



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an Environment Committee Meeting held on
Tuesday 7th April 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: **Chairman** **Cllr Marjorie Findlay-Stone**
 Councillors: **Nina Bliss, Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Jan Holben and Tim Prater**

 The Chairman of the Council was also present
Clerk: **Mrs G Thomas**

These Minutes will only be deemed to be a correct record of the meeting when approved and signed at the next meeting
Meeting started 7.00pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs L Griggs, Richard Grundy
2. **Declaration of Interest** – none declared
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.
Proposed by: Cllr M Fitch
Seconded by: Cllr J Holben
Agreed: unanimously
4. **Communications**
 - 4.1 Email received 10th March from Deborah Watkins, KCC Highway Steward, giving a schedule of works for lamp columns. **Action: Parish Clerk to contact Ms Watkins and ask for SPC to be informed of when work is being undertaken.**
 - 4.2 Email received 23rd March 2015 regarding Kent coastal access report-Ramsgate to Folkestone - this was noted.
 - 4.3 Email received 24th March from Euan and Carole Williamson complimenting the efficiency of new dog warden. This was noted.
 - 4.4 Email received from Vic Harmer 26th March 2015 regarding cost of repositioning the fingerpost. The cost for the new positioning would be £430.00.
Proposed by Cllr Tim Prater
Seconded by Cllr Nina Bliss
Agreed by all
 - 4.5 Email received 9th March from Shaun Taylor regarding proposed Public Space Protection Orders. **Action: The parish clerk to write on behalf of SPC to give its full endorsement to the proposal.**
 - 4.6 Email received 26th March from Linda Alderman granting permission to site wall sign on the Rowing Club. This was noted.
 - 4.7 Email received 27th March from Peter Cox refusing permission to site wall sign on Villa Pez. This was noted.

5. **TRAP**

An email was received from Gaye Milton on 18th March regarding problems of parking in the Riviera. **Action: Email to be forwarded to Fred Miller.**

6. **High Street Innovation Fund**

6.1 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that funding has been received from SDC for most of the projects; the reimbursement for War of the Words would be made in the new financial year.

6.2 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that there had been an underspend for the ‘To the Beach / Shops’ signage project. SDC had given permission for a new fingerpost to be purchased with the remaining monies. The possible positioning of the fingerpost was discussed and it was decided that the positioning of one near the John Moore Memorial would be preferable.

6.3 Cllr Findlay-Stone said that she and Cllr Prater would need to look for additional positions for wall signs as the owners of a number of potential residents had refused permission for siting of signs. **Action: Cllr Findlay-Stone and Cllr Prater to take forward.**

7. **Beach Management Group**

7.1 **Beach Advisory Group (BAG) update** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that she thought it would be a good idea for the Beach Advisory Group to be subsumed into the Environment Committee. After a discussion it was decided that BAG would continue to be a subgroup; chairman and members to be decided after the election.

7.2 **Seaside Award** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that she had submitted the parish’s bid for the Seaside Award at a cost of £508.00. Inspections would begin 13th April and the result would be made know by the end of that month. There would be a press embargo until 20th May. **Action: Parish Clerk to remind SDC that the beach will be inspected for the award any time after 13th April**

7.3 **Dog Fouling** – Cllr Findlay-Stone said that she had met with Karyl Rimmer re: training our Parish Clerks and she informed MFS that there were concerns within SDC regarding the additional work load that could result from the potential issuing of fines and other sanctions if more dog wardens joined their team. MFS was told that our Parish Clerks could operate separately from Sandgate . MFS expressed the wish that our trained wardens would wish to be part of the Shepway team. Cllr Findlay-Stone said that Marie who cleans the beaches would also like to be trained. **Action (1): the parish clerk to get the statistics of how many fines have been implemented against dog owners; (2) the parish clerk to write to Alistair Stewart, with copy to Rory Love, regarding the necessity for the parish clerks to be trained.**

Cllr Findlay-Stone said that dog signs made from children’s designs would be delivered to the parish in the near future. A decision about their positioning was not made.

7.4 **Parking on the maintenance gangway** - no update. Cllr Findlay-Stone said that there were six cars parked on the gangway at present. **Action: the parish clerk to contact SDC to find out about any positive action regarding preventing cars parking on the gangway.**

8. **Environmental Improvements**

8.1 **Litter bins, street furniture** – Cllr Findlay-Stone that monies had been made available from the Cabinet Members Community Fund to purchase 30 new bins. She suggested that an audit of the parish’s bins be undertaken but it was decided that all the bins on the sea front should be replaced with the new bins and the metal ones on the high street be refurbished by Vic Harmer. Cllr T Prater proposed that Vic Harmer does an audit of the high street bins and repairs them as needed.

Proposed by: Cllr Tim Prater

Seconded by: Cllr R Bliss

Agreed by all

Cllr Findlay-Stone said that benches were still collecting memorabilia and additionally suffering from lichen. **Action: the parish clerk to write to SDC and ask what actions could be taken to remove the memorabilia and clean the benches.**

- 8.2 Audit of street signs** – Cllr Holben said that she had sent a list of the street signs and photos to SDC and was awaiting a response.
- 8.3 Street cleaning, drainage update** - Cllr Findlay-Stone told the committee that the parish clerk had created a spreadsheet of faults reported and was regularly updating it with actions taken. **Action: the parish clerk to circulate the spreadsheet to all councillors.**
- 8.4 High Street Flags for summer 2015** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that monies had been made available from the Cabinet Members Community Fund and flags had now been ordered and would be flown from early May and but was dependent on the pending permission being sought from KCC re: refurbishment of the lamp posts
- 8.5 Wheelie bin screening** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that no screening had yet been erected at either location. **Action: the parish clerk to locate copy of emails from John Hunter and forward to all councillors.**

9. Business and Tourism Advisory Group

Cllr Findlay-Stone said that the Providence Inn will possibly be open for the May Bank Holiday Monday. The parish newsletter was a very successful way of providing information and advertising events.

- 10. William Cotter VC Commemorative event** - Cllr R Bliss said that this should be discussed after the election.
- 11. New Community Magazine** - It was discussed as to whether to pay a proportion of the costs of funding this magazine or suggest that they apply for a grant. It was decided to advise the magazine editors of the grant application process.
- 12. Christmas Lights** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that the parish clerk had ordered two garlands and that Vic Harmer was going to check them for suitability.
- 13. Sandgate Society** - A ‘Meet the committee’ would take place on 8th April – 7.30pm
- 14. Shorncliffe Development update** - Cllr Findlay-Stone said that the planning application had been approved.
- 15. Events** – The annual Family Fun Day had been provisionally pencilled in for 2nd August 2015
- 16. Information** - there was no further information.
- 17. Date of next meeting:** 2nd June 2015

The meeting ended at 8:10pm

Signed by the Environment Committee Chairman.....Date.....