

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF ST MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 9th December 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, P Blake. Cllr Harris in attendance until 7.10 p.m.

County Cllr Steve Manion and District Councillor Oliver Richardson also in attendance.

Following issues raised during Public Question Time:-

Mrs Liggins – again raised the question of the overhanging hedge in the Reach Road car park – Clerk confirmed this had been reported.

Mr Peter Wells – noted that a brick wall had been erected near Mermaid Cottages in The Bay – he asserted this used to be an area where cars parked. Clerk will check re any issues.

Mr David Hart – advised that he had spoken to BT contractors in their efforts to put new cabling in Reach Road near the Holiday Camp – they had found flooded areas underground – Clerk confirmed issue of flooding at that point is being assigned for work by Kent Highways.

Mrs Liggins advised that new footpath maps had been shrunk to fit, and would now be capable of being placed in the Parish magazine.

<p>1. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 11th November 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> – None declared on agenda items.</p>	
<p>3. <u>County / District Councillors</u> –</p> <p>County Cllr Steve Manion:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Reminded that as well as the General Election on 12th December, there is a simultaneous by-election for St Margaret’s following the departure of Cllr Keith Morris.- Advised he would be happy to use part of his Members Allowance to help with the installation of a defibrillator at the Coastguard pub in the Bay. Hopefully, he would be able to help with a defibrillator at the King George V Pavilion in the next financial year.	
<p>4. <u>Clerk Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advised that Kent Highways are to look at a more robust way of dealing with the flooding problems evidenced near the Holiday Camp in Reach Road – this may mean traffic lights and/or road closure in due course, if the work is taken forward.• Idverde have been asked to undertake line-marking at Alexander Field – Football Club to meet cost.	<p>Clerk to deal with invoices</p>

- Re Burial Law seminar in February 2020 – Cllrs Blake and Harris booked in.
- Geoff Purchase cut down fallen tree in Foreland Road – invoice to come.
- Jon Kirby has completed new maps for Footpath Walks – Cllr Simcox displayed to the meeting and Mr Kirby had been thanked for all his efforts in this regard.
- St Margarets and District Gardens – asked for and sent a grant form.
- After two spoiled cheques, payment sent to Ecopower for Bowls Club radiators – payment under Finance.
- Clerk had managed to get small supply of litter bags for Ian Miller from DDC.
- Martin Hunt request re land owners for tree planting – Clerk had provided known details of land owners.
- Tap dripping in Alexander Pavilion – Cllr Fielding had organised a plumber who confirmed that 2 ordinary taps needed replacing, with a further (more expensive) tap required in the disabled toilet – this had to be thermostatically controlled.
- Clerk had reported fallen / obscuring hedge in car park.
- DDC advised re encroaching hedges in Churchill Close.
- Ian Miller has completed some work at verge heading up to KGV. He had been helped by a local resident and Clerk will send letter of thanks.
- Clerk had met with Ian Miller at Alexander Field - old electric wire and metal pole removed. WI will look at doing litter pick in this area in New Year. Issue of age sign (limited to 14 years) to be investigated by Clerk with Mr Miller.
- Issue of fallen fences at far end of King George V Field had been dealt with by residents.
- Christmas tree recycling in magazine, with grants to go in Jan's issue.
- Work on zipwire done – cheque under Finance.
- Overflowing gullies in Reach Road car park – Clerk had liaised with DDC and this is in hand.
- Advised that Mr Stone had advised that he did not want to seek any payment re the replacement fence at the back of Post Office corner / bordering his property and he would meet the cost.

Tickets provided to Councillors

Clerk to deal with invoice

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal with notices

(Cllr Harris left the meeting).

5. Planning

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

DOV/19/01332 Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) to allow design changes to the proposed dwelling of planning permission DOV/18/00431
The Dial House, 23 St Margarets Road *No objections*

DOV/19/01354 Erection of a rear extension and internal alterations –
Jean, Vincent Road *No objections*

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

DOV/19/01465 - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission DOV/18/00121 to reduce height of extension to single storey (application under Section 73) –
Foreland Cottage, 15 St Margarets Road *No objections*

6. New Maintenance Contract

Although some work continues to be done, full report to be received at meeting in January.

Cllrs Blake and Fielding to deal

7. Finance

The following payments, made since November meeting, were duly ratified:-

Jane Cook – repayment re new Christmas lights	£414.00
Affinity for Business Ltd – water rates monthly direct debit	£125.00
NEST – Pension	£172.89
Mr I Miller – November invoice	£1,431.15
Jane Cook – November salary	£1,185.73
Office – internet/phone/calls	£24.66
HMRC	£231.51
Idverde Ltd – line marking	£52.80
Ecopower Heating Ltd – Bowls Club radiators	£3,376.73
R J Playground Services Ltd – zipwire	£1,710.00
KALC – Burial Law workshop x 2 attendees	£144.00
	£8,868.47

Income:-

Credit interest	£4.60
Cemetery fee	£50.00

Cllr Blake had received a quotation for work on Freedown Bank at £425 + VAT. IT WAS RESOLVED to accept this quotation

Cllr Blake to confirm

Despite meeting with Idverde several weeks ago, no quote forthcoming re cutting of Westcliffe path. Clerk will continue to liaise.

Clerk to deal

Clerk had provided brief budget figures to Councillors. As the deadline has been brought forward for demands to be made to DDC, it was agreed that an informal meeting be held on 6th January, with Clerk to investigate availability of Hall. Final decision to be made at January PC meeting. Clerk to provide details on breakdown of expected end of year figures.

Clerk to deal

Cllr Blake will continue with play inspections, with a planned maintenance programme to be put in place following earlier (June) play inspection next year.

Clerk to deal with Service Agreement

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept price of £7,498.92 quoted by DDC in respect of the maintenance, rates and utilities for Reach Road car park toilets for 2020-2021.

8. **Correspondence**

- Sutton Parish Council re grounds maintenance.
- Liz McNaughton re Dementia Café – group is able to apply for a grant in due course. Cllr Newton already on the committee.
- Kent Highways re speed restrictions for “Enchanted Walmer Castle”
- Kent Highways re temporary closure of Crabble Hill 14 December.

9. **Reports from Councillors**

- Cllr Simcox displayed road sign (blue) showing road not suitable for coaches to be placed at Bay Hill.
- Cllr Newton had been in liaison with via email with Tree Warden re South Foreland Valley to look at issue of tree management. Advised that a number of trees were in a precarious position and with many nearby footpaths they could present a Health and Safety issue. Cllr Newton agreed that she would meet with tree surgeon to discuss work required in the area. Clerk will contact D A Austin in this regard to arrange an appointment.
- Cllr Newton had met with security company rep in the Valley to look at issues recently seen and general security of the site. Visited the “Army building” on Lighthouse Road first where a steel fence was recommended to prevent entry – the firm would clear the building of debris initially. Also looked at area around gun emplacement – in a dreadful state with evidence of drug use and rough sleepers. Again suggestion of steel fence across entrance suggested. Then visited the unofficial car park area where quad biking activity has been in evidence. He suggested placing small cameras in the area which would detect activity – him to be emailed when activity detected. An initial warning would be given and second time offenders would risk having vehicles crushed. Also suggested placing a trench across the opening in Sea View Road. Cllr Newton will pursue further and item to be placed on agenda for January. A signed agreement would need to be set in place allowing firm to be on Parish Council land.
- Cllr Blake confirmed that zipwire had been re-built with new wire, brake, seat, etc).

Cllr Newton and Clerk to deal

Cllr Newton will take forward; Clerk to place on agenda

- Cllr Simcox confirmed she had set up a Facebook page for Council.
- Re Christmas activities yesterday evening – Cllr Smith thanked all those involved and he had already received a lot of positive feedback. Clerk to send thank-you letters to the following:-
 - Vijay at village shop.
 - John Stone re use of electricity.
 - Tanya Harding.
 - Peter Bailey.
 - Village Hall Management Committee.
 - Pierre Woodward.
 - Michael Lyons.

Cllr Smith will write a follow-up report and proposed that same event is organised next year with PC to continue to be involved. Vijay at the shop had advised that following payment for raffle prizes, he had a net £300 which it was unsure where this should be placed. Councillors to deliberate on ideas.

- Cllr Simcox advised she had been contacted by new CEO at the Bay Trust and will meet with her in January, with Cllr Fielding also to be involved. The use of the Glebe Field had been offered for use at the Christmas event, but this had come rather too late and access would be difficult given continuous new fencing around the site.

10. Village Maintenance / Matters affecting the Parish

- Cllr Blake had completed play inspection. Clerk to check with Mr Miller re age specific sign for Play Area, If unavailable a new one will be ordered. Cllr Blake asked if Clerk could contact DDC re litter bin at Well Lane entrance to KGV Field as this has almost rusted through at the bottom. Advised that tennis court seat has been repaired by Mr Miller.
- District Cllr Richardson advised of a new Police Inspector, Fred McCormack). St Margarets also has a new PCSO Connor Fennessy (shared with Whitfield). The Inspector requires all PCSO's to provide a monthly report to Parish Councils and attend at least one meeting per year. Cllr Richardson advised there will be a Police Forum meeting planned for new year at DDC offices.
- Cllr Fielding had received complaints re toilets in village – lights are left on at night and sometimes are flashing at Reach Road car park. Also toilets in the Bay have been closed ahead of scheduled time. Cllr Richardson agreed to investigate.

Clerk to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chairman

9th December 2019

Correspondence received
prior to Parish Council meeting 13th January 2020

Date forwarded

10 Dec	Greg Chant-Hall re planning application in St Margarets Road
10 Dec	Barry Finch DDC re Reach Road public toilets.
10 Dec	Cllr Oliver Richardson re Tea and Talk Tuesdays.
16 Dec	Bob Russell re Freedown bank.
21 Dec	Gareth Wiltshire, National Trust re incident in Valley.
3 Jan 2020	KALC re Dover Area Committee meeting.
6 Jan	Ash PC re proposal to introduce rural car parking charges.