



SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held at 7pm on Tuesday 18 June 2019

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

Present: **Chairman** **Councillor Robert Bliss**
 Councillors **Michael Fitch, Gary Fuller, Vannessa Reay, Nabin Siwa, Guy**
 Valentine-Neale, Adrian Watts and Lewis Whitnall

Clerk **P Savage**

There was no report from the PCSO.

There were three members of the public present.

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, Tracy Stephens and Tim Prater
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – the following declarations of interest were made:
Councillors Guy Valentine-Neale and Adrian Watts declared an interest in minutes 7 and 14 below as members of the Sandgate Society Committee. The Deputy Clerk, Peter Savage, declared the same interest as a paying member of the Sandgate Society.
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting** – the minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 May 2019, 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 welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefly summarised the key items for discussion.
- 5. Chairman's Correspondence**
Email correspondence with the Sandgate Society promoting the photographic competition. The Chairman hoped there would be a big uptake in this fascinating competition.
Email exchanges with various parties concerning the successful community garden in the SAGA grounds.
Email from Folkestone girls school reporting on the successful twinning and exchange arrangements including a visit for 49 people from the school to Sandgate on 23 May 2019.
- 6. Sandgate Library Committee report**
There had not been a meeting of the Committee since the last Council meeting, but councillors were reminded of the continued success of the library in comparison to others in Kent. Staff and volunteers were continuing to introduce new and interesting features and activities which were proving popular. The Deputy Clerk reported that an initial meeting with KCC officers to discuss the new service level agreement was to take place in early July 2019 with political involvement to follow.

7. **Resources Committee**

The minutes had been circulated. The Council ratified the recommendation in respect of grant applications as set out below:

Organisation	Purpose of grant	Sum requested	Decision
Sandgate Boules Club	Purchase of club shirts and gifts for the upcoming trip to Sangatte. As well as the Sangatte twinning competition the shirts would also be worn for other events throughout the year.	£500	Rejected as it was retrospective
Sandgate Society	Sandgate community garden: purchase of boxes, seeds, wood preserver and compost	£100	Agreed.

8. **2018/19 Finance report – closure of accounts**

The Resources Committee had considered this matter in some detail at their meeting including the advice of the internal auditor.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018-19, part 3, as circulated, be approved for submission to the external auditors and for publication.

Proposed by Councillor Adrian Watts

Seconded by Councillor Michael Fitch

9. **2019-20 Finance report**

The RFO advised that spending in the current year was on target and that this included major expenditure on projects that had been in the pipeline for some years and for which reserves had been set aside for. The election reserve had also been exhausted because of the charge from the district council for running elections to the Parish Council. Initial consideration had been given to dealing with the PWLB loan monies and the Resources Committee would be receiving a further report in July 2019 looking at safe investments. The Council restated its promise that the precept would not be affected by the decision taken this year.

10. **Environment Committee report**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee had been circulated. Councillors noted that the hanging baskets and other flower displays had been very significantly delayed by colder weather in April and May.

11. **Planning Committee report** - The minutes of the meetings had been circulated. A further meeting of the Committee had been held immediately before the Council meeting at which Councillor Gary Fuller had undertaken to pursue the adoption of the Sandgate Design Statement by the district council.

12. **KALC**

There was nothing specific to report. However councillors expressed wishes to see KALC pursue government planning policy so as to try to prevent developers pursuing developers that harm the value of adjacent property.

13. **Twinning**

Councillors were reminded of the successful twinning events including the recent school exchange and the boules tournament. Representatives of Sangatte were to be invited to stay the night before the Sea Festival with the Parish Council providing refreshments.

14. **Proposal by Sandgate Society to install smart TV to display local history information**

Resolved: that the proposal from the Sandgate Society to install a new facility in the library free of charge be approved. The facility would include a smart television which would provide, inter alia, local history archives.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Fitch

Seconded by Councillor Robert Bliss

15. Information

Car park enforcement: noted that this was being actively pursued and that the contractor had indicated a willingness to operate the service free of charge. As reported to Resources Committee it would be CCTV driven, would allow free parking for two hours with no return within an hour, and the hours of operation would be Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

The meeting ended at 7.44 pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....Date.....