



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7pm on Tuesday 14th October 2014

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

Present:	Chairman Councillors	Cllr Robert Bliss Nina Bliss, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Gary Fuller, Jan Holben, Leo Griggs, Tim Prater and Vannessa Reay
	Clerk	A Oates

PCSO Lis Jepsen did not attend; however she had sent a written report, which was previously circulated to members.

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 7.02pm

3 member of the public was present.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Richard Grundy and Tom Heselden
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – there were none.
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2014, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
Proposed by: Cllr Leo Griggs
Seconded by: Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone
Agreed by all
- 4. Chairman’s Opening Remarks**
 - 4.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone, especially the two guests: Tom Lord and Colin Finch, who would give a presentation at item 6 of the agenda.
 - 4.2 A meeting with the new Inspector for the PCSOs was being arranged to discuss: anti-social behaviour in both the recreation ground and Castle Road car park, the on-going parking problems in Castle Road and the role of the PCSO in Sandgate.
 - 4.3 Regarding the vehicles parking on the maintenance gangway, this was being taken up with SDC and it was hoped that the council could be updated fully at the next council meeting.
 - 4.4 The council was still awaiting the first draft of the lease for taking on responsibility for the operation of the toilets and Granville Parade; it was hoped that the kiosk could be operating by next summer.
 - 4.5 The council was very concerned about the state of land adjoining 5 Radnor Cliff. Correspondence had been sent to SDC and the Health & Safety Executive and SPC was seeking legal advice.
 - 4.6 There was no new update on the taking on of more responsibility for running the library. KCC was changing its strategy again. If the council has not heard from KCC officers within the month, the Chairman would liaise direct with Councillor Mike Hill to find out what the position is.
 - 4.7 Following discussions with Saga, there will be a joint switch-on of Christmas lights with Saga and those in the village and Enbrook Valley. The date would be Friday 28th November; this would also be the date of the family event with the appearance of ‘Father Christmas’.

5. Chairman’s Correspondence

- 5.1 Email from KALC, dated 1st October: announcing the KALC Community Awards Scheme for 2015 – something for the council to consider.
- 5.2 Letter from the Mayor of Sangatte, dated 29th September: inviting the Chairman to the Remembrance Day ceremony on 11th November. The Chairman would attend and would lay a wreath. It was discussed that there would be a church service at St Paul’s on Sunday 9th November; the clerk was asked to inform the church about our War Memorial renovations and that flags will be going up in the vicinity of the Memorial.
- 5.3 A grant application had been received from Sandgate Society: this would go on the agenda of the next full council meeting.

6. England Coast Path from Camber to Folkestone Consultation

Tom Lord (TL), of Natural England, gave a short presentation, assisted by Colin Finch (CF), of Kent County Council on the scheme to give pedestrian rights of access all around the coast of Great Britain. The area involving Sandgate threw up some concerns, mainly that the map within the consultation documents showed a dotted line depicting a cycle route along the maintenance gangway. It was strongly pointed out that this route was not a cycle path; the National Cycle Route No. 2 went through the high street before joining the promenade at the end of the gangway by the Sir John Moore Memorial. It was questioned whether the validity of the consultation might be compromised if incorrect mapping was being used. Members were very concerned that this might provide a legal precedent. SDC has put up signs that clearly stated that the gangway was not a public right of access to either pedestrians or cyclists but that care should be taken by all users of the gangway. TL agreed to look into this; to get clarification on why the cycle path was incorrectly depicted and how this could be resolved. Depending on this outcome, the council may need to re-discuss this matter urgently.

The other main concern was the on-going problem of vehicles being parked on the maintenance gangway; this land is managed by SDC. Once the public route is formally opened, if SDC fails to address the problem, Natural England and KCC would look to clear the blockage and look for a permanent solution; e.g. install lockable bollards.

Work on the Camber to Folkestone route would start at the end of next year. It is unlikely that people will see much change, except for the installation of ‘Acorns’ – the signage depicting the route.

The clerk was asked to print out a copy of the part of the consultation that is relevant to Sandgate and put it on display in the library.

7. Parking survey – summary findings

Earlier in the day, Cllr TP circulated a spreadsheet to all councillors on the findings of the survey (this was an updated version following the receipt of more surveys, received after the deadline). As it included names and addresses of residents, he would provide an edited document, omitting names and addresses, and send this to the parish clerk. This information would then be open to the public to view. The object of the survey was to collect the views of residents and businesses. Cllrs TP and MFS would then incorporate these views into a draft strategy to be presented to SDC. They would present the first draft at the next Environment Committee meeting.

8. E-readers

Since the last council meeting, there had been a meeting with KCC and they wished the main aspect of the grant to be retained – that is, that some readers would be hired out to customers. After researching various e-readers, the Kobo Aura was the recommended model to go for. It was proposed and agreed, therefore, that 10 e-readers and 10 covers be purchased.

Proposed by: Cllr Gary Fuller

Seconded by: Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone

Agreed by all

- 9. Castle Road Car Park**
Two members of the public had written to the council reporting various incidents of anti-social behaviour in the car park and had requested that CCTV be installed. The members agreed that these problems should be taken up with the land owner, which is Shepway District Council. The clerk was asked to write to SDC and attach copies of the two emails; also to copy in the PCSO, and to ask SDC for a response as to what they will do about this matter.
- 10. Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report**
The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated. It was noted that there should be one correction: replace the word ‘insecticide’ with ‘herbicide’.
- 11. Finance update, payments for approval** – there was no update and nothing to present.
- 12. Finance Committee report**
The minutes of the last meeting, previously circulated, were formally presented and accepted. It was proposed that the council purchase new Christmas lights, in the form of 24 garlands to be wrapped around the lampposts in the high street at a cost of £4,080.
Proposed by: Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone
Seconded by: Cllr Leo Griggs
Agreed by all
- 13. Environment Committee Report and Shorncliffe Development Update**
The minutes of the meeting, previously circulated, were formally presented and accepted. Cllr MFS informed that photos of the sea reaching the maintenance gangway had been sent to her by a local resident. In view of this matter, she had asked the assistant clerk to contact Bob Porter at SDC to ask why the beach replenishment works had not taken place this year and, as Colin Paine had left SDC, who would now submit the bid for funding for these works to the Environment Agency.

There was no update re the Shorncliffe development.
- 14. Planning Committee Report** – the minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated; there was nothing further to report other than the council was seeking legal advice regarding the land adjoining 5 Radnor Cliff.
- 15. Information**
15.1 Cllr LG reported that there was no electricity connection at the site of the old toilet block at the recreation ground. It would cost over £15,000 to install a connection. In the past, electricity must have been accessed by looping off from the street lighting. It should, therefore, be ascertained who owns that lamppost and then ask the owner if the council could re-instate the loop.
15.2 Email re KCC proposed spending cuts – Cllr MFS advised that this should be circulated to residents to be made aware of the proposals and urging them to send in their own comments.
- 16. Date of next meeting** – this would be Tuesday 11th November at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 8.31pm

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