



**SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of an Library Committee Meeting held at 12.00am on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

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**Present:**            **Chairman**            **Cllr Gary Fuller**  
                         **Councillors:**        **Nina Bliss, Robert Bliss, Nabin Siwa and Tim Prater**

**Clerk:**                **Mrs G Thomas**

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

Meeting started 12.00

1.     **Apologies for absence:** Cllr A Watts
2.     **Declaration of Interest** – none declared
3.     **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were presented and approved as a correct record.

**Proposed by Cllr Tim Prater**

**Seconded by Cllr Robert Bliss**

**Agreed by all**

4.     **Review of services**

4.1 The provision of services to the present date was discussed and the members were pleased to hear that there had been an overall increase in usage of the library, with substantial improvements in group membership and visitor numbers. These improvements were noted against a general decline in the numbers of visitors and issues in Kent Libraries. The restructuring of hours at Kent Libraries were also unfavourably compared to the increase of hours and services provided by Sandgate Library.

4.2 An update was provided regarding visits by James Pearson, Head of LRA and also by Glyn House, Area Manager and Andrew Breen, Business Manager. It was noted that the library was held in high regard by Kent Libraries and the success of the initial negotiations for the SLA were noted.

4.3 It was agreed that the volunteers and Saturday staff should be thanked for their efforts in making the library such a friendly and welcoming venue.

4.4 The present opening hours were discussed and it was agreed that at present these represented optimal use of resources.

5.     **Report of proposed activities / event**

5.1 The committee were pleased to hear that activities and events taking place in the Library were well attended. It was agreed that possible additional opportunities existed to increase library usage including the provision of a Coding Club and of a Home Library Service to Care and Assisted Living homes in the parish.

**Action: Clerk to investigate HLS venues.**

**Action Cllr G Fuller to provide more information regarding Coding Clubs**

5.2 Cllr Prater discussed an Oral History project run by Pavement Pounders to preserve the history of residents living in Sandgate in WW11. Possible funding opportunities and displays in the library were discussed.

5.3 Activities in the library during the Sea Festival were noted as possible opportunities to increase footfall and provide as an alternate venue for activities during the Bank Holiday weekend  
5.4 The possibility of the library providing one of the venues for an extended Christmas event in the High Street was discussed. Cllr Prater offered to be the lead officer for Sandgate's Christmas event  
5.5. Merchandising was discussed as an opportunity to generate income.

**Action: Clerk to investigate merchandising opportunities.**

5.6 It was noted that the library did not have a license to play music at Read and Rhyme and other library events and activities, and it was agreed to apply for the licence.

**Action: Clerk to contact Glyn House- Area Manager to discuss obtaining this license**

6. **Information** – None at this time

7. **Date of next meeting-** TBC

The meeting ended at 12.50

Signed by the Library Committee Chairman.....Date.....