

SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held at 7pm on Tuesday 17 October 2017

At Sandgate Parish Council/Library Offices James Morris Court, Sandgate High Street, Sandgate.

Present: Chairman Councillor Robert Bliss

Councillors Jan Holben, Michael Fitch, Tim Prater Nabin Siwa Guy Valentine-

Neale and Adrian Watts

Clerk P Savage

There were two members of the public present. No questions were asked.

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

- **1. Apologies for absence:** Councillors Nina Bliss, Marjorie Findlay-Stone, Gary Fuller and Kurt Stephens.
- 2. **Declarations of Interest** there were none
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 September 2017 and of the extraordinary meeting held on 10 October 2017, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed.

Agreed by all who had been present at the meeting.

4. Chairman's opening remarks

The Chairman made the following remarks:

The Council had had a busy and effective cycle of meetings since the last ordinary meeting. He reminded councillors in particular of the previous week's extraordinary meeting of the Council at which the Prince's Parade planning application was discussed. The full resolution appeared in the minutes which had been circulated and published on the website and also on the Parish Council's Facebook page. He reminded councillors that the Council had agreed unanimously to oppose the application and to seek to get the application considered objectively by an Inspector rather than by the District Council itself.

He also drew the Council's attention to the decision of the Finance Committee to endorse the RFO's request that committees review their budgets for next year – so November looked like being an important round of meetings.

Finally he reminded councillors of Remembrance day events: Councillor Adrian Watts and Leo Griggs would be accompanying him to Sangatte on 11 November and the Sandgate will of course have our own event at which it was hoped to launch the Services insignia board. Parish councillors were urged to attend the event.

5. Chairman's Correspondence

- 1. The latest email from the District Council updating information on the Otterpool development
- 2. Consultation from Kent County Council about their budget for 2018-19
- 3. Advice from the District Council on a free business advice service they were introducing
- 4. KALC community awards scheme: this would be considered at the November meeting but colleagues might like to be thinking who we might nominate.

- 5. PCSO Channel Howe: our latest PCSO who we hope to see some time, and certainly at Christmas if not before.
- 6. Draft Sandgate Design Statement: this is ready for discussion so will form a major agenda item at our November meeting.

6. Aims and objectives

Councillor Guy Valentine-Neale submitted the updated aims and objectives statement for 2015-18 which contained many positive achievements. Councillors gave the following updates:

- Production of a newsletter was advanced and available for comments
- Financial management: RFO to update section in the light of changed financial regimes and local approaches by the Parish Council. (ACTION: RFO)
- Chairmen of committees should review their own targets with a view to the document being updated within the financial planning cycle and kept current

6. Sandgate Library Committee report

Councillor Robert Bliss reported there had not been a meeting of the Committee but that positive progress continued to be made. The Parish Clerk and Librarian was researching appropriate stock to be added via the local book fund.

7. Land Assets Management Sub-Committee report

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2017 had been circulated.

8. 2017/18 Finance report

The Deputy Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer advised that he had made a substantial report to the Finance Committee the previous day which had highlighted that budgets were all within target with the exception of those relating to Sandgate Park and to hanging baskets and flower displays. Additional security, repairs and tree work had been necessary in the Park and the hanging baskets had had to be hung twice following the disappointing decision that the High Street lamp posts were insufficient to take the weight of the hanging baskets. Councillors raised questions on significant budget underspends, in particular the car park budget for Sandgate Park which would be rolled forward to the following year as it was unlikely that the project would be completed in the current year.

9. Finance Committee report

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2017 had been circulated.

10. Environment Committee report

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3 October 2017 had been circulated.

11. Planning Committee report

The Chairman advised that minutes of meetings had been circulated and that a further meeting had been held immediately before the Council meeting.

12. KALC report – RFO to pursue information from community transport event and recommend action if appropriate (ACTION: RFO).

13. Twinning

The Chairman reminded councillors about the arrangements for Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday were in place for 11 and 12 November 2017. Representatives from Sangatte had attended the Sea Festival to very good effect with excellent publicity material. Clerks to consider whether similar material could be produced and added to the AV display. Newsletters to be circulated to Sangatte colleagues. Clerks also to pursue school twinning programme and keep Councillor Watts informed (ACTION: Clerks).

14. Sandgate Sea and Food Festival governance arrangements

Resolved to adopt the RFO's recommendation in respect of the Sandgate Sea and Food Festival that would incorporate the Working Party within the Parish Council's governance without changing the membership of that Working Party.

Proposed by Councillor Guy Valentine-Neale

Seconded by Councillor Tim Prater

Agreed unanimously.

- **15. Information** Councillor Tim Prater reminded councillors that the notices concerning works on the Esplanade had been posted, indicating that works would begin on 30 October 2017.