



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on 17th January 2023 at 6.40pm on Monday

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

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**Present: Chairman Councillor Tim Prater**  
**Councillors Gary Fuller, Adrian Watts, Vicki Parsons,**  
**Nabin Siwa & Guy Valentine-Neale**  
**Clerk G Thomas**  
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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

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Nina Bliss, Michael Fitch, Vannessa Reay, Tracy Stephens, & Lewis Whitnall
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – none at this time
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 6th December having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
- 4. Chairman’s remarks**

It was noted that a number of properties in Enbrook Valley had received a letter from Southern Water stating, that the result of investigations into water ingress into the Enbrook Stream had identified 27 properties with incorrect plumbing.

All residents were required to have remedial work effected, to ensure that this ingress was discontinued.

Clerk’s discussion with a helpful representative of Southern Water enabled the parish to furnish residents with more information and assurances that the more draconian measures mentioned within the Southern Water letters, of legal action, would not be forthcoming as long as the residents’ kept SW informed of their plans.

It was noted that the Boathouse lease was due for renewal, it was established that it was acceptable to legitimately offer the lease to the existing tenant, and it was

proposed that the new rental arrangements would include utility bills to be paid by the tenant.

It was noted that the installation of solar panels for the Boathouse was being investigated. It was proposed even if this project was undertaken that the tenants would continue to pay the unit cost set by energy provider until the end of November 2024.

5. Budget 2023/24

It was noted that where required, there had been increases to certain budget lines for the coming year, including staff costs.

All councillors had been asked for recommendations for growth items, which would increase swings at Sandgate Park, and an improvement to play surfaces at Fremantle Park.

There would some proposed additional costs for brackets for CCTV, and new planters/plants as Riviera Court.

It was noted that a minority of the income to the parish was from KCC towards library costs, & the rental from the Boathouse, but the majority was from the precept. This income this year would be greater because of the increase of built homes in the parish.

Budget 2023/24 for agreement by Full Council

The draft budget and proposed increase in precept to £98,700 were considered following the recommendations of the Resources Committee. The budget seeks a 1.94% increase in the precept to £98,700 based on the Sandgate Tax base figure of 2,203.12 for 2023/2024.

1.94% is a rise of Band D equivalent Precept from £43.95 to £44.80 - a rise of 85p a year, around 1.7p per week. With that precept income and the draft budget, there is a predicted surplus of £23.93 which is recommended to be added to the General Reserves.

Proposal. To accept the recommendations of the Resources committee that the draft budget as circulated, and proposed precept figure of £98,700 (based on a 1.94% increase in Band D equivalent Council Tax), for 2023/24 be approved.

Proposed by Councillor Tim Prater

Seconded by Councillor Adrian Watts

Agreed by all present

Cllr Watts offered thanks to the RFO/Deputy Parish Clerk Julie Tugwood for her diligence and hard work.

It was noted that there was no budget for the book fund for this year, but it was hoped that different avenues could be explored to increase the stock.

6. Planning Committee It was noted that the minutes had been circulated. A meeting would be taking place immediately after the Full Council Committee meeting.

7. Environment Committee There had been no meeting since the last Full Council Committee.

8. **Resources Committee report** As discussed in item 5
9. **Library Committee report** It was noted that the refurbishment was continuing, and it was reiterated that the funding for this had come from S106 & High Street Improvement Funds.
10. **KALC** – It was noted that information and emails were being circulated as normal
11. **Twinning-** None at this time.
12. **Information-** None at this time.
13. Date and time of next meeting: 21st February 2023 at 6.30pm.

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