

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 8th July 2019 in St Margarets Hall, Reach Road at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs R Simcox (in the chair), A Newton, C Smith, A Fielding, J Harris, P Blake.

Apologies for absence received from County Cllr S Manion and District Cllr Keith Morris.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mr David Hall again raised the question of problems due to an overgrown hedge near Heath Court – Clerk confirmed she will investigate. Mr Hall asked a question re cars parking on the verge in Glebe Close leading to the King George V Playing Field during cricket matches – he advised this has always been the case. It was confirmed there is nothing to stop such parking.

Penny Bailey advised that nothing had been done by Kent Highways re tree roots outside 24 Royston Gardens growing up through path - Clerk had previously reported but will advise Highways again. She also asked if PC could write to resident re hedge outside property when turning left out of Royston Gardens – Clerk will investigate.

Mr Terry Gilham of Roman Way expressed his grave concern re the speed of traffic in Reach Road – this is mostly traffic (including motorbikes) going out of the village in the evening. He believes at times they are travelling 60mph in a 30mph zone. He advised that he would be prepared to undertake a speed survey himself if provided with the equipment. Cllr Simcox advised on ongoing work and investigations being undertaken by the Gridlock Group. Also pointed out that when coaches are turned away from the National Trust site at Upper Road, they come into the village and then have nowhere to park. Cllr Fielding took Mr Gilham’s number and agreed to be in touch.

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 10th June 2019</u> The minutes, having been circulated to all members, were duly confirmed as a Correct record.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> – Cllr Fielding declared an interest in the planning application re Bonaventura.</p>	
<p>3. <u>County / District Councillors</u> – District Cllr Oliver Richardson –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• (1) stressed the need for Parish Councillors to attend the DDC meeting re the Local Plan, advising that DDC need to build 624 houses per year;• (2) advised that Community Grants are now open to receive applications (to be on PC website);• (3) Beach huts – will not be completed this year – will start in September to be ready for next summer.• (4) As Klingsdown have meetings at the same time as St Margaret’s, he will not be able to stay for whole of future meetings. <p>Cllr Simcox asked that Cllr Richardson look at rationale behind recent granting of planning permission for DOV/19/00318 for Littledown given PC’s strong objections.</p>	

4. **Clerk Report**

- Clerk advised that DDC are in discussion re planned maintenance and improvements to public toilets in local area – funding will be made available will full details of planned roll-out in due course.
- Reported tree roots in Royston Gardens (to be reported again) and speed sign near Dover Road junction.
- Still waiting date for external Play Area inspection – will advise.
- Christine Waterman to provide details of volunteer expenses re B17 event.
- Meeting set with Cllr Morris for 18th July at 9am re NT car parking proposals. It was agreed that Jon Barker from NT be invited to attend.
- Mrs Evans re use of Madge Field – brief details provided by Mrs Evans, with further information to follow.
- Have advised to Sgt Norbury re dates of PC meetings for next year – new PCSO should attend one a quarter but Chair would prefer to see more one-to-one liaison perhaps at the office.
- Spoke to Mr Miller re decaying log in Play Area – he is unable to move this without help.
- Request for salt bin made via on-line reporting tool – outcome awaited.
- Further defib training event arranged for 15th July at Village Hall (cheque re hire under Finance).
- Request from Scope re placing of new collection container – Hall Manager in liaison.
- 2 requests received re wearing of official chains at forthcoming Dover Patrol event – Clerk had dealt with these.
- Asked by resident re tree felling at The White House – Planning confirmed permission with list of trees involved.
- Mr Miller has advised when getting hedge at Alexander Field / Cemetery cut, he will ask that the vegetation alongside new bus shelter be cut back to allow better sight.
- Mr Miller would like to purchase new bulbs for near bus stop (say £60). This was agreed.
- Re Colin Sumner's hedge and Dover Road footpath – not cut last year – Clerk will liaise with Mr Miller in this regard.
- Re new sign for Cemetery – Clerk will speak to Mr Miller in this regard, with PC happy to take forward new quote from Mr Woodward in this regard.
- Clerk advised that she and Chair had met with DDC Community Safety Officer, together with Police and Community Warden re ongoing problems with vulnerable resident in the village. Further meeting will be arranged in due course.

Clerk to follow up

Clerk to monitor

Clerk to deal

Clerk to monitor

Clerk to monitor

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

5. Planning

The following comments were made on the planning applications considered:-

DOV/19/00712 Change of use from tea rooms and holiday flat to residential dwelling (Class C3) |
 Blue Bird Tea Rooms, 79 Granville Road
Strongly object:-

- *Planning permission would not be granted for a new dwelling in this sensitive location*
- *Building is not viable as a residence without considerable modification.*
- *In AONB and SSSI.*
- *There is no proof this could not be a viable business.*

(4 in favour, Cllrs Newton and Blake abstained).

DOV/19/00717 Erection of single storey porch to front elevation
 Bonaventure, 40 Lighthouse Road *No objections*

PC had been approached by developer of eco-houses wanting to undertake a presentation to the Parish Council before an application. It was agreed that developer should be encouraged to provide a Design and Access Statement at time of application to the local authority and as the PC is not the planning authority, any presentation should be made to DDC.

Clerk to deal

6. Finance

The following payments made since last meeting were approved:-

Idverde – grasscutting	£279.91
ASC Metals – 2 x bus shelters	£9,312.36
NEST – Clerk and Council pension	£172.89
Mr Miller – June invoice	£1,213.00
Lynne Hopwood – cleaning	£112.00
St Margarets Village Hall – defibrillator training	£28.05
KALC – training	£72.00
Petty Cash	£43.20
Jane Cook – salary	£1,185.73
Jane Cook	£27.73
HM Revenue and Customs	£231.51
Mrs R Simcox – expenses re Cllr event	£18.20
	£12,696.58

Receipt - credit interest £6.17

IT WAS RESOLVED to meet cost of new access gate for central compartment in South Foreland Valley at cost of £450.

Clerk to await invoice

7. **Correspondence**

- Mr C Oakley re pathway on Dover Road, Westcliffe.
- Mr B McGeary re overgrown footpaths – Clerk had reported to Highways.
- Mr D Scope re placing of Scope collection bank.
- S Wadhams, Kent Highways re speed restriction on Dover Road, together with response from DDC on same subject.
- Copy of reply to resident from Cllr Morris re parking outside School.
- Copy of reply from Gridlock Group to resident re traffic problems.
- SJ Elcock, Kent Highways re “no entry” sign for Bay Hill turning circle – Cllr Simcox would like to see a visit by the Highways Inspector to see the problems first hand.
- Dr C Wood re speed on Dover Road, Westcliffe.
- Gareth Wiltshire, National Trust re ne power cable installation.
- Mr B Lee re filming in St Margaret’s.
- DDC re invitation to Town and Parish meeting re Local Plan – Cllrs Blake and Fielding will attend.
- KALC re NALC Chief Executive Bulletin.
- Mrs T Evans re Music on the Green proposal.
- Mr R Maraniello re traffic on Sea Street.
- Mr C Bailey – re speed on Dover Road, Westcliffe and access/exit from Civic Cemetery.
- Request from Greg Chant-Hall re presentation to PC.
- Jennie Olpin re speed on Upper Road (sent to KCC Councillors).
- ERHA re availability of property at Ash Grove.
- Royal Mail – confirmation that given proximity of further postboxes, no plans are in place to replace that removed at The Droveaway.

Clerk will speak to Mr Miller

Clerk to request

Cllrs Blake and Fielding to attend

8. **Councillor Responsibilities**

After discussion, further list of Councillor responsibilities agreed – Clerk to prepare fresh copy to be placed on PC website.

Clerk to deal

9. **Reports from Councillors**

- Cllr Newton provided brief report from recent KALC Dover Area Committee meeting. She advised of general unhappiness of Councils at introduction of parking charges at Martin Mill Station. Advised that NALC are keen to promote training for all Councillors . Some dissatisfaction expressed by Councillors at location of training courses so far from East Kent – it had been suggested that Councils could host their own bespoke training dependent on numbers. Paucity of Police numbers in the area had been a common complaint at the meeting.
- Cllr Simcox gave brief resume of Dynamic Councillor training course she had attended, which she found very useful and encouraged all Councillors to attend. Cllr Blake is booked on such a course, with Cllr Newton booked on a Planning Conference course.

- Cllr Smith gave brief update on plans for preparing spec / tender document for replacement of maintenance contractor Mr Miller. He advised there is much work to be done and he will be working on this together with Cllr Blake through the summer. Agreed that this should be a further agenda item for September.

10. **Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish**

- Playing field inspection undertaken by Cllr Blake. Generally in good order but reported that litter bin at Well Lane entrance in poor state. Advised that fence alongside April Cottage will shortly be repaired (this could be seen as a hazard to children climbing through). Also advised that both pedestrian gates don't shut at Alexander Field. Clerk to investigate
- Re proposal to place "no parking" lines at barrier to King George V Field – Cllr Blake will liaise with Cricket Club in this respect and report further (it was confirmed that PC has no objection to this proposal in principle). Cllr Blake to deal
- Cllr Fielding advised that PC needs to register the CCTV system operated by the Council and to undertake a policy for its use. As the Village Hall is considering a similar exercise, he will work with the Hall re developing policies for both. Cllr Fielding to deal
- General discussion re Christmas arrangements – Cllr Smith will speak to VJ at village shop re any arrangements. Cllr Smith thinks it is unlikely that road closure can go ahead given complexity of the exercise and cost. Clerk asked to place again on the agenda for September. Cllr Smith to deal, to be on future agenda
- Bus turning circle – Clerk will contact Highways as agreed.

11. **Information received since last meeting**

- Cllr Simcox advised of new Community Warden to start in the area in August – Stephen Noddings.
- Cllr Simcox raised question re Church trees – PCC are dealing.
- Question of future of South Sands House raised but no information available.
- Cllr Simcox will take forward with Cllr Blake meeting with Police rep re Smart Water initiative.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

8th July 2019

Correspondence received prior to Parish Council meeting
9th September 2019

Date forwarded

10 July	DDC Regeneration re BT consultation to remove identified public payphones.
10 July	DDC re Parish Council vacancies.
16 July	Local Plan Topic papers for meeting 25 th July.
18 July	NALC Chief Executive's bulletin.
18 July	Clive Miles re filming of "Save Sandra" feature film.
18 July	Resident re Parish Council responsibilities.
18 July	KALC re Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Consultation.
18 July	Copy email from Gridlock Group in response to resident suggestions.
25 July	Resident re verges / overhanging branches in Goodwin Road.
25 July	DDC re lights in trees at car park.
5 Aug	Resident of The Freedown re Kingsdown Road bank.
5 Aug	Chris Little re illegal camping in the South Foreland Valley.
27 Aug	KALC re Annual Policing Policy.
27 Aug	KCC re Community Transport Grant 2019-20.
27 Aug	Braeside Stables re extension of grazing agreement.
27 Aug	Re "St Margarets" WW1 Airfield plaque request.
27 Aug	Steve Manion re Dismissal of appeal on APP/X2220/W/18/3219255 Westcliffe Farm, Dover Road
27 Aug	D Hannent re tidying works planned by Bay Trust at Glebe Field and Sea Street.
29 Aug	KALC re Local Government Brexit Bulletin 22 August.