

**THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE**

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs D Hart, T Porter, A Fielding, S Little, M Haslam, C Little, S Bayliss-Stranks. Apologies for absence received from Cllr S Little. Council. District Cllr Morris also in attendance. County Cllr Manion in attendance until 7.25 p.m.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mrs J Haris asked if the PC would consult with Kent Highways and appropriate agencies re the recently approved development at Station Road, Walmer, with particular note of the access for St Margaret's residents on to the A258 – she believes this development will have an adverse effect. Cllr Hart confirmed that the PC would investigate.

Mr M Fielding asked what would be the PC approach to KCC following the public meeting last week on Portal House. Cllr Hart confirmed that the PC would be objecting in very strong terms. Agreed that any PC response would be placed on the website and other sources for residents to read.

<p>1. <b><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014.</u></b> The minutes, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <b><u>Declarations of interest</u></b> – Cllr Porter advised that in the event of discussions on the Portal House School planning application, he would have to abstain as he is a School Governor.</p>	
<p>3. <b><u>Community Warden</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potholes are being reported to Kent Highways – the large hole on the first bend of Dover Road is a perennial problem and it may be that Highways have to resurface a longer stretch of the road.</li><li>• Reach Road is in fairly poor repair, with holes reported to Highways and water drainage near the Holiday Camp still a problem.</li><li>• Gordon is being kept busy with social issues, especially with the elderly.</li><li>• He is currently covering a larger “patch” due to long term sickness of another Warden.</li></ul> <p>No report received from PCSO.</p>	
<p>4. <b><u>Clerk Report</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notices received and displayed from KALC re May elections. Suggested text for advertisement also received – Clerk and Chair to liaise in this respect.</li><li>• Reply received from Keith Watson at DDC re potholes at exit to car park – contractors will deal when they are available.</li><li>• Cllr Hart spoken to Mr Clayson re noticeboard – suggestion made of site near village shop – Cllr Hart will seek cost.</li><li>• How are we going to deal with vase at Cemetery (over size) – Cllrs Hart and Haslam will meet with Registrar.</li></ul>	<p>Chair/Clerk to liaise</p> <p>Cllr Hart to deal</p> <p>Cllrs Hart and Haslam to deal</p>

- Royal Mail – email received today advising that new postbox is in situ at end of Kingsdown Road.
- Planning application for new windows at Bowls Club has been validated – response awaited.
- Paper recycling bin at car park has been removed.
- Order bench for Mrs Springford? Where to deliver? Need her to confirm inscription before delivery.
- Section 137 Grants advertised – some applications received.
- Annual Parish Meeting – date and speakers to be agreed.
- Has Cllr Hart spoken to Ledgers re permission for rabbit control into Cemetery? Cllr Hart confirmed he is to meet Mr Ledger on site this week.
- Clerk had completed response to DDC re dog control orders – status quote to remain.
- Ash Grove vacancy advertised – nothing yet heard from English Rural Housing Association.
- Hedge at junction of Sea Street – Cllr Hart had liaised re this – owned by absent tenant and details of owner to be provided before contact.
- Nothing heard re replacement of bins at Alexander Field – Clerk will continue to chase.
- Email received from Mrs J Harris re muddy pavement at Sea Street – Highways confirm they will make some reparation to bank (Paul Hubbard, Highways Steward).
- Question as to whether salt/grit had been delivered by Kent Highways – Cllr Hart will liaise with Mr Lyon.
- Clerk contacted by Bacchus & Partners re their plan to acquire the Hope Inn, asking for a meeting with the PC – Clerk had suggested Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan in the morning – response awaited.

Clerk to liaise with Cllr S Little and Mr Miller

Clerk/Cllrs to liaise

Cllr Hart to deal

Clerk/Cllr Hart to liaise

Clerk to deal

Cllr Hart to deal

Clerk to deal

## 5. Planning

Responses on the following applications, considered since the December meeting, were duly ratified:-

DOV/14/01108	Installation of replacement windows – Bowls Club – Kingsdown Road	Positively support
DOV/14/01101	Change of use to allow limited public access – Fan Bay Deep Shelter, Upper Road	Positively support
DOV/14/01158	Installation of new windows, replacement of existing front door and French windows and internal works – Stanelaw, Station Road	No objections

(Cllr Fielding made the point that this application was described as being for a Listed Building, although PC not aware of this).

DOV/14/01053      Demolition of existing rear extension and outbuildings with associated alterations – Old School and Curfew House, Kingsdown Road      No objections

DOV/14/01162      Installation of French doors incorporating a Juliette balcony to rear and installation of side windows to first floor – Halyards, 54 Salisbury Road      No objections

The following planning application was considered:-

DOV/14/01213      Use of barn for a mixed use of agricultural and building business storage – The Barn rear of 7 Millfield      No objections

Portal House – following public meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January, Cllr Fielding had prepared a response to KCC for this planning application – provided to Councillors. IT WAS RESOLVED that this be submitted to KCC on behalf of the PC, with the addition that the site originally discussed at Townsend Farm remains open for negotiation.

Cllr Paul stated that she felt the presentation by KCC at last week’s meeting was poor, asking why KCC had not pursued the land originally discussed between them and the landowner at Townsend Farm. Cllr Fielding stated that an alternative site being available must be a material consideration.

Generally the mood of the public meeting had shown that there-build is not to the benefit of the village, with no public consultation undertaken before the planning application had been considered. Also, child safety must be strongly impressed on KCC>

PC will strongly object to application – 7 Councillors in favour (COUNCILLOR PORTER ABSTAINED).

Clerk and Cllr Fielding to liaise

**6. Finance and Accounts**

The following cheques were confirmed for payment: (Cllrs Haslam/Paul)

Mr I Miller – labour December/registrar fees/fuel	£831.00
The Landscape Group – white lining	£41.40
Mr G Adams – hedge cutting	£158.00
Affinity Water – water rates	£142.70
Jane Cook – salary for December	£1,036.92
Jane Cook – expenses	£25.88
H M Revenue & Customs – PAYE/NIC	£194.79
	<b>£2,432.69</b>

PRECEPT – IT WAS RESOLVED to keep total resources the same for 2015-2016 at £64,253 (all in favour). Precept Demand Form completed by Chair and Clerk.

Reach Road Car Park Toilets – IT WAS RESOLVED that the Parish Council would meet the full running costs of these toilets at £8,317.36 for 2015-2016 (all in favour).

Clerk to advise DDC

Clerk to advise DDC

The following item was heard in camera:-

Clerk's salary to be increased by 2%; Mr Miller's hourly rate to be increased by 2%; Lynne Hopwood's payment rate to be increased by 2%, all effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. £500 to be committed to Retirement Fund.

**7. Correspondence**

- Keith Watson DDC – re potholes reported in exit from Reach Road car park – on list for contractors to deal with.
- Alice Fey DDC Planning re Bowls Club application for new windows – validated – response awaited.
- Roger Walton DDC re applications for Assets of Community Value – responses = in all 4 cases Mr Walton has denied acceptance of the PC nominations. PC to decide whether to pursue this.
- KALC – posters, literature etc re May elections.
- NALC – re salary awards 2015.
- Emails between Cllr Paul and Mr Oakley of Tennis Club.
- Andy Steele DDC – Planning Inspector finds Land Allocations Local Plan sound.
- Colin Sumner:
  - Re NT request for PC to help with grazing of Lighthouse Down.
  - Copy email response from Rob Sonnen National Trust re grazing.
- KCC press release re Community Warden service – to stay at current levels.
- Andy Steele re Planning Committee approval of major new projects.
- Helen Williams – report of dangerous manhole/inspection cover – this has been dealt with by Affinity and Ms Williams advised.
- Terry Gilham – re fallen tree on footpath and removal – Mr Gilham thanked by Clerk.
- Mr Sumner – copy of email to Denise Roffey re ER37.
- Gary Bootes, DDC, re The Old Bakery – asserting no breach of planning control has taken away but has copies to Kent Highways.
- Mr N Claringbould – confirming he is still willing to negotiate with KCC re rebuilding Portal House School.
- Mr Sumner – re PC's consideration of land off Bay Hill, the property of Mr Mercer.
- Michael Hill, Cabinet Member for Community Services, KCC – re consultation on future delivery of Library, Registration and Archive services.
- Emails x 2 from Mr M Thompson – to be acknowledged.

Clerk to liaise with Cllr Fielding

**8. Reports from Councillors/Advisers**

- Cllr Haslam advised that the public footpath sign on ER28 leading from St Vincent Road has blown over – to be reported.
- Cllr Paul reported on her meeting with the Tennis Club, advising that a quotation had been received from Trevor May Contractors in the sum of £13,345 for both courts. Currently Court No 1 is considered so dangerous as to be closed – this was agreed. Asked if a temporary football net could be provided during winter to prevent children using the tennis courts.
- It was agreed that 2 further quotations would need to be sought, together with quotation for CCTV coverage for this area.

Clerk to report

Clerk to place on agenda

- Cllr Paul reported briefly on Annual Liaison Meeting at DDC, where Police Inspector gave a talk on recognising and reporting possible terrorists.

9. **Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish**

- Playing field inspection undertaken by Cllr Haslam – no issues to report.
- Cllr Hart confirmed he will meet with Mr Ledger this week, whereupon Olde English Pest Control (Mr Luckhurst) can be instructed.
- Cllr Paul had been approached by Mr Miller, who had also approached Cllr Sara Little, re problems with residents placing garden debris/old fence panels on Parish owned land behind The Freedown. It was agreed that Clerk write to adjacent residents pointing out that this is PC land, asking that they use garden collection service through DDC. Clerk to deal
- Clerk asked to write “thank you” letters re help with Christmas tree (r McWatt, Mr and Mrs Stone and Mr Lyon) and bus service during gas installations. Clerk to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

12<sup>th</sup> January 2015