

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th March 2006

Present: Vice Chairman Cllr J Greenwall (in the chair)

Cllrs. Mrs M Wells, Mrs R Dixon, Mrs J Bailey,

R MacMillan, M Fitch, M Lyons

Parish Clerk Mrs J. Archer

The Vice Chairman Cllr J Greenwall opened the meeting at 7.00 pm. There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from the Chairman, Cllr Mrs J MacMillan, Cllrs R Bliss, H Noonan & S Whiffin.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2006 having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr M Lyons: Seconded: Cllr Mrs M Wells Carried

4. Public questions

A ten-minute period was set-aside for the public to ask questions of the Council. The Parish Council endeavoured to answer all questions put to them. All questions could be answered. Noted that speed restrictions in the Golden Valley to be discussed at the next meeting of the Environment Committee.

5. Award for 'Sympathetic Development'

Cllr Mrs R Dixon reported on a decision taken at both the Planning and Environment Committee meetings held on 7th March 2006. *After due consideration* to a request from the Sandgate Society that an annual 'Award' of £500 (donated jointly between Sandgate Parish Council and the Sandgate Society, £250 each) be given to the best development in Sandgate, the committee unanimously agreed that, in view of the current financial climate, *specific developments and / or developers do not warrant spending public funds needlessly on frivolous proposals*. Moreover it was pointed out that all planning applications for developments in Sandgate are considered fully by the Parish Council Planning Committee prior to approval, and that the utmost care and consideration is taken to ensure that *all* developments they approve meet the criteria of being 'sympathetic'.

6. Watering of Hanging Baskets for the forthcoming season

Confirmed by the nursery that that the water to be used will be drawn from storage at the nursery, be specially treated with the necessary nutrients, and imported by tanker, thereby alleviating public concern in view of the water shortage and imminent hosepipe ban.

7. Street Furniture

Cllr Greenwall advised that the 6 new planters and 2 granite benches for the Sir John Moore Apron have been ordered and expect to be delivered, placed and planted up (all within grant budget), hopefully by the end of April, this to be confirmed by KCC.

8. Sandgate Parish Council Library

A further Partnership meeting with KCC to take place on 17th March to finalise the Agreement. The Parish Council, *having saved the library from closure*, expect to take occupation of the premises as of Monday 3rd April. *All Parish Council meetings thereafter to be held at the library*. The Parish Clerk, computer and files to be based at the library which will be re-named the 'Sandgate Parish Council Library' in partnership with KCC who will continue to provide the books, videos, public computers, etc as at present. The library premises also to provide a base for the Police Community Support Officer and Maintenance Person in the future.

Cllr R MacMillan put forward the motion that, subject to successful completion of the Partnership Agreement, that *the Parish Clerk* be authorised to purchase essential equipment required, including computer and peripherals, furniture (desk & chair etc) for use in the library prior to moving in. Noted that up until this point the clerk has used personal equipment and facilities from her own home.

Proposed: Cllr R MacMillan: Seconded: Cllr J Greenwall:

Recommended that the Parish Clerk be authorised to purchase computer equipment as stated.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, Cllr Mrs J MacMillan, the Vice-Chairman Cllr R Greenwall, Cllrs R Bliss & R MacMillan for saving the library and providing a convenient and accessible base from which the Sandgate Parish Council and Clerk can operate from.

Proposed: Cllr M Lyons: Seconded: Cllr Mrs R Dixon: Carried

A vote of thanks to Cllrs Mrs R Dixon and Mrs M Wells for dealing with the church hall hire, key collecting/returning and opening and closing of the church hall. Recommended that a letter of thanks be sent to the Church for their support in allowing us to use the hall for the Parish Council's monthly meetings.

Proposed: Cllr R MacMillan: Seconded: Cllr Mrs J Bailey. Carried

9. Castle Road Car Park

Cllr Greenwall reported on the successful negotiations with Shepway District Council, by way of payment in the sum of £1,706.00 plus VAT, the car park shall remain as free for the 200/07 year. Additional signs to be erected to this effect by SDC free of charge.

Proposed: Cllr R MacMillan Seconded: Cllr M Fitch: Carried

10. Chairman's correspondence

The Vice- Chairman read out a number of communications that had been received and sent. All had been acknowledge and noted. For table of correspondence please see *Appendix 1*

11. Environment Committee report

The Vice-Chairman read the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 7th March 2006 and updated the Parish Council on decisions that had been made at that meeting to be recommended for full Parish Council approval, those being: -

a. Newsletter: To agree in principle the outsourcing of the Newsletter, including the distribution thereof.

Proposed by Cllr M Lyons: Seconded by Cllr Mrs R Dixon: Carried

- b. Car Parking Signage: Cllr R MacMillan updated the Parish Council on the car parking signage, namely that SDC had already regulated by Order, for signs to be erected as to car parking charges as of 1st April together with the intended provision of a further free sign to be displayed stating that the car parks remain *free for one year, courtesy of Sandgate Parish Council*. Cllr R MacMillan reminded the Parish Council that both the Wilberforce Road and Castle Road car parks to remain 24 hr car parks and the *advice to residents that their vehicles should be moved within each 24 hour period to prevent prosecution*.
- **c. Maintenance Operative:** Recommended to place an advertisement in the local press, also on the Parish Notice Boards and website and any newsagents deemed appropriate, to invite further applications for the post.

Proposed : Cllr Mrs R Dixon : Seconded Cllr Mrs J Bailey : Carried For Environment Committee meeting minutes please see *Appendix 2*

12. Finance Committee report

Cllr M Lyons read out the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 23rd February 2006.

For Finance committee minutes please see Appendix 3

13. Planning Committee report

Cllr Mrs R Dixon read out the Planning Applications that had been dealt with by the Planning Committee as follows:-

Application No.	Location	Detail	Decision
YO6/0191/SH/BC	18 Chichester Road	Erection of a single storey rear	
	Sandgate	extension	No objection
YO6/0260/SH/CB	76 Sandgate High Street	Display of one non-illuminated fascia sign (re-submission of YO5/1647/SH)	No objection
YO6/0206/SH/RA	Land opposite Chipchase Lodge (Formerly land at St Stephens Way) St Stephens Way, Folkestone	Erection of a detached bungalow together with the construction of a vehicular access and a 1.5m high boundary wall, following demolition of existing.	No objection

14. Shepway District Council Development Control Committee decision re planning application for land at Coolinge Lane & Folkestone School for Girls.

In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Mrs J MacMillan and Cllr S Whiffin who attended the Development Control Committee meeting and gave speeches against, it was agreed that a report could be presented at a later date.

15. Date of next Sandgate Parish Council meeting Tuesday 11th April 2006 at 7.00 pm (19.00 hrs) Sandgate Parish Council Library, James Morris Court, Sandgate High St.

The Clerk will publicise these dates on the website and in the press. There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.30 hrs