

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 15th January 2018 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs J Harris (in the Chair), R Simcox, C Smith, G Macgregor, A Fielding. Apologies from Cllr Paul (illness), Cllr A Newton (illness) and R Wilkie. District Councillor Keith Manion and County Cllr Steve Manion also in attendance.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mr Hare raised question re DC proposal at Cabinet Meeting earlier in the day to impose car parking charges at some village car parks, including at Reach Road, St Margaret's. Cllrs Smith and Simcox had attended for the PC. District Cllr Morris confirmed that he had made clear the strength of local opposition and the proposal had been dismissed from the agenda. Cllr Morris thanked for his support in this respect.

Sandy Liggins – manhole cover in Sea Street near Portal House School – the edge is collapsing. Clerk will report. Sandy confirmed that following Mr Jim Stone's request at last month's PC meeting, the Village Hall reps had inspected the edge of the Hall land but could see no problem with encroachment. The bus stop sign in Sea Street (lying in field to the side) – Clerk had reported this before but would again report to Kent Highways.

Peter Wells – advised that the white lines on the edge of Bay Hill are becoming obliterated by vegetation – Clerk will report. Advised that he has learnt that all services on private roads fall to the responsibility of residents on such roads, up to the nearest highway.

Resident thanked PC for their response re car park charges proposal.

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 11th December 2017</u> The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of interest</u> – none declared on agenda items.</p>	
<p>2a. District Cllr Keith Morris – charges for parking on Sundays will be put into place in some car parks in Dover area, with effect from 1st April. Advised that Frankie and Benny's, due to be part of the St James' development, will not now be taking a unit. Advised that Dover District Council is putting forward £500k for improvements to Dover Town centre, to include such works as seating/lighting and tidying of properties. DDC is to take on 1.5 new Civil Enforcement Officers.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Clerk Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk confirmed thank you letters had been sent to those helping with the Christmas tree. • 3 places booked through KALC for the Dynamic Councillor course on 24th Feb at Whitfield – Cllrs Newton, Macgregor together with Clerk. • Re Hawthorn tree which has come down behind tennis court – agreed that this be dealt with by tree surgeon D A Tree Surgeons. • Clerk had been approached by Cricket Club to ask if they can undertake improvements to the paved area in front of the pavilion at Club's cost – agreed. 	<p>Clerk to advise Councillors</p> <p>Clerk to advise</p>

- Re van parked in car park (Not Highways) – this has been reported to all agencies and PCSO/Warden.
- PCSO Jacqui Books will meet with Ian Miller re continued vandalism at bus shelter at Nelson Park.
- Clerk has ordered a supply of road salt to be delivered to East Valley Farm in case of icy weather.
- Councillors advised of position re gates x 3 being installed across old Bottom Freedown – invoice to be received in due course. Clerk had liaised with volunteer group and tenant. Clerk to send thank you letter to volunteers.
- Meeting held with PCSO last week – little to report other than theft of lead from roof of Red Lion. Due to meet with her again before next PC meeting.
- Re B52 memorial stone at Nelson Park – is the PC prepared to contribute something to this? IT WAS RESOLVED that a sum of £100 be provided in this respect.
- Re public consultation to bus service changes – this has now been removed, with no further action at this stage.

Clerk to deal

Clerk to advise

4. Planning

The following comments were made on the applications considered:-

- DOV/17/01496 Erection of a detached garage –
Feathers, Kingsdown Road *No objections*
- DOV/17/01517 Erection of a single storey side and front porch extension
and alterations to windows, application of rendering
and cladding –
Iolaire, 61 The Droveaway *No objections*
- DOV/17/00792 Erection of a detached dwelling, detached garage and
creation of vehicle turning area –
Land adjacent to The Close, Station Road
*Object – proposal is outside village confines
and within AONB. Narrow private access road
inappropriate for further traffic*

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

- DOV/18/00002 Erection of a front dormer roof extension, alterations to
existing rear dormer to increase width and creation of
hardstanding –
5 Roman Way *No objections*

5. Finance

Precept - IT WAS RESOLVED to keep total resources the same – this would mean a 0.7% decrease in PC element of Council Tax for Band D properties. (Councillors Harris, Fielding, Macgregor, Simcox in favour. Cllr Smith voted against proposal).

Clerk to deal

Clerk – IT WAS RESOLVED to apply a 3% increase to Clerk's salary with effect from 1st April 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to increase the hourly rate to maintenance contractor Mr Miller by 3%, with effect from 1st April 2018. Mr Miller's retention fee for the Cemetery to be increased to £300 with effect from 1st April 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to increase the hourly rate to cleaner Lynne Hopwood by 3%, with effect from 1st April 2018.

Cllr Fielding advised he had been in touch with a specialist traffic consultancy firm (based in Bristol) following discussion with Gridlock group re proposals to improve traffic problems in the village. They had advised they could undertake a visit to St Margaret's – the cost for the consultant would be £850 per day, total cost should be around £5,000 and would then produce a plan for suggested improvements, It is unsure at this stage whether traffic survey would be part of this consultancy work although Cllr Smith felt strongly that the traffic survey should be undertaken as agreed. This to be a main agenda item for next meeting.

Clerk to deal

The following payments, made since meeting on 11th December 2017, were approved:-

British Telecom	£96.08
NEST – pension (Clerk and Council)	£145.36
Mr I Miller = labour/extra hours etc	£1,137.00
Idverde – line marking	£52.80
KALC – training	£216.00
Jane Cook – salary	£1,129.65
Jane Cook – office expenses	£24.10
H M Revenue & Customs	£227.50
Petty Cash	£35.35
Dover District Council – toilets	£1,816.26
Affinity Water Ltd – water rates	£470.49
	£5,350.59

Receipts:-

Credit interest £2.98; Burial Ground fee £450.00

5a) **County Councillor Steve Manion** – Advised that public consultation re changes to bus services had been withdrawn – new Cabinet Member now in place (Mike Whiting) with new proposals to be put forward in due course.

Advised that figures for unaccompanied asylum seekers in the Kent area have fallen over recent months.

KCC is looking for savings of £53m in the coming financial year – Council Tax increase likely to be just under 5%.

Question was put to Cllr Manion re streetlights which had been cut down – when and if are these to be replaced? He asked that details are provided to him and he will investigate.

6. **Cemetery Fees** – IT WAS RESOLVED that fees (together with Registrar fees) remain at the same level for the coming financial year, to be considered again in 2019.

(Cllr Macgregor left the meeting at 8.45pm)

7. Correspondence

- NHW message re Police matters
- NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 46
- Averil Brice re installation of gates on footpath ER14 (Old Bottom Freedown).
- Mr H Jones – copy of letter sent to Mr J Stone re Well Lane/Vicarage Lane.
- Brian Cole – emails re proposed B-17 marker.
- Sarah Bradley at DDC re Flytipping awareness campaign – Clerk had placed notices
- Paul Sampson re Dexter cattle in Valley etc.
- KALC – Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
- Mr H Craddock re Martin Lodge Farm continuation of restricted byway – confirmed that PC would have no objection
- KALC re Community Policing (CPV) new role.
- Sally Wiltsher – thank you letter and receipts re grant provided by PC.
- KALC – re Kent Community Speedwatch.
KALC – re proposals for creation of a major road network – no action.
KALC – re Dover Area Committee meeting 24th Jan.

Clerk to advise

8. Reports from Councillors

Cllr Fielding had been approached by Cricket Club – they have acquired a sponsor for the Club and would like to display a commercial sign during games – confirmed that PC would have no objection.

(Cllr Fielding left the meeting at 8pm).

Cllr Simcox asked if land owner had been contacted re field behind proposed bus shelter at Nelson Park – this was confirmed. Cllr Harris stated that the £3,000 grant received would be best served in replacing the old wooden shelter on the opposite side of the road.

Playing field inspection had been undertaken by Cllr Wilkie – only problem noted is the exposure of brick rubble at foot of “the mound”. Agreed that this would be inspected during the Play Consultant visit on 5th February and to appear on next month's agenda.

It was agreed that the question of Reach Road Pond be deferred until next meeting and Clerk will investigate pond experts.

Clerk had received a letter regarding the poor state of Drove Way Gardens but was advised that much of the problem had been cleared earlier that same day.

Clerk to place on agenda

Clerk to deal

10. Matters arising

- Agreed that Sports Club reps be invited to February meeting.
- Grants will be considered at February meeting.

Clerk to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

15th January 2018