



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 15th September 2020 at 6.00pm
Via Zoom Conferencing and broadcast live on Facebook

Present: **Chairman** **Councillor Tim Prater**
 Councillors **Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Vannessa Reay, Guy Valentine-Neale,**
 Adrian Watts and Lewis Whitnall

 Clerks **Clerk G Thomas**

There was no report from the PCSO.

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

The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm

- 1. A minute of silence in memory of Cllr Robert Bliss**
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Nina Bliss
- 3. Declarations of Interest** – None at this time
- 4. Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on **21st July**, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed on behalf of the Chairman by the Parish Clerk
Agreed by all who had been present at the meeting.
- 5. Chairman’s opening remarks**

Cllr Prater informed the committee that he would be merging his comments and correspondence on this one occasion and began by paying tribute to Cllr Robert Bliss who passed away on 10th August.

It was noted that as required by law, the vacancy for a Councillor in Sandgate Village ward had been advertised and within the timeframe, 10 electors signed a call for an election rather than co-option, so the position would be held vacant until an election could be held, which will currently be 6th May 2021.

It was noted that the Home Office contacted the District Council last Thursday afternoon to explain they had plans, previously never mentioned or discussed, to house a migrant processing centre at Napier Barracks. Cllr Prater expressed grave concerns that the Home Office failed to consult, or even notify of plans to open this centre on 21st September. Leader of the District David Monk, MP Damian Collins and Cllr Prater were all attempting to get more information about this plan and Cllr Prater reassured the committee that they would be informed as soon as these were forthcoming.

- 6. Chairman’s Correspondance-** as above
- 7. Election of Vice Chairman**
Cllr Guy Valentine-Neale proposed by Cllr Tim Prater

**Seconded by Cllr Michael Fitch
Agreed by all**

8. Appointment of Councillors to Resources, Environment and Planning Committees

Cllrs Vanessa Reay and Lewis Whitnall asked to join the Resources Committee and Cllr Nina Bliss asked to leave the Resources Committee and join the Environment Committee.

These changes were proposed and agreed en block.

9. Planning Committee It was noted that minutes had been circulated

10. Environment Committee

10.1 It was noted that minutes had been circulated.

10.2 It was noted that there had been considerable improvements to footpath HF57/8 with the installation of new steps and markers, and it was felt that this was due to the commitment of members of the Sandgate Society and Kent County Council's PROW Officer Edward Denne and it was agreed to send them the parish's thanks.

10.3 It was noted that the two Martello Towers were now completely over grown and there was concern that this would lead to further deterioration, also that the top of the footpaths needed further definition and clearing. It was agreed that this was the duty and responsibility of the owner of the escarpment and that they should be contacted about this matter..

Action: Parish to contact Edward Denne and the owner

11 Resources Committee report

It was noted that the minutes of Resources Committee had been circulated. It was agreed that the funding of the repair works to the play area at Fremantle Park would be discussed by the next Resources Committee.

12. Library Committee

It was noted that Sandgate Library would be open for browsing on 28th September

13. CCTV- It was noted that a report had been circulated earlier which provided full details regarding the receipt of a business rates grant of £10,000 and the proposed enhancements to the CCTV system proposal using some of that grant.

It was proposed to accept the recommendation to increase the approved CCTV budget to £16,000, which would upgrade the CCTV system, as listed on the report that was circulated

Proposed by Cllr Tim Prater

Seconded by Cllr Tracy Stephens

Agreed by all

It was felt that both an update of the annual maintenance costs and a list of the lampposts being used (once their suitability had been agreed by Kent Highways), should be made available to the public.

It was noted that the cost of electricity of around £135.00 a month had not previously been budgeted for, but would now have to be included in future years' costs and it was felt that some of the business grant money should be put aside for additional costs.

It was also noted that once the system had been installed, signage would be erected and also that residents could come and see the range of the cameras and if there were concerns regarding privacy, arrangements could be made for those areas to be blocked off.

It was regarded as imperative that as part of scheme's publicity, it should be emphasised there would be a strict protocol to the viewing of the material.

14. KALC - It was noted that Cllr Valentine-Neale had participated in a virtual meeting regarding the White Paper on proposed changes to planning.

15. Twinning- nothing to report at present

16. Information

- 16.1 It was noted that there was a pile of hard core rubble on the pavement on Military Road –
Action Clerk to see if it had been removed
- 16.2 It was noted Cllr Prater had had a meeting with a resident regarding a request for a new dog waste bin at Fremantle Park
- 16.3 It was noted that comparable steps to those earlier mentioned by the Martellos, might be a possibility for Fremantle Park.

The meeting ended at 19.00pm.

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