



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7pm on Tuesday 8th July 2014

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

Present:	Chairman Councillors	Cllr Robert Bliss Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Leo Griggs, Richard Grundy, Jan Holben, Tim Prater and Vanessa Reay
	Clerk	A Oates

PCSO Lis Jepsen attended (together with PCSO Mark Wilson) and gave a verbal report on crime figures for June; she had previously submitted a graph showing the crime levels between May 2013 and May 2014. It was requested that a written report be submitted each month. The PCSO mentioned that Kent Police was now under the Community Safety Unit. There was a new sergeant for the area who intended that there would be more foot patrols and PCSOs should attend community events in their areas. The Chairman mentioned that the Sea Festival would be bigger this year, with more stalls, a re-enactment and the beacon would be lit. The new sergeant would like to come and meet with the councillors. The PCSOs were thanks for their attendance.

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 7.03pm

No members of the public were present.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Nina Bliss and Tom Heselden
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – there were none.
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 10th June 2014, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
Proposed by: Cllr Tim Prater
Seconded by: Cllr Jan Holben
Agreed by all
- 4. Chairman's Opening Remarks**
 - 4.1 Congratulations were extended to Tom Heselden for passing his legal exams.
 - 4.2 There would be a contingent of French visitors, under the Twinning banner, coming to the Family Fun Day to play in petanque matches; the limit of spending on the Twinning budget was £400.
 - 4.3 There had been some responses to the letter sent out to town and parish councils in Shepway asking for their financial support of Discover Folkestone (DFHRM) – none had voted to give a grant. The parish council would look at this matter again in September.
 - 4.4 There had been some instances of vandalism at the recreation ground; signs would be put up asking people to respect and look after their rec and inform the council of any anti-social activities.
 - 4.5 It was important for articles to be submitted to the clerk and Cllr Reay for inclusion in the summer newsletter. Time was running out for the Fun Day to be included. The clerk was asked to circulate the deadline for copy and suggestions of articles to all councillors. The final copy needed to be agreed by the following week.

5. **Chairman's Correspondance**

- 5.1 Email from a young person who lives on Romney Marsh requesting funding support to represent UK Scouts in Japan – the Chairman did not think this would be relevant to the people of Sandgate.
- 5.2 Email from SDC re the current round of Community Covenant Grant funding – the clerk would circulate this to councillors.

6. **Report on Chairman's and Parish Clerk's meeting on 2nd July with Dr Susan Priest**

- 6.1 The meeting took place with Susan Priest (SP) and Colin Paine (CP). It has since been mentioned that CP would soon be leaving the district council. The Chairman would ask SP who his successor would be.
- 6.2 The matter of SPC's interest in possibly taking on the Granville Road toilet block and kiosk on a lease basis were discussed. SP would get their legal department to draw up a draft lease to start the discussions. CP would ask Andy Blaszkowicz to look at SDC's current toilet cleaning contract to see if SPC could be included, should it take on the block. For information, planning permission had been granted for the conversion of a kiosk; this would expire in October 2015.
- 6.3 Re the possible addition of another noticeboard on the side of the toilet block, the clerk was to write to SDC to request permission.
- 6.4 The matter of the vehicles parking on the maintenance gangway was discussed; they would look into the lease agreement with Radnor Estates and report back.
- 6.5 The new benches policy, which includes the prohibition of items of commemoration on benches, was now in force. Any items found on them would be removed. Should items be seen on benches, this should be reported to Customer Services.
- 6.6 It was mentioned to SP that SDC had gifted the benches by the war memorial and on the village green to the parish council; this information had not been passed to her or CP; they would ask Property Services to ensure that this was added to the information held with the lease.
- 6.7 SP and CP were informed that SPC is looking into the possibility of installing a car park/modular unit/BBQ etc at the rec – all such information should be notified to Paul Marshall in Property Services. CP would check when the final payment of £8,750 would be passed to the parish council.

7. **Report on recent Clerks' Conference**

The Clerk informed that she and the Assistant Clerk had attended the KALC conference in Faversham. There were various speakers talking on a range of issues, including the Audit Process, Neighbourhood Planning, a case study on a toilet block that had been converted to a small community centre and an update on insurance matters. The assistant clerk attended The Clerk in Action Workshop in the morning and both clerks attended the afternoon workshop: Developing Professionalism. Some of the speakers had been interesting and some had not but the afternoon speaker, in particular, was very unprofessional in her delivery. Feedback had been given to KALC.

8. **Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report**

There had not been a meeting since the last parish council meeting so there was no much to report on except that the old toilet block had been removed, quotes for modular units were being obtained and the basement entrance below would be unbricked and secured with a lockable door. Cllr RG highlighted that there would need to be a weight test carried out before a modular unit was installed above the basement. A meeting had taken place with someone from Kent Highways to discuss the possibility of having a car park; options included reducing the dog run to make way for 8 to 12 cars or to move the dog run to elsewhere in the rec. The car park would need to have an exit route to the road created.

9. **Finance update, payments for approval** – the clerk presented cheques for signing; these would be added to the next cheque schedule. It was agreed that the additional works to the war memorial had been completed satisfactorily so the final cheque payment could be released.

The finances were approved.

Proposed by: Cllr Tim Prater

Seconded by: Cllr Richard Grundy

Agreed by all

10. **Finance Committee report** – there had not been a meeting since the last parish council meeting so there was nothing to report.
11. **Environment Committee Report and Shorncliffe Development Update** - the minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated, were formally presented and approved. It was proposed that up to £100 be spent on the 20s Plenty stickers and the clerk informed that the price given at the last committee meeting for the cost of a new double litter bin was incorrect; it would be £567.12. It was therefore proposed to purchase a new double bin.
Proposed by: Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone
Seconded by: Cllr Jan Holben
Agreed by all
12. **Planning Committee Report** - the minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated, were formally presented and approved. Re the Shorncliffe Development application, the committee had voted to object. The council’s proposals re the S106 Agreement had previously been sent to SDC; Cllr Holben felt that the matter of allotments could have been included; all agreed so JH would add this to the proposals and send to the clerk for re-submitting to SDC.
13. **Information**
 - 13.1 The matter of winter plantings of the troughs was raised; it was agreed in principle re the new boats and any new planters by the war memorial and that this should be taken up by the Finance Committee.
 - 13.2 JH mentioned that a vehicle was constantly parking on the pavement by Enbrook Road and causing an obstruction. This would be raised with the PCSO.
14. **Date of next meeting** – this would be Tuesday 9th September at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 8.07pm

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