THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 14th December 2015 at St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

<u>Present</u>: Cllrs E Cooke, R Simcox, R Beasley, C Smith, A Fielding, R Fagg, with co-opted Councillors J Harris, P Evans, B Paul. District Cllr Keith Morris and County Cllr Steve Manion in attendance.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Peter Wells asked if the PC was aware of a noisy party that had taken place in the South Foreland Valley on the 12th December – the point was made that the Police should be informed of any such future events.

Since previous meeting, resignation of Councillor Dawn Maddison received and accepted.

1. IT WAS RESOLVED that Miss Brenda Paul, Mrs Jennifer Harris and Mr Peter Evans		
be co-opted to the Parish Council to fill vacant seats.		
2. IT WAS RESOLVED that Brenda Paul be elected as Chair for the remaining year of		
the Parish Council.		
3. New Chair gave a brief introduction to the Councillors. The question was raised as to		
whether badges with photographs be arranged for all Councillors. The question of		
advice to electorate re Precept and breakdown of costs also to be considered, with		
possible article in Parish magazine.		
4. The minutes for the meeting on 9 th November 2015, having been circulated, were		
confirmed as a true record and signed.		
committed as a true record and signed.		
5. Declarations of interest		
None declared on agenda items.		
6. Report from Community Warden		
N		
Warden not present at meeting; Cllr Simcox had met with Warden and PCSO at		
village library but no visitors had been in evidence, despite the fact the bicycle		
and scooter marking had been advertised. The idea of using the village hall had		
been considered but Police force unwilling to meet the cost of hire – suggestion	Clerk to deal	
that Parish Council may be able to consider meeting cost. Clerk to place	Clerk to deal	
Warden's surgery hours on noticeboards. Cllr Fagg said he was willing to use his		
drive for security marking of bikes etc for Nelson Park area of the village.		
7. Clerk Report		
Concern raised re land off The Close/Vale View – advised to DDC.		
	Clerk to advise	
out charge of £65 for first hour with minimum of four hours work – this was		
agreed.		
Wicksteed have repaired and replaced the donkey springer – invoice under		
Finance.		

Have instructed Mark Jones to provide report on trees at end of Kingsdown Road
 awaited.

 Salt supplies – further bag ordered – at A Lyon's farm – Clerk to send thank-you letter to Mr Lyon.

• Christmas tree erected and lit at Post Office Corner – Clerk and Cllr Simcox helped re erection of tree/traffic control.

• Cllr Smith has offered to start a new litter picking group – Clerk to arrange equipment when date firmed up.

 Price of noticeboard (similar to that at Nelson Park) could be bought at around £300 – it was agreed that a pin-board type board would be preferable, possibly to be placed in Reach Road car park.

Quote still awaited re Bowls Club corrugated section of roof.

- Cllr Paul and Clerk will liaise re new pension obligations.
- Although left on the agenda, nothing received re bus shelter quote.
- Invoice awaited re dog control signs.
- Claringboulds will undertake repair work at King George V Pavilion (internal).
- KALC in receipt of correspondence re road designation this to go to NALC but this may take several weeks before opinion is given.
- £300 received from PCC Westcliffe re access gate from St Peters to our civic cemetery.

• Re question raised at previous PC meeting – it is not possible for road spoil to be placed in South Foreland Valley area.

• Name badges – now we are a full and working PC, this to be taken forward, with suggestion of photographs.

• Clerk to advertise community grants.

• Grazing at Old Bottom Freedown to be considered again this year, with Clerk to advise stables.

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to investigate

Clerk to liaise with Chair

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

8. Planning

The following comments were given on the applications considered:-

DOV/15/01125 Erection of a raised terrace to rear, relocation of front door

and creation of window (existing single storey front extension

to be demolished) -

West Coggers, 61 Granville Road No objections

DOV/15/00128 Erection of two storey front and rear extensions and

erection of a detached garage with habitable room

above (existing garage to be demolished) –

Court Cottage, Lighthouse Road No objections

DOV/15/00704 Amended plans – erection of a detached dwelling and

creation of parking (existing workshop to be demolished) –

Site at corner of Reach Road and High Street

Strongly object to the access for two vehicles to site, as cars would have to reverse in or out on this very dangerous junction. The refuge created opposite is an established crossing point to the village car park for children walking to and from the school.

9. South Foreland Valley

Councillors Beasley, Cooke and Clerk had met with Kirk Alexander of White Cliffs Countryside Project to discuss future management of the Valley. Current situation with locally arranged volunteers for scrub clearance is not proving entirely effective, with numbers dwindling.

Kirk Alexander had mooted the idea of employing a full-time Steward through WCCP who would manage volunteers for various areas of land, to include the St Margaret's South Foreland Valley – the suggestion of a sum of £5,000 from St Margaret's at Cliffe PC would fund this Steward for one day a week.

Clerk to arrange meeting

After discussion, Cllr Fielding suggested that this be trialled for one year (if this is possible), with a public consultation meeting to be held during the coming year to judge public opinion on this expense. Figures provided by Kirk had been considered but it was felt that a meeting with all Councillors and Kirk would be appropriate, with Clerk to arrange.

10. Finance and Accounts

The following cheques were agreed for payment:-

E J Clough – Christmas tree	£222.00
	£699.98
	£2,295.36
Old English Pest Control – re Cemetery	£90.00
Jane Cook – November salary	£1,065.50
Jane Cook – office expenses	£23.55
H M Revenue & Customs – PAYE/NIC	£193.44
Mr C Little – expenses re South Foreland Valley	£22.20
KALC – brochures	£9.00
Mr I Miller – labour/extra hours/expenses/Registrar fees	£1,799.39

Receipts-

Credit interest £1.55 + 16p
Burial fee £87.00
PCC Westcliffe re gate £300.00
Walletts Court FC £86.25

Discussion ensued re provision of new PC website – IT WAS RESOLVED by a majority vote that the web provider put forward by Cllr Smith be taken forward by the Council – Computer Geek. Cllr Smith will now take this forward.

Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to George Simcox for his efforts in preparing a proposed website for the Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the quotation in the sum of £310 (to include powder coating) to manufacture a replacement small ladder section for the climbing frame at the Play Area.

The Precept for 2016-2017 to be placed on the agenda for January 2016, pending advice re grant payments from DDC.

Cllr Smith to take forward

£6,420.42

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

11. Correspondence

- KALC re Kent Fire & Rescue Service update.
- Penny Bailey apology for behaviour at previous meeting.
- Sandy Liggins apology for behaviour at previous meeting.
- Bob Wainwright from social website re fire engine visit.
- Miles Thompson email following ours on doctor surgery petition.
- KALC re defibrillator purchase through KAL question of applying for Members' grant through Steve Manion mooted. Clerk was asked to deal.
- Penny Bailey copy of email to Charlie Elphicke re Royston Gardens parking.
- Dawn Maddison resignation from Parish Council.
- Jon Barker, National Trust, re new Chairman.
- KALC re rights of way. Response from NALC awaited.
- Kerri Skirrow PCSO re stopping of police reports for meetings.
- Andy Steele DDC re Dover Transportation Strategy.
- Bob Wainwright copy of email to DDC re Vale View.
- DDC e-newsletter.
- KALC re New Year 2017 Honours nominations.
- Kirk Alexander re South Foreland Valley.
- Steve Manion forwarded email re Tesco Community funding.
- Anita Sedgwick re Fortress Dover community project Clerk will contact re poster | Clerk to deal advertising.
- Andy Steele re Energy Deal Scheme.
- Shuna Body re Dover North "You Decide" grants.
- Natasha Rudlin, DDC, re 2016-2017 grants/Precept information awaited.
- Sara Locking DDC re breakdown of Election invoice.
- John Watson, thank you letter re mailbox installed at end of Kingsdown Road.
- Emails supporting initiative for steward to be employed re South Foreland Valley Colin Sumner, Peter Wells, Doreen Stone, Monica Russell.
- Lee Kidd response email re problems of parking reported in The Freedown.

12. Reports from Councillors/Advisers

District Cllr Keith Morris advised that as at 7th December DDC had signed up to "Keep Me Posted" via their website, where residents can enter their email addresses and be kept up to date with all relevant news etc. He advised that he would be happy to give a brief talk at the January PC meeting re the role of the District Authority.

Clerk to place on agenda

County Cllr Steve Manion advised that the "You Decide Grants" are available to application until 15th January. Decision to be made at meeting at Studdal on 20th February. Limited to £2,000.

Cllr Cooke had been asked to raise the issue of the very poor state of the car park in The Bay, with Clerk to advise to DDC.

Clerk to deal

Clerk to liaise with Chair

13. Village Maintenance/Matters affecting the Parish

Twinning – to be discussed at later date.

Cllr Fagg raised the issue of the village ponds – he offered to investigate issue of works needed and will report at next PC meeting – this to be placed on agenda.

Clerk to place on agenda

Cllr Simcox raised the issue of the childrens play area at the King George V Field, where several small maintenance matters require attention, including the logs, the mound, etc. It was agreed that party of Councillors would visit the area after Christmas.

Clerk will place the recycling of Christmas trees in village noticeboards.

Clerk to deal

Clerk had been asked to raise following issues by Mr Miller:-

- Salt bin it was agreed that this could be placed near the Chapel Lane Pond, with Mr Miller to deal.
- Tidying flower bed outside the village shop as this is third party property, it was agreed the Parish Council would not get involved with this.
- Treatment of church steps up for mould (also some on tennis courts) it was agreed that Mr Miller could undertake this.
- Cemetery hedge cutting through David Hall to be continued to cut down bushes/trees alongside boundary with church; bottom hedge to be cut by A Lyon; 3 days to be given to Mr Miller to cut back/tidy Cemetery in new year. Agreed.

Annual Parish Meeting to be arranged, with Clerk to investigate dates available through the Village Hall.

Clerk to deal

Councillor responsibilities to be re-visited at next meeting.

Clerk to place on agenda.

As time did not permit, it was agreed that the question of Mr Miller's maintenance agreement be deferred until January meeting.

Clerk to place on agenda

There being no further business, the meeting closed 10 p.m.

Confirmed: Chairman 14th December 2015