

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

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs D Hart, T Porter, A Fielding, M Haslam, S Little, C Little, B Paul, S Bayliss-Stranks and T Purchase. District Cllr Keith Morris and County Cllr Steve Manion also in attendance.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mr David Hall asked if any action could be taken by Kent Highways by the increasing number of vehicles parking near Heath Court, in Reach Road. This presents a particular problem with the movement of farm vehicles, especially if vehicles are parked on both sides of the road. Cllr Hart agreed to speak to Highways in this regard.

Penny Bailey –as this is the end of a Council term, Penny Bailey thanked the Parish Council for all their hard work of behalf of the village.

Mrs Verren asked if anything had been done re a proposed community noticeboard. Cllr Hart agreed that he will try and deal with this in the short term.

Mrs Verren stated that the age of some maps used in planning applications were often decades out of date, not showing recent extensions, extra buildings etc.

Mr T Claringbould asked why the Glebe Field is not being used for overspill parking from the Village Hall. Cllr Hart replied he believed this facility may now have been removed given the current proposals for development.

<p>1. Before commencement of the meeting proper, Mr Skinner, architect for Cardy Construction spoke briefly re a proposal to build a new doctor's surgery in St Margaret's.</p> <p>Discussions have taken place between Cardy's and Mr Mitchell, land owner re a piece of land on the junction of Station Road/Dover Road, behind property known as "The Patch". In order to make the proposition financially viable, a number of houses would also be built – Mr Skinner provided a plan of this where 20 houses are proposed although this is only a starting figure and could be less than this.</p> <p>Have also been undertaking similar proposals in Littlebourne and Bridge. The company is currently looking for feedback from the Parish Council and residents on the idea.</p> <p>This proposal is at very early stages and can take several years from start to finish, if agreed. Any new surgery would provide more patient services than current surgery and would include on-site parking provision. The size of the surgery is dictated by NHS.</p> <p>Mr Colin Sumner stated that the Dover District LDF shows no need for expansion of the village. Mr Skinner confirmed that if a new surgery was not agreed, no houses would be built.</p>	
<p>1a. <b><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015.</u></b> The minutes, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed as a correct record and signed as such by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>2. <b><u>Declarations of interest</u></b> – None declared on agenda items.</p>	

**3. Community Warden**

Gordon reported problems seen with vehicles parking outside and opposite Heath Court and adjacent properties in Reach Road. Continuation of yellow lines proposed as an idea to alleviate current problems. Residents of Dover Road, Westcliffe have asked if a speed limit can be imposed on Dover Road. Idea of “slow down” signs suggested – County Cllr Steve Manion advised of restrictions on budgets for highway works and that the Police would not enforce any such signs. Gordon is receiving complaints about the poor condition of the Bay car park – reported to DDC. Spoke briefly re “Reaching Out” service, an initiative to support vulnerable local people in rural isolation.

3a. **County Cllr Steve Manion** – provided brief report as he had to leave the meeting to attend another Parish Council meeting. Advised that £51m from Central Government has been made available to KCC for school refurbishments etc.

(Cllr Manion left the meeting at this point).

**4. Development Proposals for Glebe Field**

Cllr Hart advised that this agenda item should have read “report on Glebe Field public consultation by Pete Halsall from British Haus”.

Following recent public consultation for development of the Glebe Field, Cllr Hart advised that the Parish Council had always been of the view that they would not support a development of this size on this plot.

Cllr Hart went on to provide figures from quickly-prepared questionnaire provided by PC at the meeting, giving breakdowns. Essentially 90.74% of those completing the questionnaire would strongly object to the any development of the site.

Cllr Hart advised that he would provide the figures to Mr Peter Halsall. He asked for the Council’s agreement to write individually to the Trustees of The Bay Trust providing information on the strong local opposition for the development of this site. All Councillors in favour.

Cllr Hart and Clerk to liaise

**5. Draft Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Fielding had provided Councillors with latest draft of the Plan, inviting feedback. This gives community objectives for the village, and includes proposal of any new dwelling to have minimum of two parking spaces, with any Design and Access Statement with application to show that adequate off-street parking is available. When feedback received from Councillors, Cllr Fielding will contact David Whittington at DDC to review Plan, before public consultation. Cllr Hart thanked him for all his hard work in developing the Plan.

**6. Clerk Report**

- Any news re community noticeboard – Cllr Hart is dealing.
- Nothing heard from Royal Mail re postbox – despite advice to the contrary this has not been Installed – continue to chase – been ongoing since July 2014.
- Re Elaine Springford memorial bench on the Madge field – now installed by Mr Miller. Clerk will invoice Ms Springford for cost of bench.
- Nothing heard further re Portal House – date of committee meeting yet to be advised.

Cllr Hart to deal  
Clerk to chase  
Clerk to deal

- Amended Service Level Agreement now sent to Martin Leggatt at Dover District Council re public toilets in Reach Road Car Park.
- Section 137 Grant cheques – PCC have lost their cheque, replacement under Finance.
- Trevor May will start work on the tennis courts within next week, with work already started on safety nets at King George V Playing Field.
- Stone Farms – contractor has been on holiday but will start work on rabbit-proof fencing at Cemetery from around 24<sup>th</sup> April.
- Walk placed in Parish magazine – although image fairly clear, the boards are out of date and need to be updated.
- Election nomination process now finished, with deadline of 4 p.m. Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Election takes place on 7<sup>th</sup> May, with next PC meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> May.
- Tender received from Braeside Stables at £1,050 for Old Bottom Freedown – IT WAS RESOLVED that this be accepted.
- General state of phone boxes in village – at his suggestion, it was agreed that Mr Miller be asked to undertake a one-off clean of each of the 3 telephone boxes.
- Rabbit control at Cemetery – Mr Miller had questioned the necessity of continuing this work over the summer but Councillors agreed that this should be continued until the fencing is in place.

Clerk to deal

Clerk to advise

## 7. Planning

The following comments were made on the applications considered:-

DOV/15/00222	Erection of single storey side/rear and two storey side extensions – Chesley, Lighthouse Road	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/15/00278 and DOV/15/00279	– Installation of 3 mast head amplifier units on existing tower – Arqiva Swingate Station	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/15/00239	Erection of a pitched roof over existing porch – Cliffe Cottage, Cripps Lane	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/15/00243	Internal alterations to facilitate the creation of downstairs toilet – Cliffe Cottage, Cripps Lane	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/15/00250	Change of use and conversion of garage to dwelling incorporating a dormer to front and rear elevations and 3 rooflights – Coggers, Granville Road	<i>Recommend refusal as this proposal creates more living accommodation at the expense of adequate parking provision</i>

DOV/15/00296	Erection of detached dwelling and construction of vehicular access – Site rear of The Shrubbery, St Margaret’s Road	<i>Recommend refusal on the grounds of over-development. Also appears a change of use required for workshop</i>
DOV/15/00274	Part change of use of ground floor, garden and summerhouse to tea-room – Curfew Cottage, Sea Street	<i>No objections</i>

**8. Finance and Accounts**

The following cheques were agreed for payment:-

Mr A Fielding – repayment of website subscription	£76.77
Bay Gas Services – safety certificates for Bowls Club	£120.00
British Telecom – office telephone quarterly invoice	£90.54
The Landscape Group Ltd – white lining for Walletts Court	£41.40
Olde English Pest Control – rabbit control at Cemetery	£360.00
Earth Anchors Ltd – memorial bench	£502.74
Kent County Playing Fields Association – subscription	£20.00
Kent Association of Local Councils – subscription	£997.34
Jane Cook – March 15 salary	£1037.88
Jane Cook – office expenses	£22.75
H M Revenue & Customs – PAYE/NIC	£195.26
The Landscape Group – grasscutting	£364.00
St Margarets PCC – replacement S.137 grant cheque	£70.00
Mr I Miller – March labour/extra hours/fuel/expenses	£1,295.00
	<hr/> £5,194.17

Receipts:-

Cricket Club re safety nets - £7,240.00
Burial Ground fees £775.00
Credit interest - £1.74 + 15p

- (a) Clerk gave brief report on accounts for 2014-2015. The Annual Return was duly considered by Councillors and Section 1 Accounting Statements signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- (b) The Annual governance statement for 2015-2015 was duly considered and signed by the Chairman and Clerk as a true record.
- (c) IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr Tim Burden to act as internal auditor, to meet with Clerk and undertake audit trail/check of minutes and financial information for the forthcoming year.
- (d) IT WAS RESOLVED to accept quotation from 4D Security for the installation of CCTV in the King George V Field at a cost of £900 + VAT.

9. **Correspondence**

- Mr and Mrs Bidgood – copy letter re Hope Inn planning application.
- Mrs T Evans – re donkey springer/seat top at Play Area – Cllr Hart is dealing with donkey springer. Mr Miller will replace seat when time permits
- Mr J Robinson – objections re Hope Inn planning application.
- June House, DDC Regeneration – re Draft Kingsdown Area Character Appraisal – public consultation.
- KALC – re report on Rural Affordable Housing.
- Mr B McGeary – re Portal House.
- KALC – details of new Councillor induction events.
- KALC – further info re above.
- Melanie Wrigley National Trust re fencing at Lighthouse Down. Reply sent inviting formal request from the National Trust.
- Sandwich Town Council – re First Aid courses.
- KALC – re Kent Coastal Access Report – Ramsgate to Folkestone.
- D A Jaenicke – re Parish Council area at the end of Kingsdown Road.
- Leon Williams – re footpath walk information.
- Mr B Westwater – copy letter re proposals for the Glebe Field.
- Gordon Guillou-King re Lethercote Point car park. It was agreed that PC logo could be used on any signage in the area with Parish Council to provide £25 by way of help in this respect.
- Paul Neagle, DDC Environmental Protection Manager – re dog control.
- Mr A Fotheringham – re alleged development in Chapel Lane – false information and email replied to.
- Mrs P Simpson – re Glebe Field proposals.
- Mr R Walton, Director of Environment and Corporate Assets DDC re Public Houses, refusing nomination of public houses as community assets.
- Mr G Irvine – copy email from Roger Gough to Charlie Elphicke MP re Portal House proposals.
- Charity of Amy Temple – invitation to official opening Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.
- Chair of Nursery and After School, thanking PC for grant and providing photographs of equipment.

Clerk to deal

10. **Reports from Councillors/Advisers**

Cllr Chris Little reported on attendance at library consultation held in Deal. This was looking at future library provision for Kent. £3.27 of savings needed county-wide in this respect. Looking to change libraries to charitable trusts, which would enable them to access alternative funding rather than Government income streams. No change to the number of libraries is proposed, and staff would be given the chance to change to the charitable trusts – pay and conditions would remain the same. A decision is to be made in early 2016. Mrs Sandy Liggins from public advised there is a petition in objection to this being undertaken throughout Kent and advised that some Counties have already seen library closures following similar initiatives.

Cllr Sara Little advised that, although she is standing down from the Parish Council, she will continue with the litter picking through the summer.

Cllr Paul advised that she will investigate the situation re the broken section of concrete at the end of the promenade in the Bay.

Cllr Paul asked whether the Scout Group Fete could be held in the Hall if, as seems likely, they are unable to use the Glebe Field.

Cllr Chris Little had been approached by resident of Droveaway Gardens, reporting that a recent group of cyclists had driven en masse down Droveaway Gardens. It is believed they may have come from one of the cruise liners due to logos/colour of strip.

Cllr Keith Morris advised that he is meeting with Mr Gould of the Bay Trust later this week. It may be that if nothing is in place re Portal House by the end of September, then that particular income stream open to KCC may be withdrawn.

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

Flower bed at end of Well Lane – despite many efforts Cllr Hart had been unable to determine ownership and gain permission for the PC to take this on. He had asked Mr Miller to take small amount of clearance work to keep the area tidy.

Cllr Hart, who is standing down as a Councillor, expressed his thanks for the many volunteers throughout the village. Cllr Paul asked that a written vote of thanks be sent to the volunteers responsible for the boat at Bay Hill and the junction of Dover Road.

Clerk to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

13<sup>th</sup> April 2015