SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of The Sea Festival and Events Committee Meeting

Held on Tuesday 27 October 2026 at 12.30 pm

Chair: Councillor Simon Horton

Present: Councillors Hazel Barrett, Susan Claris, Rosa Morris and Tim Prater

Clerk: Gaye Thomas

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1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Sea Festival Committee meeting held on 11 August 2026 were considered.

Proposed: Councillor Tim Prater
Seconded: Councillor Rosa Morris

The minutes were unanimously agreed as a correct record and approved for signature.

4. Sea Festival 2026 – Budget Outturn

Discussions took place regarding the Sea Festival accounts. It was noted that, in the absence of a complete set of financial figures, it was not possible to establish with certainty the extent to which the overall event budget may have been exceeded.

It was clarified that the funding provided by Roger De Haan was towards stage costs and the fireworks. The funding allocated towards the stages had been spent as part of the Sea Festival. However, the fireworks had been unable to go ahead due to the adverse weather conditions and had therefore been deferred, with the intention that they would take place on 4 December 2026. Consequently, the funding allocated for the fireworks remained to be accounted for against the postponed event.

Action: The Deputy Clerk/RFO to provide a clear breakdown of the Sea Festival accounts, identifying expenditure against the respective funding allocations and the overall budget position.

It was agreed that further discussion of the Sea Festival's financial position would be deferred until the next meeting, when clearer financial figures would be available.

5. December Fireworks Event

The Council's insurers had confirmed that the event would be covered under the existing insurance policy, with no additional insurance cost anticipated. It was noted that RMR First Aid providers had kindly offered to provide first aid cover for the event at a very nominal cost. Should the event be able to proceed, it was anticipated that the overall expenditure would therefore be minimal.

Confirmation was still awaited from Folkestone & Hythe District Council (FHDC) regarding the necessary event permission.

Saga had also kindly offered the use of its car park for the evening, on the understanding that the Parish Council would provide stewards and arrange for litter picking following the event.

It was agreed that, subject to receiving the necessary permission from FHDC, arrangements would continue to be progressed.

6. Information

There were no further matters to report.

7. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

Signed: _____

Chair of the Sea Festival and Events Committee

Date: _____