



# Minutes

## SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Date 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013. Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Sandgate Council and Library, Sandgate High Street.

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**Present:**        **Chairman**        **Cllr Robert Bliss**  
                     **Cllrs**                **Nina Bliss, Gary Fuller, Leo Griggs and Tim Prater**  
                     **Clerk**                 **Ms A Oates**

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The PCSO was unable to attend. There were no questions from the public.

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

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm

1 member of the public was present.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Richard Grundy, Jan Holben and Vanessa Reay.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013 were proposed as a correct record.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Tim Prater

**Seconded by:** Cllr Nina Bliss

**Agreed** by all. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

**4. Chairman's opening remarks**

4.1 2014/15 budgets – committees need to look at their budgets and make recommendations to the clerk by 5<sup>th</sup> November, two days before the next finance meeting; Cllr Griggs should do the same for the Twinning budget.

4.2 We have a new PCSO. Laura Zazo has been moved to Cheriton. The replacement, Dan Mills, is a new PCSO. Sandgate is seen as a good place for new recruits. He has not yet introduced himself to the council.

4.3 County member for Sandgate, Hod Birkby, will come to the November meeting to give an update to the council.

4.4 Children's Craft Club: Alyssa Fitch has stood down from running the sessions. The council thanks her for all her efforts and for keeping the club going. It has been a big success. The new person running it will be Hannah Cotton. Hannah has recently moved to Sandgate from London and is very keen to get involved in the local community. She was a teacher for 10 years and is going to be setting up her own business as a child minder in the New Year. She has two daughters who are four and one so she has much experience of working with children.

**5. Chairman's correspondence**

- 5.1 Letter from Linda Rene-Martin, dated 27 September 2013 – she is still not happy with the district council's planning department. The letter was passed around the table and was formally noted. The clerk was asked to send an acknowledgement.
- 5.2 Re parking on the maintenance gangway off Granville Parade - SDC had sent a map of the highways boundaries. The area concerned was not owned by Kent Highways; SDC said it would carry out a land registry search to establish ownership. The parish council would follow this up.
- 5.3 Letter from Canon John Dilnot regarding land maintenance problems in the area around the scout HQ in the Undercliff. The letter was read out and it was agreed that this should be passed to the Environment Committee to deal with. The clerk was asked to send an acknowledgment.
- 5.4 Email from Saga re the new signage (HSIF project) – it seems that there have been crossed wires; Saga appears not to have been informed or consulted on the signs. This would be followed up and rectified.

**6. Relocation of the Sir John Moore statue**

It was proposed and agreed that a letter should be written to the MOD, in response to its request to move the Sir John Moore statue to Sandgate – the letter should specify that the parish council welcomes this offer and agrees in principle to the relocation of the statue onto the Esplanade, opposite the bottom of Battery Point; and the question regarding costs should be asked - would these be covered by the MOD. It was hoped that SDC would be flexible and allow the statue to be sited there.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Tim Prater

**Seconded by:** Cllr Gary Fuller

**Agreed** unanimously

**7. Miss Sandgate**

The clerk reported on the suggestions offered by the recipient of the title on how she could be an ambassador for Sandgate – attend events at local schools, attend the Farmers' Market and the Christmas lights switch-on event and write a small article for the parish newsletter. The members discussed the relevance of having a Miss Sandgate and that the council had not been consulted on this before the event to select someone took place. It was not inclusive as it restricted boys from being selected. It was felt that if the girl wished to follow up any of her suggestions; it could look good on her future CV. The council would like her to attend the Christmas event on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

**8. Twinning update**

Cllr Griggs reported that the Mayor of Sangatte and other council dignitaries had been invited to attend the Remembrance Day service on 10<sup>th</sup> November and was awaiting a response. Re boules, they are playing at Etchinghill this Sunday. Over the winter, the boules club would be set up more formally. Emails about the activities had been sent to the local schools.

**9. Land Assets Management and MUGA updates**

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. There was no further update.

**8. Finance update and payments for approval**

There were no payments for approval.

**9. Finance Committee report**

As the draft minutes of the last meeting had not yet been approved for sending out, Cllr Nina Bliss went briefly through the minutes. There was one update – regarding the additional cost for the final amendments to the VDS, the clerk had been informed of the approximate figure. As per the agreement at the finance meeting, the clerk would email this information to the committee. Cllr Bliss reminded the clerk to ensure that there was sufficient petty cash to purchase the gifts for the children at the Christmas lights switch-on event.

**10. Environment Committee report**

The draft minutes of the last meeting had not yet gone out but would be circulated the following day. The clerk was asked if a written request to receive the paving stone commemorating the Victoria Cross recipient, William Cotter, had been sent. The clerk informed that she had done this. There was no update on the HSIF 'Boats' project except that the clerk had seen an email from Cllr Holben to SDC requesting an update.

**11. Planning Committee Report**

Cllr Fuller updated that there had been one meeting since the last council meeting. There had been one 'objection' and three 'no objections' to the planning applications requiring comments. The minutes had been previously circulated. A letter had since been received from the landowner re the felling of the holm oak; this would be viewed at the next planning committee meeting.

It was proposed that all the reports be accepted and noted.

**Proposed by:** Cllr Tim Prater

**Seconded by:** Cllr Gary Fuller

**Agreed** unanimously

**12. Information** – there were no other matters.

**13. Date of the next meeting** – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

**Minutes agreed and signed by:**

**Chairman of the Council..... Date 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013**