

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

Minutes of the Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above Parish Council held on Monday 13th June 2022 at 7pm at St Margaret's Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Rebecca Simcox (in the chair), A Newton, A Fielding, P Blake, J Harris, T Gilham, G Simcox, together with Clerk. District Cllr Oliver Richardson also in attendance, together with County Cllr Steve Manion.

**Public Participation:-**

Peter Wells reported caravans have been appearing near the war memorial; also reported parties of children in the woods near South Foreland Valley.

David Hall expressed a vote of thanks to the Parish Council for the hard work in arranging the Queen's Platinum Jubilee event; this had been an excellent village event enjoyed by all.

Mr Hall raised the question of the clearance of Alexandra Road (quote recently sought for the PC to clear). Agreed that Cllr Gilham will visit the site with Mr Hall to look at the work involved.

1. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 9th May 2022, having been circulated to all Councillors, were confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.	
2. There were no declarations of interest on items on the agenda.	
3. <b><u>County / District Councillor Reports</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● County Cllr Steve Manion stressed the need to highlight the role of carers (KCC carers week now over); at least 10,000 young carers also identified - identification required and ensuring that the appropriate level of both personal and financial support is given.</li><li>● Trading Standards - raids recently undertaken on premises and vehicles to identify and take possession of illegally sold cigarettes and vapes.</li><li>● Ukrainian refugees continue to arrive with further placements being made with local families; 90 school places have been allocated so far.</li><li>● When asked about a new Community Warden for the village advised that interview process has yet to take place.</li><li>● Clerk raised question of Alexandra Road status and clearance - Cllr Manion advised that he would approach Stephanie Wadhams and asked Clerk to forward details.</li><li>● Cllr R Simcox advised Cllr Manion that nearly £5,500 had been raised by the village through the recent Jubilee event, the entire amount will go to the local Nursery. However the current system whereby this village service has to raise funds for a failing building is entirely unacceptable and KCC must look for a better solution to the current lease arrangement. Cllr Manion has escalated this to Sue Chandler the Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services. Agreed that a tripartite meeting with Nursery and PC would be a way forward.</li></ul>	Clerk to deal

- Re Reach Road flooding issues - Cllr Gilham took issue that the problem had been resolved by KCC and asked for a site visit with the engineer. Cllr Manion will email Clerk with visit details.
- District Cllr Oliver Richardson - report received (attached to minutes). Advised that local groups/clubs etc still had time to apply for Community Grants of up to £4k. Clerk will contact Nursery and Cricket Club in this regard.
- Cllr Simcox advised Cllr Richardson that the Parish Council has submitted an application under Section 73 to remove Condition 15 from the two extant planning applications for the White Cliffs Hotel.

Clerk to monitor

Clerk to deal

#### 4. Cllrs R and G Simcox re Queen's Platinum Jubilee event

Rebecca and George reported on the recent success of the Jubilee event which despite some hurdles along the way came in under budget. A video and photographs of the event can be seen on the PC website. Rebecca stressed this was a community event and it took everyone together to make the day a success. (A vote of thanks to the bouncy castle business who, despite having to cancel due to windy conditions, did not charge anything).

#### 5. Clerk Report

- Litter bins - still have not heard re bin request for Alexander/KGV - have provided relevant details to Daniel Welsh at DDC. Also litter collection was not done as promised re post-Jubilee. No reply re request sent via Viv Verren for Churchyard litter.
- Footpath walk - to be on September agenda.
- Thorne Estate re 2 parcels of land in Valley - now complete and invoice ready to be paid to Bradleys (£350 deposit paid; £500 costs met by Julian Thorne; £698.28 (VAT of £241.38 to reclaim) = £1,306.90) 2 Councillor signatures needed.
- Smugglers have not submitted any invoice re Christmas expenses.
- £280 grant approved from DDC Members Grant for Jubilee.
- ER28 - damaged gate reported to PROW.
- Further comments submitted re Bluebirds planning application.
- ROSPA inspection booked and completed - Cllr Blake to report later.
- 19 May email sent to Councillors re further "statement of truth" required re piece of land off The Avenue.
- £300 + VAT for solicitors letter from R Buxton solicitors to DDC re White Cliffs planning applications.
- "Lake" in Reach Road - response from Highways - seen by Councillors.

Clerk to follow up on all requests

Clerk to re-submit to Councillors

- Request from Cricket Club re litter bins + recycling bins - reply sent. Request made to DDC.
- Email sent to Steve Manion re recent surfacing in Granville Road - sealing required/drains covered/parking in bus turning circle.
- Clerk advised that Tree Preservation Orders placed on trees on the perimeter of Glebe Field.
- Letter sent to Jessamine Cottage re caravan + reply.
- New CCTV installed at KGV Field - invoice paid.
- Noticeboard - new perspex organised by maintenance contractor.
- Re wayleave payment - UK Power Networks will continue to pay by cheque.
- Received request re any area in the village suitable for barbecue - suggestion made re the beach.
- Ian Miller has been away but will liaise with him re solar lights at Cemetery.
- AGAR with external auditors.
- Insurance arranged.
- 10 new CCTV signs ordered.
- Complaint re parking of caravans in Reach Close. Cllr Fielding had checked several times without success but will continue to monitor.
- Parking sign in Chapel Lane erected outside Amy Temple Cottages - complaint received. On investigation it appears that this piece of land is registered to the charity.

Clerk to advise

Clerk to liaise

Clerk to follow up

## 6. Planning

The following comments were made on the applications considered:-

- 22/00559      Erection of boundary fencing, construction of retaining wall and associated earthworks and planting -  
**Pine Edge, Bay Hill**      *The Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that the proposals do not provide effective solutions to the issues that were highlighted in previous refusals for this site and consequently the plans would still cause harm to the character of this part of the Conservation Area.*

21/01170 Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission DOV/21/00284 (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, elevational changes and increased depth of garages (retrospective & S73 application), and compliance with Conditions 4, 5, 7 & 10 and non-compliance with Condition 14 Of DOV/21/00284. -

**Site At 36 and 38 The Droveaway** *The Parish Council notes that this application appears to resolve many of the instances of non-compliance with LPA conditions relating to this development. However it is also aware of the history of this site and the repeated failings to comply with plans and conditions. Therefore the Parish Council recommends that the LPA withholds full grant of this application until all works to comply with previous conditions and directions are carried out in full.*

22/00661 Fell one Beech the subject of Tree Preservation Order No 4 of 1986 -  
**Seaways, Bay Hill** *Defer to Trees Officer*

22/00668 Proposal: The erection of a solar farm with battery storage and associated infrastructure for a period of 40 years -  
**Location: Land North Of Guston And The Lane , Guston Court Farm, Guston** *No objections*

22/00538 Erection of storage shed -  
**Walleys Cottage, Dover Road** *The Parish Council objects to this application as it contains insufficient information to enable the PC to assess the function and appearance of the building and its impact on the AONB.*

Re: White Cliffs Hotel - the Parish Council has made an application under Section 73 to remove Condition 15 from the two extant planning applications for the Hotel - cost £176.

**7. Finance and Accounts**

The following payments made since May meeting were approved:-

Richard Buxton Solicitors	£360.00
Idverde Ltd	£192.74
KALC - annual subs	£1,185.22
JJM Electrical - work at KGV Pavilion	£295.00
Bandshop Sound and Light - Jubilee	£175.00
RNB Electrical & Security Ltd - CCTV	£577.20
RNB Electrical & Security Ltd - CCTV	£3,598.80
Mr G Simcox - Jubilee	£256.01
M Claringbould re phone box	£250.00
Zurich Municipal - insurance	£2,602.92
Lynne Hopwood - cleaning	£159.50
Mr G Simcox - Jubilee	£460.13
Castle Water	£64.99
J Embleton - Jubilee	£100.00
White Cliffs Trophy Engraving - Jubilee	£225.00

Castle Water		£11.31
Andrew J Doble - Jubilee		£350.00
Mr I Miller - Registrar fees		£175.00
R Purchase - May invoice		£1,754.94
Dover Security Services - South Foreland Valley		£842.40
Dover District Council - public toilets		£2,018.49
Mrs A Newton - Jubilee		£40.00
Jane Cook - salary		£1,336.22
Office expenses		£31.49
HM Revenue and Customs		£347.56
Mrs R Simcox - Jubilee + ink cartridge		£303.24
Google Cloud		£46.00
S Willins - Jubilee		£50.00
Mr G Simcox - Jubilee		£93.29
T Pinnock re phone box		£1,107.00
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<u>Receipts:-</u>		£19,009.45
UK Power Networks	£6.90	
Printing refund	£15.44	

**8. Cllr Fielding re Highways**

- Cllr Fielding confirmed traffic counters in place; he had been in liaison with Louise Winch re Reach Road being included in any 20mph scheme, but it is claimed that it does not meet the general requirements - he questioned whether PC should challenge this view. Cllr Gilham stated that he felt the current 30mph signs coming in to the village on Reach Road need moving further out as they are currently obscured by vegetation; he stated he knew of 3 accidents near the holiday camp turning. Cllr Fielding and Clerk to liaise re letter to Highways on inclusion of Reach Road.

Clerk and Cllr Fielding to deal

**9. Correspondence**

- E Bourner Kent Highways re Reach Road "lake".
- DDC Democratic Services re Register of Interests.
- DDC re Reach Road toilet signage.
- Steve Manion re St Richards hub for Ukrainian refugees.
- M Burnley-Cumming re ER28 St Vincent Road.
- K Lydon re caravans parked in Reach Close.
- D Jaenicke - response re work planned at Kingsdown Road bank.
- Cllr M Bates re Members Platinum Jubilee grants.
- KALC re Councillors Conference 30 June.
- Complaint from resident re cutting of Kingsdown Road bank (+ second email).
- Response from resident at Jessamine Cottage.
- DDC re prospective Councillor evening 14th June.
- Portal House Head of PE re damaged bench + request for community jobs.
- Notice re temporary closure of Upper Road 27 June for 3 days.
- Notice re temporary closure of The Drove way 28 June for 7 days.
- KALC re Chairmanship Conference 28 July.
- KCC re National Bus Strategy.
- KALC Area Secretary - letter sent to DDC re Local Plan Advisory Group.
- Mrs W Morris re road traffic counters.

- Complaint from resident re Reach Road Farm noise.
- Notice re temporary closure of Sea Street 9.30-2.30 for 3 days 6 July.
- "Thank you" from Valley volunteers re Jubilee award.
- C Waterman - copy email to Angela Milligan ACRK.
- J Daniels - confirmation re TPOs on Glebe Field.
- Cricket Club - re Jubilee and donations to Nursery. It was confirmed that extra power costs of £35 be met by PC with Clerk to arrange payment.

Clerk to deal

10. **Reports from Councillors**

- Report received from Melanie Wrigley at WCCP (attached to minutes).
- Maintenance contractor R Purchase had provided quote of £2,875 for fencing of Valley perimeter to mark PC-owned land, from rear of The Crescent to cattle grid at Valley entrance. Cllr Newton will liaise with Natural England in this regard but PC in favour of funding this work if approval given.

Cllr Newton to deal

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

- Cllr Blake had met with Play Inspector who had advised lots of ongoing maintenance requirements - report yet to be received.
- Playing field inspection received and noted. Clerk to arrange for age restriction signs to be ordered in respect of Play Area.
- Vandalism occurred at Alexander Pavilion; Cllr Blake had spoken to resident of adjacent property re using internet to provide CCTV link to system at the Pavilion. Intermittent internet service may create a problem. It was agreed that Cllrs Blake and Fielding would look at the siting of any possible system and speak to provider.
- Re path alongside Jessamine Cottage - it was agreed that the question of adding this path to the PROW definitive map would be pursued.
- Re overgrown hedge at entrance to Church from village car park - Clerk to liaise with PROW to see if this can be given some urgency given building works to be undertaken.
- Re approach from Portal House School for volunteer tasks - litter picking in the Play Area and surrounds; cleaning of village road signs. Clerk to liaise with School correspondent.
- Clerk was asked to report to Highways the question of the kerb jutting out on the school side of Sea Street, on the village side.
- Price had been received from maintenance contractor re clearance of Alexandra Road - Clerk will liaise with PROW and Highways in this respect with quote to appear on July agenda.
- It was agreed that current price of ink cartridges be added as direct debit to PC credit card, rather than Clerk having to re-claim cost as currently.

Clerk to deal

Cllrs Blake and Fielding to deal

Clerk and Cllr R Simcox to liaise

Clerk to deal

Clerk to deal

Clerk to report

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Confirmed:

Chair

13th June 2022

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MEETING REPORT FOR ST MARGARET'S PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY  
13 TH JUNE 2022

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Community groups in the district looking for vital funding are being encouraged to apply to Dover District Council's popular Community Grants Scheme – which opens on Monday 16 May. Building on the success of previous years' schemes, the Council has increased the grant fund to £260,000 this year, to help local groups deliver their immensely important work in our local communities.

The grant has been split into two rounds for summer and winter and £130k will be available for both summer and winter grant rounds. Community groups who benefit the local area can bid for grants from £100 up to £4,000. Bids for the summer round will be accepted from 16 May until 12 noon on 20 June 2022 so time is getting short for you to put your bids in. As of 6th June only £27,000 of funding had been requested. Terms and conditions for the grants scheme can be found on the DDC website.

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund (£1m over 3yrs)**

Dover District Council has been allocated £1m over three years from the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund – and an open call for project ideas for local investment in the area has now been launched.

The aim of the fund is to support the Government's Levelling Up commitment over a three year period through three investment priorities: communities and place; supporting local business; and people and skills (in year 3 only).

The Government says it wants places to identify and build on their own strengths and needs at a local level, focused on pride in place and increasing life chances.  
Dover District Council will:

- Assess and consider submitted project ideas
- Work with local stakeholders
- Consult with MPs
- Submit an investment plan by 1 August 2022.

Our 'open call for projects' will close at 12 noon on 30 June 2022. For more information, and to submit your project ideas, please see the DDC website at [www.dover.gov.uk/UKSPF](http://www.dover.gov.uk/UKSPF)

Notes:

Dover District Council has been allocated £1 million from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, to be distributed as follows:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Allocation	£99,286	£198,572	£702,142	£1,000,000

LOCAL ISSUES

None believed to be outstanding

