

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 11th December 2017 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs B Paul, J Harris, G Macgregor, R Wilkie, A Fielding, C Smith, A Newton. Apologies received from Cllr R Simcox. Also in attendance District Councillors Keith Morris and Peter Jull.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mr Jim Stone – re Vicarage Lane, who owns the lane? It was confirmed that as a private road, the responsibility for maintenance etc rests with the residents. He believes that the Lane has been extended into from The Old Vicarage, and also along the Village Hall. He stated there is a lot of growth – brambles, elder etc – coming from The Old Vicarage site and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the management company asking that some work is undertaken to cut this back.

Mr John Stone – advised that the kerbs at Post Office Corner remain broken – Cllr Paul confirmed she would report again. Cllr Paul publically thanked Mr Stone for the continued use of his electricity for the Christmas tree at Post Office Corner.

Cllr Liggins asked if new CCTV system in place. It was confirmed that BT Openreach have recently placed a new pole at the King George V Field for a phone line/internet to the pavilion. She asked if Post Office Corner could be included but this would need a separate new system given the location.

Mrs Viv Verren – reported a large pothole on Reach Road, near Sherleys Farm. Cllr Paul will locate and report to Highways.

Monica Russell – asked if PC was aware of severe erosion of the cliffs, almost past the end of the promenade. Cllr Paul will photograph and report to DDC.

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 13th November 2017</u> The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of interest</u> – Cllr Wilkie apologised that he should have declared an interest last month re the property The Tides, 9 St Margaret's Road as this is a neighbouring property.</p>	
<p>2a. District Cllr P Jull – advised that the Ward of St Margaret's could be varied in size, politically. District Councillors to be reduced from 45 to 32, so St Margaret's could become a larger Ward with 2 Councillors, or a smaller Ward with 1 Councillor (there will be two rounds of public consultation prior to this commencing in the New Year).</p> <p>PCSO Jacqui Brook – Cllr Paul thanked Jacqui for her help with the Christmas celebrations at Post Office Corner last weekend. Advises that together with St Margaret's, she covers Whitfield, Kingsdown, Ripple and all villages between. Has a monthly meeting with Clerk. Cllr Paul advised that she will ask the Village Hall if Jacqui can have a key.</p> <p>District Cllr Keith Morris – advised that Deal Pier café premises will be up for tender next year. New beach huts will be considered for St Margaret's Bay next year. Has been in dialogue with Cllr Fielding re relocation of village doctor surgery.</p>	Cllr Paul will deal

3. **Clerk Report**

- Christmas tree recycling - 8th and 9th January – placed in Parish magazine. Cllr Smith will place website?
- Work re new windows/doors at King George V Pavilion complete, cheque under Finance. Cheque received from Cricket Club £1,780 re shutters.
- Clerk had met with Sandy Liggins re proposed fence from Churchyard to car park –agreed this should be looked at when tree growth is clear.
- Contacted True Environmental Services re interceptor – met with Chair earlier today, flushed system through and agreed to meet again in New Year. Clerk asked to contact water company re use of hydrant to fill pond.
- Following approached from Mr Cole, owner of land now contacted and he is not agreeable to allowing footpath to be defined across his land (from Kingsdown Road).
- PROW will undertake work on 3 gates across Old Bottom Freedown –Chair to let tenant know when work is to be undertaken (this will be done by volunteers at no installation cost to PC).
- Dave Austin fully booked with work until new year when tree work will be continued at Chapel Lane Pond.
- Community Warden is moving on to pastures new – Hannah Osborne is covering the post at the moment.
- Responses sent to Planning Inspectorate re Walmer application for 85 new houses.
- Treatment of Church steps – Mr Miller will deal.
- Councillors agreed that Messrs Hart and Little be given the go ahead to order and use eco-plugs for the treatment of tree stumps/saplings in the South Foreland Valley.

Cllr Smith to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to await confirmation

Clerk will liaise

4. **Planning**

Clerk was delegated to deal with the following applications, received since posting of the agenda:-

DOV/17/01458 - Erection of a single storey side extension –
3 Amy Temple Cottages, Chapel Lane *No objections*

DOV/17/01434 - Erection of a detached dwelling, detached outbuilding, garden terrace and steps, formation of new vehicular access, driveway and parking, installation of a ground source heat pump and landscaping –
Land at Wallets Court, West Cliffe *Object due to the proposal being within the AONB*
4 for proposal (Cllrs Harris, Newton, Smith, Wilkie);
3 against (Cllrs Macgregor, Fielding, Paul).

The following payments made since the October meeting were approved:-

Channel Windows	£6,676.00
Mr C Little – re Valley open day refreshments	£36.07
Isle of Wight Computer Geek – replacement cheque (original lost)	£165.00
Mrs J Harris – travel expenses re KALC AGM	£51.16
Mrs R Simcox – travel expenses re Highway Seminar	£29.23

CPRE – annual subscription Petty Cash Jane Cook – November salary Jane Cook – office expenses H M Revenue and Customs Mr I Miller Mr C Little – ecoplugs E J Clough – Christmas tree	£36.00 £22.50 £1,129.85 £24.80 £227.30 £1,258.00 £89.46 £288.00 £10,033.37	
Precept/Budget – Clerk provided Councillors with brief resume of current position of finances, together with predicted end of year position. Councillors will consider position and decision to be made at January PC meeting.		Clerk to place on agenda
6. <u>Correspondence</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Heaps re Traffic Surveys – liaising with Cllr Fielding and Mr A Denton. • Peter and Gina Ayles re photo shoot in Valley. • Nicholas Fielding re footpath from Kingsdown Road – Clerk will advise Mr Cole • Anne Amos – request for litter bin on The Front – Clerk to respond that no more bins are planned following recent purchase. • E Metenier re filming on Upper Road. • KALC re Government announcement re lorry park. • Public Rights of Way re footpath ER9. • KCC re temporary closure of Collingwood Road – placed on website. • Joanna Thomson – update re Goodwin Sands SOS • Chris Little / David Hart re tree stump treatment in Valley – agreed by Councillors. • Lynn Morris re planning application for 9 St Margarets Road. • Natasha Rudkin re ready reckoner 2018-2019. • Richard Haynes re Up On The Downs event. • Kirk Alexander – update on Valley work and advising of his leaving WCCP – Clerk had responded. • Joanna Thomson – further update re Goodwin Sands SOS. • Mr E Gee re Station Road surgery proposal. • Andrew Hutchinson, Kent PROW re Lighthouse Road signs (copy to PC). • Channel Windows – guarantee document. • Mr J Kirby – re proposed housing / surgery development. • Monica Russell – re proposed housing development / new surgery. • Mr S Hare – re alleged encroachment into Well Lane by resident. • Mr P Ryan – re parking problems in Well Lane / High Street. • DDC – re FOI request for second / holiday homes in St Margaret’s 		Cllr Fielding will take forward Clerk to deal Clerk to deal
7. <u>KCC Proposal re cutting of bus service subsidies</u>		
Cllr Smith advised this was discussed at KCC Council meeting last Thursday, with Paul Carter to meet with both Stagecoach and Arriva companies. May potentially affect St Margaret’s and details of consultation dates have been put on PC website. A petition has been raised across the County which continues to attract signatures. Cllr Smith stated that any loss of local bus services would only add to the already heavy car traffic in the village. Agreed that Parish Council should object to any proposed cuts – consultation to commence w.e.f. 17 th January 2018.		Clerk to deal

8. Speed limits on access roads to village centre

Cllr Harris stressed the current situation where traffic using the A258 road is limited to 50mph and 40mph in places, where both access roads into the village (Station Road and Dover Road) have limits of 60mph. Following recent KALC meeting, Cllr Harris will liaise with Kingsdown PC re idea of imposing a 20mph limit in the village centre. Cllr Fielding advised that there is a proposal to come to the next PC meeting following discussion by the local "Gridlock St Margarets" group.

9. Reports from Councillors

- Cllr Harris had provided Councillors with most recent email from Samuel Bassett at Kent Highways re the proposed new bus shelter at Nelson Park, leading out of the village. Essentially it is felt that this proposal can go no further – disability legislation would require an additional pavement at this point to allow wheelchair users to get off the bus on to such a pavement – this would prove very costly. Agreed that the PC should look at the idea of replacing the current shelter on the housing side of the Nelson Park bus stop. Cllr Harris will take forward.
- Cllr Smith had been studying the DDC Housing Needs Survey, as he believes the village still has a lack of affordable housing. Current Survey is for 2010-2015 with nothing more recent. He could find no minutes on DDC website for proposed Affordable Housing Group. Raised question as to what was being done with the Housing Revenue Account held by DDC – District Cllr Judd advised that DDC are actively buying back social housing when it comes on to the market. Advised that housing strategy is under review at present. Cllr Smith stressed the need for more affordable housing to keep young people in the village.
- Cllr Fielding had been in discussions with Dr Bahadur. As regards current patient list, this is at 3,800 overall including Buckland practice, with 1,600 at Tara. He is considering retiring in 2-3 years; no doctor to take over current practice as it is too small and does not meet NHS criteria. If Tara were to close, around half of current patients could be taken by the Buckland practice. The Pharmacy is licensed to him personally and without this, the surgery would not be viable. 1,000 signatures to petition does not name any site for new surgery. Cllr Fielding had spoken to Tessa O'Sullivan at Action with Communities in Rural Kent who confirmed that most affordable housing now needs an element of commercial housing.

Cllr Harris to deal

10. Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish

- Playing field inspection undertaken by Cllr Harris – she had been asked by local parents to look at the safety of the slide which has very steep steps. Playdale Inspector will visit the play area site in the New Year to undertake a free survey when this will be discussed.
- Agreed to hold the subject of Maintenance Contractor in abeyance for time being although Cllr Smith stressed the need to make preparations well in advance of Mr Miller leaving his role, although this is not envisaged in the next 2-3 years.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Miller had spoken to Cllr Harris on the following: needs 3 days to spend on clearing in the Burial Ground; Kingsdown Road Bank will need further attention; clearing around Reach Road Pond; Glebe Close verges. It was agreed this work be undertaken. Clerk asked to place Reach Road Pond on next agenda.• Cllr Smith advised that last few litter-picks have had very poor turn out – he will therefore suspend this for a few months. A note to be placed on website if local people would like a litterpicker.	Clerk to deal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Harris provided KALC training brochure. Cllrs Newton and Macgregor to be booked on Dynamic Councillor conference to be held 24th Feb 2018.	Clerk to book

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

11th December 2017

DRAFT