

SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7pm on Tuesday 20 November 2018

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

Present:	Chairman Councillors	Councillor Robert Bliss Paul Bingham, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Jan Holben, Tim Prater, Guy Valentine-Neale and Adrian Watts
	Clerk	P Savage

There was no report from the PCSO.

There was one member of the public present. The following question was asked and the answer given:

Could the Council give an update on the state of play in respect of the PWLB loan? The PWLB were being chased every week for a response and they in turn were chasing HM Treasury who were responsible any decision relating to the cancellation and early repayment of the loan. In addition the Member of Parliament had been pursuing the matter and had received a sympathetic response although without commitment. The first repayment wasn't due until February 2019 and the matter was expected to be resolved before then. In terms of impact on precept, the Council reiterated their commitment that the loan would not impact on any precept increase in 2019 whatever the outcome, although other ordinary inflationary costs would need to be reflected.

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 and Nabin Siwa.
- 2. Declarations of Interest there were no declarations of interest.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2018 the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, 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 Guy Valentine-Neale

4. Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked everyone who had attended the Armistice commemorations especially Geoff Miles, Deputy Lieutenant, and Marie Christine from Sangatte. The events at the war memorial and the beacon had both been well attended and successful. He reminded councillors that the Christmas lights event would take place on Saturday 24 November 2018 and several councillors indicated that they would be in attendance. Finally he drew councillors' attention to the item on the agenda concerning the impact of parking charges on Princes Parade on the Parish Council area.

5. Chairman's Correspondence

1. An email from the PWLB advising that they were still awaiting a response from HM Treasury, but indicating that they had a planned conference call with HM Treasury for 23 November 2018 at which they intended to raise the issue.

2. An email exchange in which the relocation of benches by Folkestone and Hythe District Council had been satisfactorily resolved.

A certificate from the *Battle's Over* organisation recognising the Council's participation in armistice day commemorations, which should be framed and hung within the library.
An email inviting the Council to participate once again in the Blue Flag scheme, which had been referred to the Chairman of the Environment Committee and the lead member for beaches.
Notification that the Sir John Moore library at Shorncliffe was being marketed and that community uses were being explored.

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. The Council had received further recognition for its role in maintaining the community library with high levels of performance.

7. Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report

The minutes had been circulated. The RFO reminded councillors of the two decisions in respect of Sandgate Park and had advised that he had met two contractors that morning for quotations on two jobs: creating a base for the portable toilet block and creating gates and steps from the MUGA. The Sub-Committee had also asked for further options for the play equipment.

8. 2018/19 Finance report

The Deputy Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer gave a report indicating that the Finance Committee had considered all issues. Revenue expenditure was expected to be within budget. The issue of the loan was being monitored separately. The money was currently invested in the Council's savings account realising approximately £120 interest per month. Noted that the budget for 2019-20 would be prepared over the next two months and that councillors should therefore be considering any proposals for additional expenditure. Given the underspend in the hanging basket and memorial planters budget, the RFO was asked to look in the cost of replacing the broken planter at the war memorial.

9. Finance Committee report

The minutes had been circulated.

10. Environment Committee report

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee had been circulated. Noted that the footprints around the war memorial had been well received and that two further sections each of 16 footprints were being pursued. Councillor Holben indicated that she would give favourable consideration to a grant under her ward budget at Folkestone and Hythe District Council.

13. Planning Committee report

Minutes of meetings had been circulated.

14. KALC report – nothing to report.

15. Twinning

Noted the following:

- Video on the impact of World War 1 posted by Louis Bleriot College which had been forwarded to the Girls School
- Another exchange trip was being planned
- Sangatte were committed to participating in next year's sea festival and music event
- Sangatte were interested in a possible golf tournament
- Both Councils were top exchange news items for respective newsletters

16. Princes Parade parking charges: impact on local parking

Page2Chairman's initial & date

The Council discussed the claims from Folkestone and Hythe District Council that the introduction of charging for parking on Princes Parade had had no impact on parking in adjacent areas, including the Sandgate Esplanade and associated streets. The opposite however was true. Agreed that the District Council be asked to provide a print out of the income received from parking on Princes Parade and to seek cooperation from Hythe Town Council as this impacted badly on their streets as well.

17. Information- clarification was sought as to the camera installed on the street lighting column outside Tower Court on Sandgate High Street. Councillors expressed their support for the recent works on the pedestrian crossing on the Esplanade. On a separate matter it was agreed that Councillor Tim Prater represent the Parish Council at the Licensing and Planning Committee the following week where the application for the Hillside was being considered.

18. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 11 December 2018

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm.

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