had been decided that the photos of the past Chairmen were too large for the wall space available so these had been re-sized to match the photo of the current Chairman.

5. Chairman's Correspondence

Email from Rosemary Sanders, dated 12th April 2015, re an allotment in Sandgate. It was noted that this land is privately owned. The footpath alongside was not currently designated a public right of way; Mrs Sanders was leading on this to get it adopted. The parish clerk was asked to notify the PCSO and ask her to add this area to her patrol route.

6. Granville Road Toilets and 'Kiosk'

The draft lease had been received; the clerk had sent it to the KCC legal advisor who had appraised it and offered suggestions as to what further information the parish council should obtain from SDC. The quick response was noted and was much appreciated. The members agreed with the legal advice and agreed that the lease could not therefore be accepted. The clerk was asked to send the legal representative's response to Bob Porter for his comments. It was further agreed that there was no point in the Finance Committee meeting to discuss the terms until the issues raised by the legal adviser were resolved. The clerk would find out when the planning consent for the creation of the kiosk would run out.

7. Sandgate Library / KCC & SPC Service Level Agreement

The carpet had been cleaned and it was agreed that this had been very successful. The copy of KCC's current lease had not yet been received; time was getting very short; it was hoped that the new administration at SDC would honour the agreed transfer of the lease to SPC.

8. Re-appointment of Internal Auditor

It was proposed that Kevin Funnell be re-appointed to act as Internal Auditor to Sandgate Parish Council.

Proposed by: Cllr Nina Bliss

Seconded by: Cllr Tim Prater

Agreed by all

9. Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report – there had not been a meeting since the last parish council meeting. The Chairman of the Council updated members on the Cabinet Members' Fund that the council had applied to and the subsequent success of all four applications. This was for the renovation of the lampposts along the High Street and Esplanade, the installation of new playground equipment at the recreation ground, the purchase of thirty new polycarbonate litter bins and the purchase of multi nation flags to fly from the lampposts in the high street, marking the commemoration of World War I. Cllr Holben asked if the lampposts in the valley could be added to the renovation list – she would obtain the lamppost numbers. It was suggested and agreed that the council should get other possible projects costed so that, should another fund become available, the council would be in a position to apply quickly.

10. Finance update and payments for approval – the clerk requested, on behalf of the Environment Committee, the council's approval to commit to the expenditure of an additional fingerpost at approximately £610; to be sited on The Esplanade. The expenditure would be claimed back at a later time from the High Street Innovation Fund, as there was an underspend in the fingerpost project fund.

Proposed by: Cllr Nina Bliss

Seconded by: Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone

Agreed by all

11. Finance Committee report – there had not been a meeting and there was nothing new to report.

12. Environment Committee Report and Shorncliffe Development Update

- 12.1 The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. These were formally received and accepted.
- 12.2 Cllr Findlay-Stone reported that the beach was due for inspection any day, re the Coastal Award scheme. The map and signage on the information boards had been updated.
- 12.3 The beach cleaner, Marie, was back and during her first few days she collected over 40 bags of litter; much of this was dog mess. Marie was desperate to be trained as a Dog Warden so that she could issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN). Without this authority, she was powerless to insist that dog owners clean up after their dogs. She sees this happening often but receives abusive language when confronting the owners as they know that there is nothing the beach cleaner can do about it. The clerk had obtained information that only nine FPNs had been issued in the last year, despite there being six full-time dog wardens. The clerk was asked to find out where these were issued. SPC wanted the two clerks and Marie to be trained to be able to issue FPNs but the district council had said that the council could create its own enforcement system. This was not acceptable. SDC needs to take this matter very seriously. The clerk was asked to write to Bob Porter to request that he attends a meeting with Cllrs R Bliss and M Findlay-Stone to discuss this matter.
- 12.4 Cllr MFS noted that Marie was wearing a thick jacket and that she looked overheated. When asked about this, she was informed that it was new policy for Veolia staff to wear these jackets. The parish clerk was asked to write to SDC and Veolia saying that this was an unsafe working practice.
- 12.5 The Sandgate Mens Club had expressed interest in having a defibrillator; this would be discussed at the next environment committee meeting.
- 12.6 It was reported that the planning application for phase one of the Shorncliffe Development had been passed by SDC.

13. Planning Committee Report – there had been two meetings since the last parish council meeting; the minutes had been previously circulated. These were formally received and accepted. There was extreme concern about the land adjoining 14 The Corniche. Various information and opinions were being sought and this would be reported upon at the next planning committee meeting.

14. Information – there was no further information to report.

15. Date of next meeting – this would be the Annual Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th May 2015 at 7pm, to be followed by the annual drinks and finger buffet; Sandgate residents would be very welcome to attend.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....