

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

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

**Present:** Cllrs R Simcox (in the chair), A Fielding, R Wilkie, B Paul, C Smith, A Newton, J Harris. Cllr Macgregor absent (no reason given). District Cllr Jull in attendance. Apologies received from County Cllr S Manion.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mrs Verren thanked Parish Council for their hard work throughout the year, echoed by Mrs Liggins. Mrs Liggins expressed thanks to Mr Miller for treating the Church steps.

<p>1. <b><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018</u></b> The minutes, having been circulated to all members, were duly confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b> – Cllr Smith declared an interest in planning application 18/01225 (builder is currently undertaking work for him); Cllr Harris declared an interest in application 18/01097 (neighbouring property).</p>	
<p>3. <b><u>County / District Councillors</u></b> –  Cllr Jull apologised that he had been unable to attend the beacon event at the Lighthouse but had a previous engagement. Advised that District Council are launching a Community Lottery to raise funds for community grants (very over-subscribed in current financial year). DDC is looking at supply of housing for the district going forward, to ensure sufficient local housing is available. Confirmed that building block off Taswell Street is to be renovated into flats. He had intervened in planning application where DDC had stated the need for “non reflective glass” – he felt this was unnecessarily pedantic. District Council are to start a rolling programme to replace DDC-owned streetlights next year with LED lights.</p>	
<p>3(a). <b><u>Re Christmas festivities 8<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> – local shop owner VJ confirmed event had been a great success, with twice as many attending as last year. He would like to see the event repeated next year, with hopefully more attractions for children. On questioning by Cllr Simcox, he confirmed that no additional sockets had been added to the shop, but he had been able to use power normally utilised for illuminated shop sign/banner. Sockets/lights in place on The Smugglers, with further sockets planned for the Post Office this week.</p> <p>Cllr Smith expressed his huge concern for public safety given the size of the event, and its location in the High Street. Several vehicles had been unprepared to slow down or stop when asked.. Cllr Smith asked that a small working party be set up to organise the event next year – he will liaise with VJ and Peter Killin, together with other interested parties before approaching the Events Management Team at Dover District Council.</p> <p>Clerk to write letter of thanks to Mr Stone for electricity used for Christmas tree.</p>	<p>Cllr Smith to take forward</p> <p>Clerk to deal</p>

4. **Clerk Report / Matters arising**

- Clerk confirmed site meeting with Landscape Services first week after previous PC meeting re further grasscutting quote – awaited.
- Clerk emphasised the need for all Councillors to be using the “stmargarets” email addresses. Some teething problems seen with Cllr Smith to speak to web host.
- Ovendens advise they will undertake surfacing work in Glebe Close access road to King George V field after Christmas – date to be advised.
- Email re enforcement action at site on Dover Road, Westcliffe sent to Councillors..
- Appeal re Walleys Court application upheld.
- Email received re Droveay Gardens and Public Rights of Way installation of bollard – Clerk had dealt with this.
- Re pothole near Holiday Camp – no drainage system/pipes beneath the pothole, just BT conduit but Highways will continue to monitor.
- Vote of thanks to Cllr Paul re Christmas tree for Church festival.
- Re public toilets and NNDR removal – should see reduction in toilet costs for 2019-20.
- Notes sent re agendas/absences for information to all Councillors.
- Bicycle issue on Bay Hill reported – Police made aware and may make patrols to investigate.
- Yew tree at PO Corner will be raised with D A Austin when trees at Reach Road cut back – in New Year, date to be advised.
- Ringwoud Alpines hope to complete work planned for the tunnel complex at the Play Area in the week before Christmas.
- Play area report received – snagging issues to be raised with Mr Miller.
- KALC AGM – no attendees.
- Further to previous discussions, two estimates provided re plumbing estimates for KGV and Alexander Pavilion IT WAS RESOLVED to accept these at the figures of £483 and £398 respectively.
- Report of rats in High Street reported to Environmental Health.
- Intermittent problem with Christmas tree lights – Mr Miller will deal with
- Mr Miller requested extra days to work in clearing the Cemetery – approved.

Cllr Smith to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to advise

5. **Planning**

The following comments were made on the applications considered:-

DOV/18/01097      Formation of a new attached dwelling (to create a semi-detached pair of properties) involving extensions and alterations to the existing dwelling, including ground and first floor extensions, alterations to existing roof, 4no. dormer windows to front and rear roofslopes, including 1no. balcony with balustrade, 2no. porches to front elevation and 1.5m boundary fence. –  
Quietways, The Avenue      *No objections*  
(Cllr Harris abstained)



**7. Gridlock St Margarets Group**

Councillors had looked at initial report received from Group. Cllr Fielding spoke re proposed traffic improvements suggested by the Group.

- Speed Indicator Detection machine – suggested model is mobile so could be moved – it records speed and number of vehicles. Cost is £2,800. Machine is battery powered, using lithium batteries. Group had spoken with County Cllr Manion who had indicated a willingness to consider match-funding for this purchase.
- Proposal also includes white “gates” at entrances to village – cost £2,220 for 3 suggested.
- IT WAS RESOLVED that Parish Council allow up to £3,000 for purchase of SIDS machine (to include batteries), and hope to achieve some grant funding via Members Grant Scheme.
- It was agreed that Cllr Fielding seek further information/prices re “gates” proposed and the best position for these.
- Clerk was asked to make contact with Eastry and Coldred who have had such gates installed to see whether any perceived difference has been seen

Clerk and Cllr Fielding to liaise

Cllr Fielding to deal

Clerk to deal

**8. Correspondence**

- Congratulatory email re WW1 event at the Lighthouse.
- Request for skatepark in village – Clerk to write advising that PC has no land available.
- Social invitation for 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- Email re public footpath ER276 – Clerk had deal with this.
- NALC newsletter.
- NALC legal briefing re public sector bodies websites/mobile applications.
- Kent Police and Crime Commissioner newsletter.
- KCC Consultation on Libraries, Registration and Archives strategy.
- KALC re Local Elections 2019 – agreed that Clerk order 50 copies of each leaflet.
- DDC Enforcement re site to rear of Walleys Cottage, Westcliffe.
- Poppy Appeal Organiser re 2018 Poppy Appeal.
- Re Dementia Awareness meeting at village hall 3<sup>rd</sup> January.
- Email re on-line photographs of St Margaret’s Bay.
- DDC re Community Caretaker Scheme – notices displayed.

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

**9. KCC Library Consultation**

Cllr Smith advised on current public consultation on changes to library provision. No library closures are planned, but some sites will see fewer opening hours across any given week. St Margaret’s is one of the few libraries where it is proposed to increase the opening hours – from the current 12 up to 23 hours.

Cllr Smith asked Councillors and any residents to complete the consultation individually with Clerk asked to respond on behalf of the Parish Council - PC welcomes the proposed increase in hours but asking what is planned when further considerations take place in two years’ time; also the “reservation fee” of 80p would have a detrimental effect on book borrowing.

Clerk to deal

10. **Reports from Councillors**

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllrs Simcox and Wilkie are still awaiting site visit from bus shelter provider, with date to be arranged.</li></ul>  | Cllrs Simcox and Wilkie to deal |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Smith advised re website and current Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018. It was agreed that PC needs to comply with these regulations – IOW Computer Geek had quoted a price of £90 to add the Accessibility tools – this would include ongoing support. IT WAS RESOLVED to accept this quotation and Cllr Smith will contact them</li></ul> | Cllr Smith to deal              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllrs Paul and Fielding had attended a meeting at the Bay Trust – nothing to report although they had been advised the Trust has no current proposals re the Glebe Field.</li></ul>   |                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Harris commented on recent “ROSPA” report – most issues cited had been low risk although one medium risk quoted. Clerk will liaise with Mr Miller and provide copy of report for website.</li></ul>  | Clerk to deal                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Paul had been approached by residents in Kingsdown Road re recent anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. Clerk was asked to email Warden in this respect. Residents must be encouraged to report all incidents to the Police via 101.</li></ul>  | Clerk to deal                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Harris had recently been approached by walker in The Avenue who claimed that the footpath leading off The Avenue had been moved again – Clerk was asked to make contact with Public Rights of Way in this respect.</li></ul>   | Clerk to deal                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Paul stated worries re any severe weather which may be seen and any contingency plans for dealing with this.</li></ul>   |                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clerk had been asked to make cheque in respect of phone usage as a “gift” to the Village Hall, separately from that for the Hall Hire.</li></ul>  | Clerk to deal                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clerk asked to report ivy encroaching from residential property on to Public Right of Way ER26.</li></ul>   | Clerk to deal                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clerk to check re fence between Post Office Corner and adjacent property – originally thought to be erected by KCC.</li></ul>   | Clerk to check                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cllr Wilkie gave his apologies for the January meeting as he will be away.</li></ul>  | Clerk to note                   |

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

**Correspondence received**  
**for Parish Council meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Date forwarded