

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 8th February 2016 at St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs B Paul, A Fielding, C Smith, J Harris, R Simcox, P Evans, R Fagg, E Cooke. Apologies received from District Cllr Keith Morris and Community Warden Lee Kidd. County Cllr Steve Manion in attendance.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mr Jim Stone raised question of problems in Reach Road/outside Heath Court once again. Cllr Paul explained the issue of Kent Highways only considering road repairs where there is a crash record. County Cllr Steve Manion explained that such works could be considered if PC could fund/part fund the installation of double yellow lines and he will liaise with Kent Highways Manager in this respect.

Penny Bailey brought up the question of the wall on corner of Cripps Lane where she believes the lean of the wall is worsening.

Viv Verren asked if the potholes on Reach Road (Upper Road) near the Coastguard Station had been reported. Cllr Simcox will liaise with Community Warden to see if he submits a report to Highways as the previous Warden did.

Peter Wells raised question of Deal Town Council holding arts events at the Pines Calyx, advising that last year such an event had created a road closure at the bottom part of Bay Hill.

Reports received from Village Sports Clubs:-

Walleys Court Football Club

- Brian Fielding reported.
- Last season team won the league cup, finishing third in the league.
- This year is the team's 26th year.
- White Cliffs sponsor the team with kit and laundry, also undertaking some fundraising.
- Currently 26 members signed up, with approx. 16 core players.
- So far this season the team is 5th in the league.
- Held various social events, including Christmas drinks event.
- A small financial surplus should be seen at the end of the season.
- Currently use the field/pavilion around twice a month.
- Maintenance responsibilities can be an issue with two separate teams using the facilities.

Tennis Club

- Chris Oakley reported.
- Thanked Parish Council re funding of new courts – previously one court had to be closed as it was considered dangerous.
- Membership currently around 30
- Courts used on average 3 to 4 times a week.
- LTA Coach is on board re coaching of young players.
- Club has invested in new nets and netting on boundary with Play Area.
- In league terms, Club has seen the most successful season for a number of years.
- Most members are from St Margaret's.

- Following installation of new courts, very little vandalism experienced.
- Continue to work closely with Cricket Club re use of facilities etc.
- Hope to hold an Open Day in mid April
- Have a new Club website up and running.
- Cllr Paul asked if Club could arrange for locking of courts during the Fete to be held during the summer on the King George V Field.

Bowls Club

- Mike Fielding reported.
- Club in good shape, with both ladies and gents teams in leagues performing very well.
- Have lost 5 members recently but Club is looking to recruit new members in Spring.
- Snooker/table tennis also good.
- Finances are stable and Club has a good fund-raising record, having recently purchased new snooker table cover.
- Still waiting for inspection of corrugated element of roof and reported that gable end of building may be demonstrating wood rot.
- Lots of work done in recent years on green.
- Club is looking at idea of extending building to the rear, to create ladies changing facilities and to extend the social area. Club would be asking PC for permission for this work before going ahead to seek planning permission (provided copies of proposed plans).
- May also look to move bar area.
- This to be on next agenda.

Cricket Club

- Mike Fielding reported.
- Club in good shape with 2 senior sides; 1 senior Sunday side.
- Have experienced problems in last season with opposing teams cancelling due to being unable to raise a full side.
- Also have an Under 13 side.
- Coaching starts at 6+ - have 5 qualified coaches.
- Looking for "Club Mark" accreditation.
- Finances stable' bought new practice net and covers.
- New safety nets proving good – expressed thanks to the PC for help with funding.
- Following recent heavy water bill, checks made on meters seem to suggest no leaks are evident – this may be down to watering of the square during last season.
- Dawn Maddison advised of plan to start a girls side – currently looking at funding streams. This would help in national move to encourage girls to play sport.

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| 1. The minutes for the meeting on 11 th January 2016, having been circulated, were confirmed as a true record and signed. | |
| 2. <u>Declarations of interest</u> Cllr Smith declared an interest in the grant application re the History Society (application is made by his partner); Cllr Smith declared an interest in the late planning application received re Millfield as an immediate neighbour; Cllr Simcox declared an interest in the planning application from the Nursery as this is located on the land at St Margaret's Primary School and Portal House where she is a Trustee for the lease. Cllr Harris declared an interest in the grant application for the History Society as she is directly involved in the oral history project. | |

3. **Report from Community Warden**

- Written report received from Warden.
- One issue raised frequently with Lee is the question of dog fouling, pointing out that fines can be made to owners in this respect.
- Cllr Simcox had spoken to Lee today; visitors to his surgery at the library are very limited with none seen today. Cllr Simcox will speak to him re promoting his presence/details of his role.

4. **Clerk Report**

- Cheque received from Barclays (Nicky and Eileen Barber Charitable Trust) for £3,000 re bus shelter – applied for by T Evans. Had to be returned as made out to St George’s Field – no such account. Have written to Barclays following phone conversation as requested.
- Ian Miller and Clerk dealt with contact and visit with D&A Tree Surgeons (quote under Finance), consulting with as many as possible of local residents in vicinity. Question raised as to whether one Councillor can liaise with Mr Jaenicke in Kingsdown Road. Cllr Harris volunteered to undertake this.
- Large bill from Affinity Water re King George V Pavilion – under Finance – Club had undertaken checks to see if a leak was apparent but this is not likely. Therefore it is believed this is down to water usage during watering of the square last season.
- Re land to rear of Station Road (land off The Close/Vale View) – DDC confirmed they have spoken to land owner and advised that he would need to apply for planning permission before any work is done.
- DDC (Barry Finch) have confirmed they have no problem with placing small wooden plinth on toilet building for community notices.
- Fallen trees on footpath off the Avenue reported to PROW.
- DDC have funding for full restoration of the promenade rails in The Bay during 2016-2017 and hope to start this work shortly.
- Missing safety rail on path from Kingsdown Road to The Freedown reported.
- Fabweld in process of manufacturing of ladder rail for play area – should be finished shortly.
- Planning Committee meeting re Portal House on Wednesday 10th Feb at County Hall. It was agreed that County Cllr could bring up points on behalf of the PC with no Councillor to attend.

Cllr Harris to deal

Clerk to advise

4(a) **County Cllr Steve Manion** provided his report at this point – He confirmed he will be attending the Planning Meeting at County Hall re Portal House; Has KCC budget meeting later this week; Central Government has recently pledged £150m to rural councils – KCC may benefit from this funding.

5. **Planning**

The following comments were made on the planning applications considered:-

DOV/15/01282 Erection of a detached dwelling and associated parking -
The White House, 3 St Margarets Road
Strongly object as this is outside the village confines

DOV/16/00004 Crown reduce one Sycamore by 2m and re-pollard one Lime tree –
The Old Vicarage, St George’s Lane *No objections*

DOV/16/00007 Erection of 2no. semi-detached dwellings with integral carports
and attached private garage; erection of 1no. attached dwelling;
conversion of existing ground floor shop into a self-contained flat,
and associated parking and landscaping (existing garages to be
demolished) –
Land and Garages rear of and including 4 & 5, The Droveaway
*No objections but “crocodile parking” shown
is only relevant for one vehicle
(Proposed: Cllr Harris – 5 in favour/3 against).*

DOV/16/00067 Erection of a part replacement pitched roof –
Whitecliffe Bungalow, The Front *No objections*

Clerk was delegated to deal with the following application:-

DOV/16/00102 Replace existing flat roof to side elevation with pitched roof –
41 Reach Close *No objections*

*Re application for 3 Seymour Road (15/01197) and The Barn, North of 7 Millfield
(16/00063), it was agreed that these be deferred to allow Councillors to undertake further
consideration. Cllr Paul asked if a site meeting with Planners could be made re The
Barn.*

Clerk to monitor
re responses

6. **Finance and Accounts**

IT WAS RESOLVED that the following cheques be passed for
payment:-

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| Affinity Water – half yearly water rates for King George V Pavilion | £381.02 |
| Dover District Council – public toilets (final quarter) | £2,079.34 |
| The Landscape Group – line marking | £62.10 |
| Jane Cook – January salary | £1,065.50 |
| Jane Cook – phone/internet/calls | £30.13 |
| H M Revenue & Customs - PAYE/NIC for December | £193.44 |
| H N Revenue & Customs – PAYE/NIC for January | £193.44 |
| Mr I Miller – invoice re January | £1,262.53 |
| Olde English Pest Control | £90.000 |
| | £5,357.50 |

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| <p>It was agreed that salary/payment increases re Clerk, Mr Miller and Lynne Hopwood be deferred to next meeting.</p> | <p>Clerk to place on agenda</p> |
| <p>Councillors Harris and Simcox will liaise re question of Burial Ground fees in comparison with other providers, and asked that this item stand on the agenda until next month.</p> | <p>Clerk to deal</p> |
| <p>Defibrillator – PC has received £935 grant funding through “You Decide” Members Grant; IT WAS RESOLVED that PC would add £435 to this sum in order to acquire an outside cabinet for the equipment. Chair is liaising with Village Hall Chairman in order to agree positioning of the defibrillator outside the village hall.</p> | <p>Clerk to make arrangements for purchase</p> |
| <p>D & A Tree Surgeons – IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the quotation in the total sum of £1,090 in respect of works to 4 trees at the end of Kingsdown Road, adjacent to The Freedown. Offer from Mr D Jaenicke of 97 Kingsdown Road to provide the sum of £500 towards these works – Clerk asked to write to Mr Jaenicke formally thanking him .</p> | <p>Clerk to contact and arrange Clerk to write</p> |

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| <p>7. <u>Grants to Local Organisations</u></p> | | |
| <p>IT WAS RESOLVED to make the following Section 137 grants:-</p> | | |
| <p>St Margarets History Society St Margarets Nursery and After School Club Pegasus Playscheme St Margarets Parent Baby and Toddler Group</p> | <p>£550.00 £365.88 £500.00 £200.00</p> | <p>Clerk to prepare cheques and write to applicants</p> |
| <p>IT WAS RESOLVED to pay £70 to the PCC in respect of Churchyard volunteers to cover their mower fuel costs.</p> | | |

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| <p>8. <u>Correspondence</u></p> | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DDC – re Queen’s 80th birthday beacon lighting – Councillors were asked to investigate location of “old beacon”. • Mr R Beasley – resignation from Parish Council. Clerk confirmed that PC could now undertake co-option of a new Councillor. • Shepherd Neame – re acquisition of The Coastguard public house. • Cllr Keith Morris – follow up to January PC meeting. • Mrs Amanda Brown – emails re parking; trees; ivy. Small tree causing problems to be removed under tree surgeon work. • David Hart – re bird watchers request in clearing designated warbler area – confirmed that PC had no problem in this respect. • Public Rights of Way – acknowledgement of fault report re fallen trees. • Kirk Alexander – thank you email re proposed funding for South Foreland Valley. • Shuna Body, KCC, re You Decide grant PC successful at £935 grant. • Mr J McEwan, DDC, re land off Station Road – The Close. • DDC – Consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement. • Dale King, St Margarets Cricket Club, re security of tenure at King George V Field – agreed that Clerk could prepare letter confirming same. | | |
| | | <p>Clerk to deal</p> |

- KALC – re Lower Thames Crossing Route Consultation.
- KCC – Consultation on Mobile Library Service.
- Clive Harding – offer re free courses on defibrillator use – this to be taken up when PC in possession of equipment.
- DDC – consultation on Dover District Snow Warden Scheme.
- DDC – re Neighbourhood Planning Conference – Cllr Paul will attend.
- Colin Sumner – re planning application 15/01282 re The White House.
- Colin Sumner – re Parish magazine – PC felt it was not appropriate to place whole minutes in the magazine each month.
- Celia Cooke – re Sea Street traffic.
- Kirk Alexander – re funding for South Foreland Valley 2016-2017 together with Memo of Agreement for the Higher Level Stewardship agreement – it was agreed that a further meeting be undertaken and Clerk to contact Mr Alexander in this respect.
- Sara Little – re damaged gate in South Foreland Valley.
- Colin Sumner – copy of email sent to Headteacher of School re banner on A258 junction.
- Email exchange (copies) between Penny Bailey, Cllr Steve Manion and Gordon Measey at DDC re parking in Royston Gardens.
- Mrs A Gill – email raising matter of works being undertaken on plot adjacent to The Close, Station Road – Clerk confirmed DDC are aware.
- Mr D Jaenicke – email providing offer of £500 towards work to the trees in Kingsdown Road.

Cllr Paul to deal

Clerk to deal

9. Roads in South Foreland Valley

Councillors had been provided with copy of NALC's response in this matter. No action to be taken.

10. Reports from Councillors/Advisers

Cllr Fagg reported re village ponds. Reach Road Pond is in need of clearing and he will approach contractors in this respect for cost – he has spoken to local builders Claringboulds. He is also looking at Chapel Land Pond which also needs work and will come to future meeting with plans.

Cllr Evans proposes to promote use of the South Foreland Valley and its environs, to include probably 10 events over the year with the emphasis on conservation and learning etc. Hopes to host a couple of school events, a Halloween event, Easter egg hunt, etc. He will liaise with David Hart in this respect. Some events will be free, some will carry a very small charge. These initiatives will be run through Skill Horizons Ltd which Cllr Evans confirmed is his own business.

Clerk to place on agenda

11. Village Maintenance and Matters Affecting the Parish

Annual Meeting to be arranged for 14th April, with Clerk to liaise with Councillors re invitees. Suggestions of sports clubs, Scout group, Community Warden an PCSO put forward.

Cllr Fielding asked that the Village Plan be placed on agenda for March.

Clerk to deal

Litter pick being arranged by Cllr Smith on Sunday 14th Feb – Clerk will arrange to pick up equipment from DDC Whitfield offices.

Clerk to deal

Clerk asked to investigate cost of purchasing some litter equipment for PC's own use.

Clerk to deal

Cllr Simcox had provided "proof" of proposed badges for Councillors/Clerk – IT WAS RESOLVED that up to £100 could be spent in this respect.

Cllr Simcox to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed 10.05 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

8th February 2016