

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 14th January 2019 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs R Simcox (in the chair), A Fielding, B Paul, C Smith, A Newton, J Harris. Apologies previously provided by Cllr Wilcox. Cllr Macgregor absent (no reason given). District Cllr Jull in attendance, together with County Cllr Manion.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Question raised re new use of land acquired by residents at the end of the Avenue, and whether this requires planning permission for change of use. Clerk was asked to check.

Mr Wells again raised the question of the hedges/vegetation encroaching onto Bay Hill from residents' properties. Clerk will make contact with Kent Highways in this regard.

Question raised re replacement bench in Sea Street (due to be delivered this week) and question of planter – further investigation in this regard to be undertaken.

Question raised re drone seen over Reach Close/Royston Gardens, and the rules governing this. Resident advised to call 101 on further sightings.

Noted that National Trust have an open day re the sound mirrors and advertising has given village car park as the parking provision for this – Clerk to check why Langdon Cliffs site not being suggested.

Is the Parish Council going to place something in the village magazine ahead of the forthcoming Parish Council elections. (Clerk to check timescales for nominations).

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 10th December 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> <p>Cllr Manion advised KCC going through budgetary process at the moment. This year will see an increase in the Young Persons Travel Card. Library consultation is currently in process until the end of January. Cllr Smith noted that it was disappointing that charge of £4 per beg of waste soil/rubble will be introduced, despite heavy opposition by residents. Cllr Simcox raised the question of costs and number of emergency services involved in recent base jumper accident at the Bay.</p> <p>Cllr Jull advised that all leave at DDC has been cancelled from 29th March (post Brexit). Confirmed that DDC plans to make no increase in parking charges for the forthcoming year. Advised that Leisure Centre car park in Dover will close as the new Centre at Whitfield is opened. Cllr Simcox expressed disappointment that the Lifeguards had been unable to teach children with effect from 1st January (at minimal cost) and questioned cost effectiveness of this move. Cllr Jull advised that Lottery funding had been received for Maison Dieu, which will involve provision of new toilet block. When asked re removal of BT call boxes, he advised that DDC has little impact on BT in enforcing removal. Clerk to make contact with MP Charlie Elphicke.</p>	Clerk to deal

Cllr Jull had intervened on seeing a group of around 10 young people trespassing on the private access road to Wanstone Road Farm. They became confrontational but he noted they did latterly move from the area.

4. Clerk Report / Matters arising

- Fence at PO Corner – Highways will not replace - as per email from Stephanie Wadhams. Agreed that Cllr Fielding will speak to Mr Stone in this regard.
- £3 owed to Bradleys for signed copy of lease to Bowls Club which Clerk will deal with.
- It was agreed to “hold fire” on purchase off SIDS machine pending meeting between Gridlock Group, PC and Kent Highways – requested and initial paperwork needs to be completed.
- Election leaflets requested – KALC had run out but should be with us shortly.
- Bench for Sea Street on order – should be received within the next few days.
- Abandoned car reported twice in Royston Gardens. Clerk asked if residents could report this via the DDC website to see if some action can be brought about.
- Water trough at The Front – invoice reasonably high – have asked for it to be checked.
- Re anti-social behaviour – requested surgery with Community Warden for residents to report (per Lee Kidd’s email).
- Further quotation re tree works at Post Office Corner under Finance.
- Plumbing work has been completed at Alexander Pavilion (invoice awaited).
- Will place Cemetery maintenance and fees on agenda for February.
- In process of opening account for Cemetery.
- Eastry replied re white gates on entrance to village (per Clerk’s email), no specific data held but reply considered useful and helpful.
- Further grasscutting quotation under Finance, nothing received yet from Idverde re ongoing contract.
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Cllr Fielding to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to monitor and distribute

Clerk to monitor

Clerk to deal

5. Planning

The following applications, delegated from December meeting, were duly ratified:-

DOV/18/01238 Reserved matters application for the approval of Phase 1C, for 248 residential units, substation, appearance, layout and scale pursuant to outline application DOV/10/01010 – Whitfield Urban Extension Phase 1C, Whitfield
Refer to Planning Officer

DOV/18/01207 Erection of two detached dwellings, garages, formation of vehicular access and parking – Townsend Bungalow, Station Road *Overdevelopment of site*

The following comments were made on the applications considered:-

DOV/18/01341 Variation of Condition 2 of planning permission DOV/18/00907 to allow changes to approved drawings (application under Section 73) The Anchorage, Bay Hill
No objections

DOV/18/01345	Erection of a detached dwelling, integral garage, associated parking, refuse and landscape areas (existing dwelling and outbuildings to be demolished) 60 Granville Road	<i>No objections to application, however the Parish Council has concerns re Mr Hester's involvement in this application (Cllr Newton abstained)</i>
DOV/18/01257	Erection of single storey front and rear extensions, raised decking with balustrade and replacement steps and windows (existing conservatory, decking and steps to be removed) Seaton, Granville Road	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/18/01268	Erection of 2no. detached dwellings, formation of vehicle access and parking (existing dwelling to be demolished) Briar Cottage, Lighthouse Road	<i>Strongly object:-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>PC aligns with comments of AONB Officer.</i>- <i>PC would question biodiversity survey.</i>- <i>Insufficient time period given on site notice.</i>- <i>No mention of historical importance, no archaeological report.</i>- <i>Two-thirds of site is in AONB.</i>- <i>Overdevelopment.</i>- <i>Adjacent to SSSI.</i>- <i>Would worsen current problems with water run-off in Lighthouse Road.</i>- <i>Application would have no benefit to local housing market.</i>
DOV/18/01279	Raise roof to facilitate a loft conversion, side garage extension, 2 storey rear extension with French doors and balustrade Pembroke, Nelson Park Road	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/18/01391	Erection of a single storey side extension (existing extension to be demolished) Church View, Well Lane	<i>No objections</i>
Clerk was delegated to deal with following applications, received since publishing of agenda:-		
DOV/19/00001	Erection of a single storey and first floor rear extensions – The Falcons, 79 The Droveaway	<i>No objections</i>
DOV/19/00016	Erection of a two storey rear extension with glazed balustrade, single storey rear extension, side porch and insertion of window to first floor side elevation (front door to be removed, existing conservatory and garage to be demolished – 77 Kingsdown Road	<i>No objections</i>

Clerk advised of two declined applications which had gone to appeal – being for Michaelmas, Convent Close and land adjacent to The Close, Station Road. Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Inspectorate to reinforce the Parish Council’s objections to the application for The Close.

Clerk to deal

6. Finance and Accounts

The following payments made since December 2018 meeting were duly ratified:-

E J Clough (Christmas tree)	£276.00
Idverde Ltd – line marking	£105.60
NEST – pension	£163.34
Jane Cook – December salary	£1,138.78
Office expenses	£22.94
HMRC – PAYE and NIC	£245.25
Petty Cash	£23.49
Mr I Miller – labour costs and Registrar fees	£965.00
Affinity for Business – water rates	£608.92
Dover District Council – public toilets	£1,661.91
	5,211.23
Receipts – credit interest £3.85	

IT WAS RESOLVED (unanimously approved) to reduce the Precept request for 2019-2020 by 1%.

Clerk to complete request

Quotation for grasscutting works received from Landscape Services for 2019-2020 – this comes in at overall figure of £3,518.18 (excluding mowing of the King George V Field). As this year’s tender from Idverde has yet to be received, it was agreed that this quote be reconsidered in light of all information.

Clerk to monitor

Cllr Simcox provided details of further quote from Ace Shelters re bus shelters proposed for Nelson Park. She is currently preparing Planning proposal and in liaison with Clerk will then approach Mike West re further submission. Cost of two shelters is approx. £7,800. Both planning application and Section 50 application to Kent Highways would need to be completed by St Margaret’s PC. She confirmed that the company would seek no payment until after completion of both shelters. Council approved the cost and Cllr Simcox will now take forward planning proposal.

Cllr Simcox to deal

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the quotation for work to the yew tree at Post Office Corner from D A Tree Surgeons at £285. Cllr Newton will speak to Mr Austin re possibility of shaping tree to allow use of Christmas lights.

Cllr Newton to deal

IT WAS RESOLVED to increase Clerk’s salary by 3% with effect from 1 April 2019; IT WAS RESOLVED to increase payment rate of Mr Miller by 3% with effect from 1 April 2019. IT WAS RESOLVED to increase payment rate of Lynne Hopwood re toilet cleaning with effect from 1 April 2019.

Clerk to arrange

7. Gridlock St Margaret’s Group

Cllr Fielding advised that Group and PC reps wish to meet with with Kent Highways to discuss initiatives / proposals. Clerk had been sent a document from Highways which needs to be completed before any such meeting (to be arranged with Kelly Garrett)

Cllr Fielding will liaise with Group

Firm quotation for SIDS machine at £2,784.91 + VAT. It was agreed that ordering and payment of this equipment be left until meeting with Kent Highways is arranged. It is possible that matched funding from Cllr Manion may be available in this respect. It was agreed that idea of installation of entrance white "gates" be left until a later date.

8. Correspondence

- Eastry PC re white gates on village entrance
- Steve Manion re Kent Film Office – The Lost Commando.
- NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin.
- Kent Highways re emergency road closure of High Street (after event)
- Rachel Collins re Neighbourhood Planning event at Wingham (no attendees).
- KALC re Dover Area Committee meeting 23rd Jan 2019.
- 2018 KALC AGM – draft minutes.
- Open Spaces Society – invitation for grant bids for open spaces / parks. Grant bids need to be completed and submitted by 25 January. IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr Newton, in conjunction with Melanie Wrigley of White Cliffs Countryside Project, will prepare a bid in the sum of £10k – this has to be match-funded by the Parish Council if successful.
- Jon Barker of National Trust re South Foreland underground structures – meeting arranged for 23rd Jan which Cllrs Simcox and Newton will attend.
- DDC Enforcement Officer re Walleys Cottage, Westcliffe – it was agreed that Cllr Smith will prepare a response for DDC as he has seen first-hand that commercial activity continues at this site.
- Mrs Evans re legal status of The Avenue – Clerk had advised.
- Lee Kidd – reply following anti-social behaviour problems in village / Church.
- Request from Mrs Evans for tree clippings on ER275 – completed.
- J Glayzer re previous dog poisoning reports.
- Mrs F Hutley – copy letters of objection sent re application for Briar Cottage.

Cllr Harris will attend

Cllr Newton to deal

Cllrs Simcox and Newton to deal

Cllr Smith to deal

9. Reports from Councillors

Cllr Paul asked for site meeting with PROW re footpath ER275, also to speak re missing fingerpost and area of unregistered land at entrance to footpath from tarmac'd area in The Avenue.

Cllr Paul had reported several Highway issues over the Christmas period, including several potholes on Reach Road – despite repair some are showing deterioration.

Cllrs Simcox and Newton had attended the recent Dementia Awareness meeting in the village.

Cllr Smith noted that the library consultation through KCC ends at the end of January.

Clerk will contact and Cllr Paul to attend

10. Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish

Cllr Newton had completed Playing Field inspection – a number of issues arising but most of these are covered in the recent ROSPA report. Noted dogs off lead and dog fouling and litter near the Play Area in the King George V Playing Field.

She stressed the poor access point to the Alexander Field from the end of Kingsdown Road and feels this is a Health and Safety hazard. It is believed this section of the road edge belongs to local farmer and Cllr Harris will investigate.

Cllr Harris to deal

Cllr Newton also noted poor fencing at the end of the Alexander Field – Clerk will speak to Mr Miller in this regard.

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

Confirmed:

Chairman

14th January 2019

Correspondence received
for Parish Council meeting 11th February 2019

Date forwarded