



**SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

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

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**Present**

**Chair: Cllr Tim Prater**

**Councillors: Gary Fuller, Rosa Morris, Simon Horton, Hazel Barrett, Susan Claris, Nicola South and Michael Fitch**

**Clerks: C Sanger**  
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1. **Apologies for absences: Cllrs Guy Valentine-Neale and Peter Hickman**
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 – Voluntary interest declared by Cllr Simon Horton [Item 3].**

3. **Discussion and approval to appoint solicitors to act on behalf of the parish to complete the acquisition of the portion of the Boathouse owned by UK Power Networks and approve costs**  
It was noted that the cost of the part of the building owned by UK Power Networks is a nominal £1, however the legal fees are considerably higher. Three quotes were sought in the first instance. One company was unable to quote for the works however two companies were able to quote. Quote A was the cheaper of the two quotes by around £450.

Following discussion of the firms that had provided the quotes it was noted that the recommendation from both council officers was to select the firm providing quote B, this was based on previous experience dealing with both firms.

Councillors noted that cost is an important factor, but it was further noted that cheaper is not necessarily better and that the council is under no obligation to accept the cheapest price. The necessity is that the council achieves value for money.

It was also noted that the solar grant must be spent by the end of September and as such it was important to move ahead with the plans for the Boathouse in a timely manner.

The council unanimously resolved to accept quote B. Cllr Horton abstained from voting.

**Meeting closed at 18:36**

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