

SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7pm on Tuesday 18 September 2018

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

Present: Chairman Councillor Robert Bliss

Councillors Paul Bingham, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Nabin Siwa, and Adrian

Watts

Clerk P Savage

There was no report from the PCSO. The Clerks reported, however, that a positive meeting had been held earlier that day with the new PCSO, Louise Bevan and the new Inspector, Julien Lawton. Both had committed to providing an improved service to the Parish Council area.

There were nine members of the public present. The following questions were asked and the answers given:

- (1) In relation to the proposed purchase of Sandgate Woods and Martello Towers, will you confirm that you will take advice about recovering the wasted costs? Yes
- (2) Will you produce a simplified and transparent statement of those wasted costs? Yes
- (3) Will you keep ratepayers up to date and the accounts open to inspection? Yes
- (4) Will all ratepayers be notified about this in writing? Yes, although this would be in a combined newsletter once the full details were available.
- (5) Will the cost of that newsletter be included in the claim? Yes
- (6) Who purchased the land and will you publish the name once that is known? The Parish Council has no record of the name of the purchaser, but once the name is known it will be published subject to confirmation that that was legal.
- (7) If the costs are not recovered, are councillors or officers personally liable? No.
- (8) Did you seek specific advice about the timing of the draw down of the loan? No, although solicitors had been engaged.

The Chairman made a general response indicating that the intention to purchase the land had been to reflect the broad support across Sandgate to prevent development of this land so as to achieve a green belt effect when combined with Sandgate Park. It was disappointing that this objective would not now be achieved.

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

- **1. Apologies for absence:** Councillors Nina Bliss, Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Jan Holben, Tim Prater and Guy Valentine-Neale.
- **2. Declarations of Interest** there were no declarations of interest.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 July 2018 the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 July 2018, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Agreed by all who had been present at the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Adrian Watts

Seconded by Councillor Nabin Siwa

4. Chairman's opening remarks

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The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including the new Councillor, Paul Bingham who he had served alongside at Shepway District Council 20 years previously. Council agreed with the Chairman's proposal that Councillor Bingham would serve on the Environment Committee and that Councillor Marjorie Findlay-Stone would replace Councillor Nina Bliss on Planning Committee following her resignation. (Action: Clerks to note).

5. Chairman's Correspondence

- 1. St Paul's Church grant application: agreed, subject to verification by the Finance Committee, that £500 be awarded to the Church as a contribution to their £31,000 project to improve toilets used by many community groups.
- 2. Food collection box: agreed that the request to host in the library a food collection box for non-perishable items be approved for a trial period of six months. The box would be emptied daily and contents passed to the Rainbow Centre for their food bank.

6. Sandgate Library Committee report

Councillor Robert Bliss reported that the library continued to perform well although Kent County Council had failed to reflect that performance in their recent report. That would be corrected publicly. The Librarian would be ordering the books for the Sandgate specific stock in the next few weeks.

7. Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report

The minutes had been circulated.

8. 2018/19 Finance report

The Deputy Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer gave a brief report indicating that apart from the issues raised under public questions there had been no major variations.

9. Finance Committee report

The minutes had been circulated.

10. Environment Committee report

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee had been circulated. In addition the Chairman of the Committee raised the issue of the footprint trail paving slabs which were being funded by the Sandgate Society. She sought advice as to which organisation should submit the licence request and it was agreed that this should be the Sandgate Society as it was their project in terms of provision and maintenance.

Proposed by: Councillor Robert Bliss Seconded by: Councillor Paul Bingham

Councillor Adrian Watts raised the fact that controlled parking for Sandgate Esplanade and associated streets was expected to be reported back to Cabinet in the near future and that this would be detrimental to residents and businesses in Sandgate. It was important that the Parish Council had a formal input into this decision. (Action: Clerks to ensure the Parish Council is a formal consultee).

13. Planning Committee report

Minutes of meetings had been circulated. The next meeting would be held on 2 October 2018.

14. KALC report – there was not report.

15. Twinning

Noted the following:

- Attendance by Sangatte at the Sea Festival
- Sangatte had apologised that they could not attend the remembrance day event because of a clash with their own event. Councillor Watts would be attending their event.

•	Orchestra exchange	
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- The school exchange had been positive on both sides with a commitment to do even more in 2019.
- **16. Information** there was no further information.

17.	Date of next	meeting –	Tuesday	16	October	2018

The meeting ended at 7.35 pm.

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