



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7pm on Tuesday 16 October 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, Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Guy Valentine-Neale and Adrian Watts**

Clerk **P Savage**

There was no report from the PCSO.

There were 14 members of the public present. The following questions were asked and the answers given:

- (1) Under the present Chairman, the Council had inappropriately drawn down the loan ahead of need which could result in early redemption penalties. Would the Chairman name the party who had authorised that and ask them to resign and would he be resigning himself? The Chairman replied by saying that he could not answer because a response about the cost of redemption was still the subject of correspondence with the PWLB and the local MP. There would be no resignations.
- (2) How much interest had the Council paid on the loan? None – as indicated in the published annex to the minutes of 4 October 2018, there had been no payments. The first repayment would be due in February 2019 but that was subject to outstanding correspondence.
- (3) Why didn't the minutes of the last ordinary meeting reflect to impact of the £500,000 in the finance report? As indicated in the published annex to the minutes of 4 October 2018, this discussion was outside of the formal meeting, but the details were included in the aforementioned annex.
- (4) Were there any plans to replace the toilet/amenity block in Sandgate Park? This matter had been the subject of debate and discussion at the Land Assets Management Sub-Committee. Options for the capital costs had been explored and were viable, but the Sub-Committee was concerned at ongoing revenue costs associated with cleaning and security, but would be revisiting the subject at its next meeting.
- (5) Would the Parish Council consider a similar toilet management arrangement as with the Boathouse? This was not possible because of commercial differences.
- (6) Had options of grant aid been explored? Yes. Previously substantial grants had been received for the multiple games area. In this instance grant aid had been possible from three sources but nothing in respect of the toilet block. The revenue consequences were the main concern.
- (7) Would the Parish Council be pursuing the new owners of Sandgate Woods and the Martello Towers in terms of enforcement action, public rights of way and tree preservation orders? Public rights were protected and the Parish Council would indeed be keeping an eye on ensuring development was in keeping with the planning consent. The issue of tree preservation orders would be examined.
- (8) Reference had been made of correspondence with the PWLB and HM Treasury. Would this be published? Yes.

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, Jan Holben, Tim Prater and Nabin Siwa.
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 September 2018 and of the extraordinary meeting held on 4 October 2018** – the minutes of the Parish Council meetings, having been previously circulated, were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.
Agreed by all who had been present at the meetings.
Proposed by Councillor Michael Fitch
Seconded by Councillor Guy Valentine-Neale
4. **Chairman’s opening remarks**
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
5. **Chairman’s Correspondence**
 1. Letters had been sent to the PWLB and local Member of Parliament in respect of the loan seeking sympathetic consideration.
 2. A letter had been received from the Rainbow Centre thanking the Council for the collection in the donation box totalling £52.50.
6. **Sandgate Library Committee report**
Councillor Robert Bliss reported that the Librarian would be ordering the books for the Sandgate specific stock in the next few weeks. In addition the works to the ceiling of the children’s library would be undertaken the following day.
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 the Finance Committee had considered all issues.
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 following: the 16 army bootprints would be ready for 11 November 2018 commemorations; the information board would be relocated on to the Village Green by the same date; the “share and respect” signs needed some attention along the Esplanade.
13. **Planning Committee report**
Minutes of meetings had been circulated. In addition there had been a meeting immediately before the Council meeting.
14. **KALC report** – the AGM was approaching. Councillor Gary Fuller would endeavour to attend.
15. **Twinning**
Noted the following:
 - The school exchange had been positive on both sides with a commitment to do even more in 2019.
16. **KALC community awards 2019**
Noted. Nominations would be considered in due course
17. **Information** – clarification was sought as to how issues raised in the public forum on community safety would be handled and it was agreed that this would be monitored by the Environment Committee.

18. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 20 November 2018

The meeting ended at 7.32 pm.

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