

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

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 14th March 2022 at 7pm, at St Margaret's Village Hall.

**Present** : Cllrs Anna Newton (in the chair), G Simcox, P Blake, J Harris, together with Clerk. Apologies received from Cllrs R Simcox (family illness), A Fielding (hospital) and T Gilham. Apologies also received from District Cllr Martin Bates and Community Warden Stephen Noddings. County Cllr Steve Manion and District Cllr Oliver Richardson in attendance.

Public participation:-

Peter Wells - cited a problem with flooding in The Crescent/Foreland Road, he believes caused by the reed sewage treatment operated by the Bay Trust. Cllr Newton agreed to speak to White Cliffs Countryside Project to see if any water re-routing can be investigated (she will copy Cllr Richardson into any correspondence).

Penny Bailey - advised that there is currently a lot of shingle on the promenade - Cllr Richardson will speak to DDC Officer to get this swept.

David Hall - reported that manhole cover near walnut tree in High Street is sinking - Clerk will report. Mr Hall asked if something can be done to open up Alexandra Road as this is rapidly disappearing under encroaching hedges etc. Mr Hall questioned level of Precept and Clerk confirmed this increase would mean just under 20p per month on a Band D property.

<p>1. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 14th February 2022, having been circulated to all Councillors, were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>(Cllr Newton asked that footpath walk and defibrillator at Alexander Pavilion be placed on agenda for next month).</p>	Clerk will deal
<p>2. <b><u>Declarations of interest</u></b> - Cllr Blake declared an interest in matters pertaining to the White Cliffs Hotel.</p>	
<p>3. <b><u>Sue Clark re Pegasus Playscheme</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sue provided a synopsis of the working of Pegasus Playscheme, following application for a grant from the Parish Council last month.</li><li>● She thanked the Parish Council for grants received in previous years.</li><li>● Pegasus Playscheme provides support and services for children aged 5-21 with a variety of severe and complex disabilities. It operates a three week Summer Playscheme, offering activities for children with disabilities and severe learning difficulties. Each child is supported by a local able-bodied teenager.</li><li>● Pegasus is a registered charity; they hire space at Astor School; pay for the hire of minibuses; parents contribute £30 per day for activities which spread across the three weeks, including Dover Sea Safari/horse riding/sailing/canoeing.</li><li>● Photographs are taken for the children every day - "it's about making memories".</li><li>● Pegasus is a voluntary-led scheme - each child has a teenage "buddy", some from St Margaret's. They try to keep to raising £70,000 for the scheme and have been in existence since 1986.</li></ul>	

The Scheme provides for 40 children - 5 or 6 children last year were from St Margaret's along with 10 teenage volunteers.

Clerk will add to next agenda

4. **Reports from District Councillors / Community Warden / PCSO**

- **County Cllr Steve Manion -**
- KCC budget agreed with huge pressure on Council re adult/childrens social care.
- Advised that KCC are waiving charges for road closures for Queen's Jubilee.
- He would like to start a programme of reduced speed limits throughout Kent and will be looking for PC support in this aim.
- Steve serves on Kent Fire Authority - advised that 37% of fires dealt with by the Fire Service are for outside fires, with only 19% for fires in dwellings.
- Cllr Blake asked if Steve could look into whether KCC are still providing grants in respect of bus shelters.
  
- **District Councillors -**
- Written report provided by District Councillors (attached to minutes).
  
- **PCSO -** short monthly report received - only one issue for St Margaret's surrounding bank telephone scam
  
- **Community Warden -**
- Parking around Sea Street and junction with The Droveaway - has asked for repainting of double yellow lines.
- Call received re vehicle parked on Sea Street - visited the area, vehicle lawfully parked and observed several large vehicles passing without problems.

Clerk to deal

5. **Clerk Report**

- Response from Land Registry re land off The Avenue - acknowledges paperwork but cites long delays in processing such requests.
- Kent Highways re white line request for Sea Street (621005) - "currently under investigation".
- Cricket Club are to apply for funding through the England Cricket Board - Clerk provided proof of tenure on the KGV site.
- Received a phone call from "the hub" re prescription request - should this be closed? Agreed that this should now be dispensed with.
- Grants to nominated organisations have been paid.
- £250 paid to Vree Shava at village shop re Christmas expenses.
- Further email sent to DDC Planning re "The Edge". Also, email sent to Peter Wallace re White Cliffs application - he responds that he hopes to reply in 3-4 weeks.
- Response from Louise Winch re request for double yellow lines at junctions with Sea Street/Lighthouse Road (would need to be added to Council HIP). Information re Police enforcement shared with residents.

PROW - footpath reported alleging change of direction on ER41 reported - "not a priority".

- PROW - evidence forms sent re two paths from Drove Way Gardens to Sea Street. Clerk now to deal with the next part of process re advising land owner etc.
- Environmental Stewardship paperwork signed and returned to WCCP re South Foreland Valley.
- £3,384 received from Heritage Lottery re phone box - Emma Rosen will liaise re proposed payments.
- Lottery licence applied for and received (£40) for raffle at Jubilee event.
- Pop up cafe is to return (Clerk to be provided with posters in due course) - to be held in King George V Pavilion.
- Complaint received re Cemetery.
- No reply from KCC Councillor re Nursery.
- Nothing heard re grass cutting but issue re line-marking which they continued to do despite request to cancel. One invoice outstanding which is under Finance.
- Fee sheets etc provided to Cemetery Registrar for use from 1st April. Copies of books still to be undertaken (stationers currently closed).

Bin on Alexander Field - Clerk now to chase DDC for provision of a bin at the entry gate of the field. (ref 819865)

Clerk to deal

Clerk to liaise

Clerk to deal

6. **Presentation by Chris Clayson**

- Mr Clayson plans to apply for planning permission for the land in front of the old Chapel, acquired and renovated by him over the last 2.5 years.
- If he were successful with a planning application, he would like to see the bus shelter in front of the old Chapel/new dwelling replaced - this is currently in a fairly poor state. In this respect he would be happy to work with the Parish Council.
- He provided a short on-screen presentation of an idea of the property he would be looking at - small 2 bedroom house.

7. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

- Further taskforce meeting undertaken, with a further meeting to be arranged by Cllr G Simcox.
- One band has been booked and Cllr G Simcox is reaching out to other bands. He will advise Councillors of suitable dates for another meeting.

Cllr G Simcox to deal

8. **Planning**

- Cllrs R Simcox and A Fielding are to meet with Planning Officer Lucinda Roach and District Cllr Oliver Richardson on 24th March by video conference.
- No further information on White Cliffs Hotel application - date for item on Planning Committee not yet known.

The following comments are made on the applications considered:-

22/00153	Erection of a single storey rear extension with new flue, front porch, insertion of 4no. rooflights, side kitchen door replaced with window, insertion of GF side window and replacement windows (existing rear conservatory to be demolished) - Stabekk, 44 Lighthouse Road	<i>No objections</i>
22/00216	Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission DOV/21/00618 (to allow amendments) (application under Section 73) (for the erection of a single storey rear extension) - Merry Lea, St Vincent Road	<i>No objections</i>
22/00254	Re-roofing of bay window and extension in copper, replacement windows and a new opening, rooflights, decorative mouldings to elevations and parapet and replacement render - South Sands House, Beach Road	<i>No objections</i>
22/00284	Pollard to a height of 8 metres one Holm Oak subject of TPO Order 14-2021 - Seaways, Bay Hill	<i>To be authorised by Tree Officer</i>
22/00271	Erection of detached dwelling with integrated garage and car turning area (existing dwelling, shed and outbuilding to be demolished) - Malbec, 60 Granville Road	<i>No objections</i>
22/00256	Erection of of a two storey rear extension, extended rear balcony with glass balustrade and stairs, reduction to side opening forming sliding doors (existing rear steps to be demolished) - The Anchorage, Collingwood Road	<i>No objections</i>
22/00220	Erection of a single storey rear extension with rear terrace - Queen Anne's Thimble, Sea Street	<i>No objections</i>
21/01170	Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission DOV/21/00284 (which was a variation of Condition 2 of DOV/17/01137) to incorporate design changes - in the form of windows in the front and rear elevations at top floor level, changes to rooflights, enlarged rear dormer windows at first floor level and increased heights of garages (Retrospective Application) (S73 Application), and compliance with Conditions 4, 7 & 10 and non-compliance with Conditions 3 & 14 of DOV/21/00284 - Site At 36 And 38 The Droveaway	<i>Strong objection to any change in conditions and we consider that Planning Enforcement should require garage height to be reduced and originally approved design to be implemented without alterations.</i>

9. **South Foreland Valley**

- It was agreed that the sum of £100 be allowed for sign-writing on the trailer used by volunteers in the South Foreland Valley, to denote information re ownership/volunteers etc.

10. **Finance**

- (a) IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the quotation from R C Claringbould for the buttress repair and re-building of a buttress at the wall at the King George V Field.

Clerk to deal

The following payments were approved:-

Shree Sava Ltd	£250.00
G R and L M Winter - Spirit of St Margarets - grant	£300.00
St Margarets PCC - grant	£100.00
Rhino Plant Hire - hedgecutting	£144.00
St Margarets Nursery - grant	£600.00
St Margarets Parent Baby and Toddler Group - grant	£500.00
Castle Water	£57.67
NEST - Clerk/Council Pension	£200.85
Castle Water	£11.31
Google Ireland	£46.00
R Purchase - February invoice	£1,000.00
Idverde Ltd - line marking	£36.72
Jane Cook - Feb salary	£1,253.77
Jane Cook - phone/internet/ink	£34.28
H M Revenue & Customs	£265.92

Receipts:-

Credit interest	44p	
Lottery grant re phone box	£3,384.00	
VAT refund	£4,073.68	
		£4,800.52

11. **Correspondence**

- Ian Loftus re Great Tommy Sleep Out.
- KALC re NALC Policing Online Event - 30th March 2022
- DDC re Public Space Protection Orders. After discussion, it was confirmed that the relevant spaces for dogs on leads had been included for St Margarets.
- Ms A Stewart re benches erected in Alexander Field. Clerk asked to respond to Ms Stewart.
- Emails x 6 - from Ms H Watson - Clerk had responded and provided postal address.
- Report from PCSO River Jarvis.
- DDC re Great British Spring Clean.

Clerk to deal

12. **Councillor Reports**

- Cllr Blake reported on the Tennis Club, together with court/net issues.
- He reported on damage at the Courts due to the recent storm.
- New nets/rods/central band required - cost £210; new screening nets required at Play Area end - cost £245; also one central band at £20 - overall cost £475 + VAT.

- The Club has offered to contribute £245 of the total cost of £475.
- He reported that more people are playing during the day (given increase in home working) and often much younger players.
- Now have 3 teams enrolled in the leagues - 2 mens teams and 1 mixed team.
- Junior players have recently started playing at the Hall, with the plan for them to move to the courts in due course. They could perhaps join the Club for a minimal sum of £5.
- Recent Facebook article has seen contact from some interested Mums for their children.
- IT WAS RESOLVED that the quote of £475 be agreed, with the Club to contribute £245.

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

- Cllr Blake had prepared the Playing Field inspection - some maintenance matters ongoing but maintenance contractor continues to deal. Playdale works still awaited - two dates cancelled so far.
- Clerk will contact Bradleys Solicitors to check on progress re transfer of land from the Thorne Estate.
- Clerk advised that she had sent an invoice to DDC (following receipt of purchase order) for £600 in respect of the filming in the Valley in August 2021.

Clerk to deal

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chair

14th March 2022

## **MEETING REPORT FOR ST MARGARET'S AT CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL ON 14TH MARCH 2022**

### **1). INTERNAL BORDER FACILITIES**

The Special Development Order for the HMRC site at White Cliffs Business Park was signed off on 3<sup>rd</sup> March by the Secretary of State for LUHC and work on the development has now been started.

The engagement period for The Special Development Order for the DEFRA site at Bastion Point in White Cliffs has now ended and it will be submitted to LUHC for sign off within the next few weeks.

### **2). DOVER FAST TRACK**

The contractor for this development has also been appointed and is COLAS. Construction has already commenced on the fast-track link road between the B&Q roundabout and Dover Rd outside Guston. A ground breaking ceremony took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **3). LOCAL PLAN**

There has been some slippage on commencing the Regulation 19 consultation process due to continuing discussions around Stodmarsh and the Whitfield roundabout. An announcement of the official timescales will be announced once these two issues have been resolved.

### **4). DDC BUDGET**

This was passed at a full meeting of the Council yesterday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

Headline details are:

Dover District Council has agreed a balanced budget for 2022/23, with an exciting programme of investment ahead – the budget was approved by Council last night (2 March) including a fully funded capital programme totalling around £75m.

DDC agreed that the district council part of the Council Tax bill for 2022/23 for a Band D property for the year will be £202.14, an increase of £4.95, or 2.5%.

While Dover District Council is responsible for the collection of Council Tax in the district, DDC's part of the overall Council Tax bill is less than 10% of the total collected.

The district council part of the Council Tax bill for a Band D property in Dover District for 2022/23 will be £202.14, an increase of 2.5%. The average total bill for a Band D property in Dover District for 2022/23 will be £2,049.81, an increase of 3.21%.

The total Council Tax charge for a Band D property in Dover District is made up as follows:

	2021/22	2022/23	Increase	Proportion
	£	£	%	%
Dover District Council	197.19	202.14	2.51	9.86%
Kent County Council	1418.76	1,461.24	2.99	71.29%
The Police & Crime Commissioner for Kent	218.15	228.15	4.58	11.13%
Kent & Medway Fire & Rescue Authority	80.82	82.35	1.98	4.02%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,914.92</b>	<b>1,973.88</b>	<b>3.08</b>	<b>96.30%</b>
Town & Parish Council (average)	71.08	75.93	6.82	3.70%
<b>Total Band D Council Tax</b>	<b>1,986.00</b>	<b>2,049.81</b>	<b>3.21</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## LOCAL ISSUES

### 1). Coastal erosion to the promenade at St Margaret's Bay plus a request to fix a large pothole in the car park.

Ongoing. Asset management still undertake a programme of repairs as previously mentioned in early Spring once the ground has had time to dry out.

### 2). Groynes.

These works started on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January and should be nearing completion. We have requested an update.

### 3). Glebe Close and White Cliffs Hotel Planning Applications

Both these applications are in the pipeline and likely to come before the Planning Committee although no dates have been set as yet. Ollie has stated that he will be prepared to represent your interests when/if these applications appear for consideration. Ongoing.

### 4). Rural Car Parking



At Cabinet on 28<sup>th</sup> February, it was agreed that charges would not be imposed on free rural car parks this year.

**5). 36 and 38 The Droveaway**

This is not going away, and the builders have submitted another request for variation of conditions. DOV/21/01170:

Variation of Condition 1 of Guston Kingsdown St Margarets-at-Cliffe Vic Hester planning permission DOV/21/00284 (which was a variation of Condition 2 of DOV/17/01137) to incorporate design changes - in the form of windows in the front and rear elevations at top floor level, changes to rooflights, enlarged rear dormer windows at first floor level and increased heights of garages (Retrospective Application) (S73 Application), and compliance with Conditions 4, 7 & 10 and non-compliance with Conditions 3 & 14 of DOV/21/00284

I have asked the planning officer to let me know if the application is likely to come before the committee this month.

**6). Pine Edge**

Planning refused the application on 1<sup>st</sup> March on Highway grounds. We understand that Brendan has requested them to look at other infringements particularly with respect to the balcony and the garage which is not a garage. Enforcement has now written to the landowners requiring the breaches to be resolved.

**7). Character Appraisal**

SBMCA have requested some assistance from DDC with funding. We have discussed with Planning who are retendering the contract at £11,500.