

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 10th September 2018 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs R Simcox (in the chair), C Smith, A Fielding, R Wilkie Apologies for absence received from Cllrs A Newton (family illness), B Paul (holiday) and Harris (holiday). County Cllr Steve Manion and District Cllr Peter Jull also in attendance. Cllr Macgregor also absent (no reason given).

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Penny Bailey – cited problems of exiting Royston Gardens due to parked cars in Reach Road. Reported that although hedge has recently been cut back on property near end of the road, this may in future cause a problem.

Peter Wells reported that following a fire at Pines Gardens, the Fire Service took some while to arrive. Clerk will report any information on this to Cllr Manion at KCC.

Mrs Liggins asked if the owners of Butchers Cottage could be contacted and asked to cut back the hedge which is again starting to encroach over the adjoining footpath.

Resident of The Freedown asked if footballers could be asked to park on the Alexander Field rather than in The Freedown where they can cause obstruction to residents' properties and footpaths. Cllr Fielding will speak to the Club but reported that this is likely to be visiting teams and the drivers are not committing any offence by parking in The Freedown. Also, resident asked if a further bin could be provided so that footballers (adult teams) do not leave rubbish such as plastic bottles on the pitch.

Resident asked if Community Warden Hannah Osborne could be asked to provide a report for the PC meeting – Clerk will speak to Hannah.

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 9th July 2018</u> The minutes, having been circulated to all members, were duly confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> – None declared on agenda items.</p>	
<p>3. <u>County / District Councillors</u> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Manion advised of a difficult time at County Council with budget setting; cuts are getting more difficult with the rising cost of adult and child social care. Advised of the public consultation currently in place to impose charges at the Whitfield waste transfer station for household rubbish such as plasterboard, rubble, etc. Reported that now around 95% of areas in KCC have broadband. Report from the Big Conversation re public transport is expected out next week – KCC looking at rolling out 9 pilot bus schemes overall.• Cllr Jull advised he had undertaken a useful meeting with the National Trust re traffic problems etc. Progress is being made on the “safer walking route” proposal for Upper Road. Jon Barker of NT was in attendance and advised that the parking on the verge is a Highways issue as the land is owned by them. However, NT are looking at further resolutions to the problem, including possibility of fencing up to the edge of land.	

4. **National Trust re Beacon event 11th November** (moved from item 6 on agenda).

- Beacon event is planned for 11th November at the Lighthouse, to commemorate 100th anniversary of end of World War One. This follows a nationwide beacon event with over 1,000 being lit across the UK. Trinity House have given permission for the Lighthouse beacon to be lit at 7pm, and this will run through the night until sun-up.
- This event will be exclusively for St Margaret's, with a press embargo being placed on the details. NT will prepare posters for website/noticeboards etc. Staff on the evening will be parking at Langdon site and car sharing. The Trust asked if the PC/other interested organisations would like to organise walking groups from the village, leaving at (say) 6, 7, 8 and 9pm – the beacon will be lit at 7pm so the first group would need to arrive by 6.45pm.
- NT will be offering limited tours of the Lighthouse on the night, together with some for Fan Bay site.
- The Merchant Navy Radio Officers Association will be in attendance on the night.
- Cllr Fielding will liaise with Village Hall Committee to see if they can become involved in organising walks.

5. **Peter Evans re proposal for Heritage Trail** (moved from item 7 on agenda).

- Mr Evans advised that he had applied for and received grant funding through Army Services fund providers for educational purposes in providing a Heritage Trail in the South Foreland Valley.
- Current information boards installed by White Cliffs Countryside Project would be used – posts can be scanned using a QR code through a phone app which would then come up with “then and now” pictures of each of the sites. Idea is to promote information/education on World War 2.
- The information can be obtained through Schools or during “on site” visits – he is looking to invite schools and local organisations. Traffic would be zero, as any visiting would be done by walking groups, with vehicles dropping children off nearby.
- Health and Safety assessments would be undertaken by Mr Evans on each visit and when asked on the question of public liability, he confirmed that he has in place his own PL insurance for each occasion he takes walking groups on the trail. He will keep the Parish Council updated on visits. He will keep abreast/liaise with Richard Haynes of the White Cliffs Countryside Project Cllr Simcox asked that he make contact with Christine Waterman of the History Society as advised.

6. **Clerk Report** (moved from item 4 on agenda).

- Footpath walk set for 23rd September – hall booked – Cllrs Harris and Paul will undertake refreshments.
- Water supply and new meter finally in place at Chapel Lane Pond.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following drafting Model Standing Orders, KALC have now provided amended version – Clerk will revisit this and report further in due course. • Contacted Landscape Services re further grasscutting quote – awaited. • It was proposed that litter bin removed from top of Cripps Lane be re-sited at Post Officer Corner, with Clerk to liaise with Mr Miller in this respect. • New trail in place at Play Area – invoice paid. • VAT Return completed for £783.05. • Problem with CCTV fixed - £40 invoice under Finance. Cllr Simcox will investigate purchase of laptop for location at Hall for reading of images etc • Footpath behind Collingwood Road – nettles reported – reported to PROW. • A M Hayes not able to re-quote for tin roof at Kingsdown Road Pavilion – Club are seeking further information. • Trees at Reach Road Pond – resident behind reports tree touching her garage – this was reported via Mr Miller and Clerk will check with him re name/location of resident. • Re litter bags for Mr Miller – new DDC approach means that a risk assessment now needs to be undertaken on each occasion for provision of bags. May be more effective if Mr Miller purchases bags. Clerk to investigate. • Still awaiting invoice for wreath for Dover Patrol service. • New play safety inspection ordered – lead-in time 6-8 weeks – will advise when specific dates known. • Re alleged dog poisoning –no further details available but residents to be encouraged to report any such incidents to the Police. • Ian Miller has advised the bench outside the Old Chapel has been moved and damaged. Cllr Wilkie will check. • Problems reported by contractors working at land and garages at 4 and 5 The Droveaway – reported to Enforcement at DDC. • IT WAS RESOLVED that Clerk seek permanent duck signs for Chapel Lane Pond. • Bench in Sea Street has rusted through on the seat (removed by Mr Miller) – Council will investigate provision of a new bench. • It was proposed that Clerk write to Mr Lyon thanking him for use of his land for the B17 commemorative plaque. • IT WAS RESOLVED that Clerk seek quotation from M Brown Tarmac Services in Ashford for short section of road leading to King George V Field. 	<p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Cllr Simcox to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Cllr Wilkie to deal</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p> <p>Cllr Wilkie to investigate</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p>
<p>7. Planning (moved from agenda item 5)</p> <p>The following observations were made on the applications considered:-</p> <p>DOV/18/00749 Erection of a single storey rear extension and alterations to external side stairs - The Deck House, 24 St Margarets Road (expired) <i>No objections</i></p> <p>DOV/18/00322 Demolition of ménage, excavation of land, formation of menage, erection of posts/rails as means of enclosure, formation of bunds around ménage using excavated soil, erection of lights (re-advertisement, amended description, amended drawings, part retrospective) –Owl House Stables, Station Road <i>No objections</i></p>	

DOV/18/00855	Variation of Condition 6 of planning permission DOV/18/00165 to allow removal of one Horse Chestnut Tree (application under Section 73) – Two Ways, 32 Salisbury Road	<i>Refer to Trees Officer</i>
DOV/18/00895	Fell one lime, fell one pine, fell one sycamore, reduce back to boundary one sycamore – The Old Vicarage, Vicarage Lane	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/18/00907	Erection of a single storey side extension – The Anchorage, Bay Hill	<i>No objections</i>
KCC/DO/0448/ 2018	Increase in height of external fence around multi-use games area (MUGA) from 3 metres approved under planning application reference DO/15/1079 to 4 metres – Portal House School, Sea Street	<i>No objections</i>
Clerk was delegated to deal with the following applications:-		
DOV/18/00939	Erection of a single storey side extension with raised decking – Chering, The Avenue	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/18/00946	Erection of a new toilet block with a storage annex – South Foreland Lighthouse, Lighthouse Road	<i>Positively support</i>

8. Finance and Accounts

The following payments, made since the July meeting, were approved:-

Dover District Council re public toilets	£1,661.18
Idverde Ltd – grasscutting	£454.22
Affinity for Business Ltd – water rates	£156.19
Playforce Ltd – 50% deposit re play trail	£1,208.94
Channel Windows – King George V Pavilion	£154.00
Lister Wilder – tractor repair	£212.77
KALC – Councillor course fee	£36.00
Advanced Transport Research Ltd – traffic survey	£540.00
NEST – pension payment (July)	£163.34
Reimbursement re burial plot	£281.00
Mr Miller (July invoice)	£1,508.00
Lynne Hopwood – cleaning (July)	£163.14
Jane Cook – July salary	£1,138.98
Office expenses	£20.90
H M Revenue an Customs (July)	£245.05
KALC – Councillor course fee	£36.00
C J Doors and Shutters Ltd – Alexander Pavilion	£1,195.20
R J Darling – CCTV repair	£40.00
NEST – pension payment (August)	£163.34
Mr I Miller (August invoice)	£1,214.00
Lynne Hopwood – cleaning (August)	£81.57
CPRE – annual subscription	£36.00

Playforce Ltd – final 50% payment re play trail Jane Cook – August salary Office expenses H M Revenue and Customs (August) PKF Littlejohn LLP – audit fee	£1,208.94 £1,138.78 £25.66 £245.25 £480.00	
<u>Receipts:</u> Credit interest £4.91 Burial fee £175.00 Contribution – Dover Patrol £25.00	£13,808.45	
Clerk advised that external Auditor report received from PKF Littlejohn – Annual Return is in order and no matters needing attention. Clerk to arrange Conclusion of Audit notice.		Clerk to deal
9. <u>Correspondence received</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie Wadhams Kent Highways re Upper Road traffic issues. Copy email sent to DDC Parking Services re layby on Dover Road, St Margarets – Clerk asked to contact Highways re ownership of land. KALC note re Dynamic Councillor course 5th September – not attended. DDC re notice of appeal on Swn-yr-Wylan, Station Road. KCC re Big Conversation Update. DDC re notice of appeal on land at Walletts Court, Dover Road. Ms S Beel – re position for memorial bench – Clerk to confirm permission to Ms Beel for bench on King George V Field. Email re “fencing of wood” at eastern side of The Avenue – PROW contacted and confirmed that footpath remains in order. DDC – “Have your Say on Parks, Sports and Open Spaces Provision Ms A Brown – request re siting of mobile horsebox bar – Councillors not minded to allow siting on Madge Field – suggest that Ms Brown approach the Village Hall. S Manion re funding for litter reduction initiatives. KALC re Government consultation on the future of drones in the UK. Sandy Liggins Christmas Tree and Nativity Crib Festival 2018 – Cllr Paul to be asked to prepare something from Parish Council Mrs Glayzer re emptying of rubbish bins / alleged poisoning of dogs. Email re Dover Patrol – charity campaign – referred to History Society. DDC – letter re prospective District Councillor evening. KCC re Household Recycling Centre Consultation – Clerk to respond. Noted that no savings figure is identified for proposal; danger of increase in Flytipping; is there a commercial value for rubble etc; any cost of increased Flytipping will lie with District Council. Community Transport event at Dover District Council office 13th September – Cllrs Simcox and Fielding will attend. 		Clerk to deal
		Clerk to deal
		Clerk to contact
		Clerk to speak to Cllr Paul
		Clerk to deal
10. <u>Reports from Councillors</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllrs Simcox and Wilkie reported on good progress re bus shelter – now proposed to place shelters at each side of the road at Nelson Park. Shelter on non roadside will be moved 0.5m back from the hardstanding to allow access to bus. It was agreed by Councillors that blue shelters be provided. Cllr Wilkie will now approach Mike West CAD re cost of submitting planning application. 		Cllr Wilkie to deal

- Cllr Harris had completed playing field inspection.- issues noted included the tunnel complex – it was agreed that this be looked at following the ROSPA inspection to take place shortly. Also reports signs of wear and tear on roundabout and litter under trampette. Two mums had raised concerns re dog fouling in the Play Area.
- Cllr Harris not at meeting but question of Public Right of Way footpath at the end of The Avenue had been discussed and confirmed that all is in order with route of footpath.
- Cllr Fielding reported on recent Traffic Survey and provided Councillors with brief data sheets of information obtained. Sites where surveys were done included High Street (by Red Lion) and Reach Road. He provided brief summary of information, including the fact that the High Street sees over 5,000 vehicle movements each day; no “rush hour” as such as no big statistical difference seen during School hours; 92% of vehicles in survey were cars. Provided comparison with previous survey undertaken in 2012 which showed huge increase in traffic numbers in that time.
- Asked if perhaps Parish Council could look at undertaking survey just for Sea Street next Spring.

As regards speeds, of vehicles entering the High Street 13% were speeding, with 14.6% speeding on leaving High Street. Mean speed was 24mph. Clerk was asked to investigate any similar data gained by other Parishes.

- Cllr Fielding confirmed that Gridlock Group are looking at qualitative proposals as regards traffic, possibly to include things such as white gates/different road surface on entering village.
- Cllr Smith reported on the library – at present there are 309 registered users and the library is to undertake a campaign to increase these numbers, including use of the website and Parish magazine, to advertise all the services available at the library. Cllr Smith confirmed he is happy to take on the role of liaison with the library on behalf of the PC. He advised that Rod Springett is currently trying to re-negotiate the rent. All Councillors confirmed it was essential to protect this valuable village asset.

Clerk to deal

11. Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish

- Notes received from Mr Miller – bench damaged outside Chapel; trees overhanging Reach Road Pond; would like to purchase extra daffodil bulbs for Nelson Park – agreed; Hedgecutting at Burial Ground taking place today.
- Re telephone at Village Hall for Parish Council – Cllr Simcox will approach the Village Hall re removing the PC phone and paying a contribution to use the Hall phone, say 50% of current cost.
- Reported that cars are more often parking along the length of Bay Hill in order to avoid car parking charges in the Bay – question of yellow lines raised previously. Cllr Jull suggested that PC approach Cllr J Back as rep on the Joint Transportation Board to add to a future agenda.

Cllr Simcox will deal

Clerk to deal

- Cllr Simcox reported success in DDC changing permissions in The Bay, so that the far end of the beach, beyond “Noel Coward” house is open to dog walkers all year round without restriction. She had also been able to obtain a new waste bin for that location.
- Cllr Smith apologised that he will be unable to attend October meeting as he will be away.
- Cllr Simcox encouraged all Councillors to use the closed discussion group.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

10th September 2018

Correspondence received
for Parish Council meeting 8th October 2018

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