



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 1st December 2020
Online

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**Present: Chair Vanessa Reay**  
**Cllrs Nina Bliss, Michael Fitch, Tim Prater, Nabin Siwa, Tracy Stephens, Adrian Watts and Lewis Whitnall**

**Clerk: Gaye Thomas**

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Gary Fuller
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by: Councillor Nabin Siwa
Seconded by: Councillor Tracy Stephens
Agreed by all who had been present

3. **Declarations of interest** – none declared.
4. **Communications**

An email had been received from a resident regarding a whitish discharge in the Enbrook Stream. This discharge had been reported to The Environment Officer at East Kent and Stour Land and Water Team, and while the issue had been further reported by the officer to Southern Water, it was noted that this was considered a low risk incident and so no officer from East Kent and Stour would attend to determine source of the pollution.

Action: It was agreed that members would monitor the stream for any further incidents and notify the Environment Officer if found.

5. **Standing Issues**

Beaches

It was noted that the beaches were in the process of being replenished. The amphitheatre would be cleared in the spring, and the area between Riviera and Zarena Court would be cleared when the replenishment works had been completed.

It was reported that some of the flaps on the sea wall on the Esplanade did not seem to be functioning well, as stones were still coming through onto the pavement side.

Cllr Siwa confirmed that the proposed litter pick for December would not now be happening because of the pandemic restrictions.

Transport, highways and parking

It was noted that although the Clerk had contacted FHDC Transportation regarding questions concerning any limitations of usage of the echelon bays at Riviera Court, after the proposed siting of an electric vehicle charging point there, no response had yet been received.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

It was noted that cyclists regularly exit Castle Road Car Park and turn right against traffic on this one-way street.

Action: Clerk to contact Fred Miller to ask about available directional signage.

It was noted that Cllr Prater would be meeting with the Highway Steward to discuss traffic speeding/dangerous driving issues in Enbrook Valley and Romney Avenue.

It was hoped that members of the SPC would sign up for Community Speedwatch training, as it was felt that where speeding was occurring on Romney Road might prove a suitable site for monitoring under this initiative. It was also felt that the installation of bollards might resolve the traffic issues in Enbrook.

It was agreed that the steward should be informed regarding traffic problems on the lower part of Military Road.

Business and Tourism

A new shop called workshopnumber29 had opened on Sandgate High Street, and its owners were welcomed, and it was hoped that they would prove successful.

It was noted that the Christmas garlands, tree and SAGA lights had all been switched on. Pictures of the tree would be added to Facebook.

Signage, bins, noticeboards

There was noted that a number of bins on the Esplanade been graffitied, possibly by the same individuals who had graffitied the hoardings on the former Kirby Arcade. Giles Barnard had painted out this particular graffiti and it was agreed that he should be thanked by the Committee.

Other environmental issues affecting the parish

It was noted that sea swimming was becoming more popular and the possibilities of erecting more safe swimming posters was discussed. It was decided, however, that sufficient information was already displayed on existing beach boards.

The CCTV cameras had now been erected in Sandgate Park, Golden Valley and Castle Road Car Park and would soon be commissioned. Once the system was ready to go live, local residents that had privacy concerns about CCTV and their homes/businesses would be invited to look at still images from the cameras to ascertain if there was a need for any part of the image to be blocked out.

6. Fremantle Park

Additional compost had been provided which would enable the planting of small fruit trees around the planters. It was also noted that residents had offered to water the planters and a volunteer regularly replenished the dog waste bags.

Works to the flooring in the play area and installation of a new bannister were weather dependant and so this would be undertaken in the spring of 2021.

7. Sandgate Park

It was noted that quotes for the installation of railings around the children's play area would be sought, as adults and dog owners often encroached on this area.

It was also noted that there had been damage to the fencing around the MUGA.

8. Information

It was noted that the bin screening boarding project on Sandgate High Street was in the process of being slightly redrawn by FHDC's contractors, and that the project would go ahead in the new year.

Cllr Stephens asked that a formal discussion of next year's Christmas event be added to the next agenda, as she had a number of ideas for a community event, including a possible parade, craft stalls and a choir. She hoped that all the community would be involved and that the Sandgate branch of the Masons should be contacted to seek their assistance.

Action: To be put on January's agenda

9. Tuesday 5th January at 6.00pm.

Signed by the Environment Committee Chairman.....