



Minutes

SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Date 10th December 2013. Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Sandgate Council and Library, Sandgate High Street.

Present:	Chairman	Cllr Robert Bliss (RB)
	Cllrs	Nina Bliss (NB), Gary Fuller (GF), Marjorie Findlay-Stone (MFS), Leo Griggs (LG), Vannessa Reay (VR) and Tim Prater (TP)
	Clerk	Ms A Oates

PCSO Danny Mills gave a short update: although he had only recently been appointed, he announced that he was being moved to another ward; crime in Sandgate was low; there had been a noise complaint and continuing complaints about dog fouling which as a council matter. A member of the public asked a question about having a crossing on Sandgate Hill. A member of the public addressed the council with a query about conservation areas. It was replied that these were clearly delineated in the new Design Statement.

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 7.08pm

18 members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Richard Grundy and Jan Holben.

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 12th November 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 The Chairman welcomed the members of the public and said that after our parish council meeting there would be the customary Christmas drinks and finger buffet and everyone present was welcome to join him and the councillors.

4.2 The Sandgate Design Statement was now finished and currently being printed and would be ready on Friday. The electronic document was already on SDC's website and it would be on the parish council's website shortly. Thanks were expressed to everyone who contributed, with special thanks to Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone. This was an important document.

4.3 In the New Year, the council would be refurbishing the War Memorial and surrounding area in readiness for the 100th anniversary of the First World War.

4.4 Taylor Wimpey's consultation on their development plans for the Shorncliffe Garrison site had ended and the parish council had submitted full comments on the proposals. Cllr Griggs added that they would be consulting again before submitting their planning application.

4.5 The council's winter Sandgate Newsletter had been printed and distributed around the many businesses in the village and Golden Valley. It was also sent by email to all on the emailing database. The Chairman invited people to pick up a copy after the meeting if they hadn't already got it.

5. Chairman's correspondence

There was only one piece of correspondence: The Royal British Legion had thanked the council and Sandgate Library for helping with its Poppy Appeal – the amount collected was £14.20.

6. Sandgate Community Trust's purchase of Martello Towers and escarpment

It was proposed that the parish council should support the Trust's proposals in principle as it was very important that the woodlands be protected. The council could not put any funding towards the purchase but it would be happy to see the towers and land maintained on that basis.

Proposed by: Cllr Robert Bliss

Seconded by: Cllr Tim Prater

Voted For: 6; **voted against:** 1

7. Land Assets Management and MUGA update

The works had been almost completed. The grass was growing on the five-a-side football pitch and it would be ready for use in the spring. There were a few snagging issues which were being dealt with.

8. Finance update and payments for approval

The clerk presented the cheque payment schedule (cheques numbered 100918 to 100934) and the petty cash schedule for approval (*appendices 1 and 2*). They were duly approved and signed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the cheques were signed and counter-signed.

9. Finance Committee Report

Cllr Nina Bliss reported that there had been no meeting since early November. She reminded members that the draft budget for 2014-15 had been previously circulated and would be discussed and voted upon in January.

10. Environment Committee report

Cllr MFS reported that the minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated and she had nothing further to report.

11. Planning Committee Report

Cllr Fuller updated that there had been one meeting since the last council meeting. There had been four applications, three with no objection; one was referred back to SDC as some of the information was missing from its website. Various correspondence had been received which would be responded to in the near future.

12. Cycling in Sandgate

Cllr Russell Tillson attended the meeting and updated the council on the plans to have a cycle route all along the coast. This would be a long process and may never come to fruition. He recognised that there would be conflicts, especially as Natural England was pursuing its coastal path plans. MFS expressed concerns about the width of the gangway as many walkers had informed the council of dangerous experiences with cyclists and she was fearful of the Cycle Forum's plans to have new signs put up which would imply a right of way for cyclists. She also asked about the notice informing about the 1958 Act which had been taken down which informed people that the gangway was not a public right of way.

She queried who had taken it down and why. Cllr Tillson said that he would look into this matter. He said that the whole area was very sensitive and that some signage was essential. It was pointed out that the National Cycle Route No 2, which goes through the high street, was very dangerous to cyclists but also the signs depicting the route had been removed.

13. Information – The clerk informed members that the parish office would close from 24th December and re-open on 2nd January 2014.

14. Date of the next meeting – Tuesday 14th January 2014 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Minutes agreed and signed by:

Chairman of the Council..... Date 14th January 2014