

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

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

Present: 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> November 2015, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed.	
5. <b><u>Declarations of interest</u></b> None declared on agenda items.	
6. <b><u>Report from Community Warden</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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 that Parish Council may be able to consider meeting cost. Clerk to place 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.</li></ul>	Clerk to deal
7. <b><u>Clerk Report</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Concern raised re land off The Close/Vale View – advised to DDC.</li><li>Consideration of quote re repairs to shutter at KGV Pavilion (Lotinga Doors) – call out charge of £65 for first hour with minimum of four hours work – this was agreed.</li><li>Wicksteed have repaired and replaced the donkey springer – invoice under Finance.</li></ul>	Clerk to advise



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.

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.

Clerk to arrange meeting

10. **Finance and Accounts**

The following cheques were agreed for payment:-

E J Clough – Christmas tree	£222.00
Wickstead Leisure Ltd – repair to donkey springer	£699.98
Dover District Council – election expenses	£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
	£6,420.42

Receipts-

Credit interest	£1.55 + 16p
Burial fee	£87.00
PCC Westcliffe re gate	£300.00
Walleys 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.

Cllr Smith to take forward

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

Clerk to deal

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.

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 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.

Clerk to liaise with Chair

Clerk to deal

12. Reports from Councillors/Advisers

District Cllr Keith Morris advised that as at 7<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> January. Decision to be made at meeting at Studdal on 20<sup>th</sup> 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

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

14<sup>th</sup> December 2015