



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 2nd June 2020**

Present: Councillors, Gary Fuller, Tim Prater, Nabin Siwa, Adrian Watts & Lewis Whitnall

Clerk: G Thomas

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

1. **Election of chairman of the Environment Committee.**
Cllr Adrian Watts was proposed as Chairman of the Environment Committee
Proposed by Tim Prater
Seconded by Nabin Siwa
Agreed by two other councillors, Councillor Watts abstaining
2. **Apologies for absence: Cllrs Vanessa Reay & Tracy Stephens**
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 5th May, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
Proposed by: Councillor Lewis Whitnall
Seconded by: Councillor Nabin Siwa
Agreed by all who had been present
3. **Declarations of interest** – none were declared.
4. **Communications**
 - 4.1 It was noted that a number of emails and phone calls had been received by the parish office relating to contraventions of the social distancing regulations. These issues had largely occurred in Sandgate Park , but also on the Esplanade, Castle Road Car Park and beach. All of the communications were referred onto the police and PCSOs either directly or via FHDC officers, with increased signage being placed at the park.
 - 4.2 It was noted that on occasions members of the public were seen walking across the children’s play area in the park with unleashed dogs after exercising them in the dog run. It was agreed that as signage was present, which asked for all dogs to be on leashes, that this behaviour was not acceptable.
5. **Standing Issues**
 - Beaches**
 - 5.1 It was noted that the beach reprofiling had taken place and that the solarium had been swept clear of shingle.

5.2 It was noted that the Beach Awards had been announced and that Sandgate once again had met all necessary criteria to gain the coveted Seaside Award, for the eighth year.

5.3 It was noted that the dog poo bag dispensers needed refilling on the promenade and Boat House. Unfortunately, it seemed that certain individuals emptied the dispensers instead of simply removing one bag. It was agreed to fill the dispensers with less bags but with greater frequency and to supply the Boat House with some.

5.4 It was noted that the Beach Hut renewal project had been unanimously approved and that of the total, 35 huts would be renovated, the others to be replaced.

5.5 It was agreed that Marie Smith and her husband were doing an excellent job of keeping the beaches clean.

5.6 It was noted that there would be additional recycling bins at Castle Road Car Park and St John Moore Memorial and it was hoped that the broken recycling bin at Granville Parade would be replaced with a new bin.

5.7 It was noted that the barbeque bins on the coastal park would be removed and placed onto Sea Walk.

Transport, highways and parking

5.8 It was noted that that FHDC had received a small grant as part of the government's High Street Re-Opening Scheme. Cllr Prater said that he would propose more loading bays on the High Street to facilitate Click and Collect activities, and that he would also propose more cycle racking. While this was viewed in general as a good idea, there were some concerns about the already limited parking on the High Street. It was noted that this would not be a permanent fixture but just for the duration of the crisis.

5.9 It was noted that there was a continuing problem speeding cyclists on the Espanade and promenade. It was hoped that large stickers attached to the path which encouraged more moderation in speed and respect for each other when using this shared facility, might be successful

Action: Cllr Prater to source and purchase stickers

Signage, bins, noticeboards

5.10 It was noted that the parish council had now taken over ownership of Freemantle Park and that refurbishment of the facilities would commence shortly, including the painting of goal posts and play equipment and general grounds maintenance. Cllr Watts said that he would be meeting with local residents to discuss the possibility of another community garden in the park, and that Leonie Wootton had agreed to give advice. It was agreed that enhancing the usage and getting the community involved in the park would be extremely beneficial and that a later poll of residents to rename the park would be taking place.

Other environmental issues affecting the parish-

5.11 It was noted that parking problems at the Coastal Park Car Park and Radnor Cliff were continuing and that residents would be reconsulted about possible solutions including resident/visitor parking permits.

- 6. Parish Bus Shelter Grant-** It was noted that positioning a shelter in some locations in the parish could possibly restrict access for pedestrians and in other locations would spoil the views. It was agreed that councillors would look at the different possible locations for a bus shelter and report back to the committee in July. It was further agreed that information about

the bus shelter grant would be included in the parish website to encourage residents to inform the council which bus stop they felt would be most appropriate.

7. Information

7.1 It was noted that Tony Quarrington had agreed to start his walking tours of Sandgate possibly mid-July. The present restrictions on social distancing would probably necessitate a booking system in advance and it would be possible that some of the present library groups may well be included in any offer. The Sandgate Society also had shown interest in utilising his services.

7.2 It was noted that the Sandgate Society was recruiting a volunteer to produce a map of all the footpaths on Sandgate, including information regarding their condition.

7.3 It was noted that PCSO Janet Rumley would be holding a digital surgery on 4th June from 11.00-12.00 for all Sandgate residents.

8. Date of next meeting 7th July 2020

Signed by the Environment Committee Chairman.....