



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on 24th February 2025

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

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**Present**

**Chair: Cllr Tim Prater**

**Councillors: Hazel Barrett, Susan Claris, Gary Fuller, Peter Hickman, Simon Horton, Rosa Morris & Nicola South**

**Clerks: G Thomas**  
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1. **Apologies for absences: Michael Fitch & Guy Valentine-Neale**
2. **Declarations of Interest Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Council's Code of Conduct and by the Localism Act 2011 – there were none.**
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th January 2025 to be confirmed as a correct record and signed.**
Proposed by Simon Horton
Seconded by Hazel Barrett
Agreed by
4. **Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd February 2025 to be confirmed as a correct record and signed.**
Proposed by Simon Horton
Seconded by Hazel Barrett
Agreed by all.
5. **Chair's opening remarks & correspondence**

Sandgate 20mph

The informal consultation on the Sandgate 20mph zone concluded at the end of January, and on 4th March we submitted the results to KCC. As you will know, the online survey (<https://sandgate-pc.gov.uk/2025/01/08/sandgate-high-street-20mph-zone-consultation/>) was supplemented with a leaflet (copy is the "printable consultation document" at the foot of that page) which was delivered to every letterbox in the roads to be covered by the 20mph zone.

The broad results were that of the 305 responses, 291 were in favour of the creation of the 20mph zone as proposed (95.4%) and 14 opposed. Of the 288 that supported, a large number (108) stated their support for a zone covering a larger area. A number of those consultation responses were from 2 people. The responses were from a total of 330 people, with 315 in favour (95.4%) and 15 against, pretty much exactly the same split.

In response KCC have considered those responses and today have confirmed they will publish a TRO for the scheme, which will include a formal consultation. I'm delighted to say that in reaction to the comments have slightly extended the scheme to cover from the traffic island in front of the library, to the junction with Wilberforce Road nearest Coastguard Cottages, and starting on Military Road a little above the junction with Gough Road which overall decreases the number of signs required to enter / exit the zone and makes the whole more coherent, and includes a length of Sandgate High Street from Homevale House to Wilberforce Road.

We will hear more on the publication of the TRO with the revised extents plan soon, but there is good, solid progress here, and thanks the huge number of respondents, of which the huger majority were positive, on the scheme.

Sandgate Sea Festival

We've heard today that the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust have agreed in full our application for a grant of £3,500 towards this year's Sea Festival, covering both the Saturday evening fireworks display, but also £1000 towards renting a Granville Prade stage this year to overcome issues we faced last year in the size, and lack of cover, of the stage. We are clearly absolutely delighted and grateful to Trustees for their support, and the planning for the event, which was already underway in earnest, can now continue knowing we have a substantial proportion of the funding in place.

6. **Planning Committee report**

It was noted that at the previous meeting on 17th February, the new owners of the Old Butcher's Shop attended and gave some details of their plans for the building.

7. **Environment Committee report**

It was noted that no meeting had taken place since the last Full Council.

- As previously mentioned, the "20 is Plenty" initiative is progressing toward implementation.
- Sprucing and greening efforts are underway in the parish, with barrels outside the flats opposite the Providence being planted by Susan Claris and Rosa Morris, in collaboration with SEA and Harmers. Susan and Rosa have also planted barrels outside the library.
- Susan will attend an SEA meeting on Thursday evening regarding the establishment of a Community Nature Reserve.
- The Sea Water initiative has not progressed, and there is some confusion regarding whether designating Sandgate Beach as a Bathing Beach would result in the allocation of a water monitoring point by the Environment Agency, or if testing will remain limited to the Seabrook Beach point (which is currently misnamed "Sandgate Beach" by the Environment Agency).
- A meeting was held to discuss a potential application for the Green Grant, focusing on ideas for greening, wildflower planting, and walking routes through the Valley.
- Susan and Tim were buoyant to get a positive response from F&HDC about them adding ideas for dropped kerbs, pedestrian refuge islands and walking routes to their bid to KCC for walking and cycling infrastructure.
- It was noted that the Boat House project had not moved forward at present.

8. **Finance Committee report.**

It was noted that a routine Finance Committee meeting had taken place on 17th of February.

Retrospective approval for payment of £156.42 to Ken Hopkins for Defibrillator maintenance

It was noted that retrospective approval for the payment of an invoice was required as the invoice amount had been beyond that allowed for in the current budget code.

Proposed by Tim Prater

Seconded by Gary Fuller

Agreed by all.

9. Library Committee report

It was noted that the library continued to benefit from an excellent selection of new books purchased through the S106 monies. These additions have been very much welcomed by residents and an increase in borrowing of items had been noted.

10. KALC

Simon Horton delivered an update on his attendance at a recent Shepway Area Committee meeting. It was noted that the meeting included a discussion regarding the minuting of matters arising from the previous session, which has now been resolved.

It was noted that the Committee's importance is expected to increase as the proposed changes to council structures, including devolution, are implemented.

11. Information It was noted that Saga would restart using the building in Sandgate for its operations in March. It was agreed to thank Saga for maintaining unrestricted access to grounds and Enbrook Park during the closure.

12. Date of the next meeting 24th March 2025 at 6.30pm

Signed by the Chair.....Date.....