



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Approved Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 11th August 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors G. Bryant (Chairman), L. Ageros, G. North, L. Fallon, D. Divers, P. Radclyffe

Also, Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllrs R. Pugh, Trevor Roper & David Hart, KCC Cllr Liz Hurst plus 3 members of the public.

36/20-21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies had been received.

37/20-21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

38/20-21 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th July 2020. These were proposed by Cllr Radclyffe, seconded by Cllr North, all present agreed and therefore the minutes would be signed by the Chairman as a correct record when able.

39/20-21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bryant read his report as follows:

There has been a lot of correspondence this month and therefore, I will try to keep this report brief as much of the correspondence will come up later in this meeting.

You will note that one item that does not appear on the agenda is the quotes that Lisa has kindly obtained for a new zip wire to go in the Play Area. The third quote was received just this morning. You should have received the quotes by email which will be discussed at the next meeting. My thanks to Lisa for doing this and I would like to invite her to speak about this later.

I was rather alarmed to have received an email from our handymen yesterday who have been subject to some verbal abuse in Sarre. Can I please ask that any requests for work to be done in either of the villages is put to Sara so that workloads can be monitored and correct decisions made. All Requests should have an audit trail and therefore in writing or by email.

The Bell Meadow continues to be very popular with many dog walkers coming to our park area from far and wide. I am however, very concerned about the dog mess that is left on the grass. I was requested by a couple of residents to contact TDC about emptying the bins in the Meadow and this was duly done and emptied the same day. I have asked for a minimum of weekly collections. We now have seven football clubs requesting use of the pitch and pavilion. Although, obviously due to the six month closure, the pavilion will run at a loss this year even though we have reduced the gas and electric to the minimum. I am recommending an increase of ten per cent on all hire charges. This will bring football pitch hire to £44 per match – still very competitive compared to other grounds (up to £58 per game). To be added to the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

I hope you like the new memorial bench outside church. There is a story behind this but that is for another time. You will be pleased to know that it did reduce the price by £100.

I met with Richard Galbraith a few weeks ago. He is a chartered surveyor who is doing the revaluation of The Pavilion and The Village Hall. As soon as his report is to hand we will revise the asset register and publish a new one.

Thanks to Liz Hurst for supplying hand sanitiser for The Pavilion and The Post Office.

Much of my time has been taken up with the proposed Travellers site this month and I will discuss this more at 41/20-21. Westgate Tree Services will be carrying out work at the cemetery over the first week in September.

Finally, a request has been made to change the public question time to earlier on in the meeting. You will recall that we moved it to the end of the meeting some six months ago and I am not convinced of any merits to move it back again. So, with your permission, we retain the status quo – two songs come to mind - We won't roll over, lay down and whatever you want!

40/20-21 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had received the email requesting the change of Public Question Time which was read to Councillors for discussion. It was confirmed the public had an opportunity to submit any questions or raise concerns in writing prior to the meeting for consideration by the Councillors and therefore moving the item to the middle of the meeting would have no benefit. It was suggested the contact details were placed on the noticeboards as they were previously. All were in agreement to keep the item at the end of the meeting.

Correspondence was received regarding the initial petition against the temporary travellers site at Potten Street. Concern was raised regarding the publicity of the rejection of the petition which had been published on noticeboards in St Nicholas. It was confirmed that TDC had not consulted the Parish Council since March.

An online survey by KCC Transportation and Highways was available for comments on the website.

41/20-21 TEMPORARY TRAVELLERS SITE PROPOSAL

Cllr Bryant advised of a material numerical error on the matrix used by TDC to identify the two proposed sites for consideration for the travellers sites which had led to the withdrawal of the item from the cabinet meeting. The supporting documents did not also include a site map of the areas to be discussed which was a further omission by TDC. Following this, District Cllr Reece Pugh had raised another online petition which had already received over 400 signatures in support of the refusal of using Potten Street. The item is due to be discussed at the next cabinet meeting in September. It was felt that other sites, including the Port of Ramsgate and Manston Airport would be better suited. The District Councillors were in support of the objections from residents against the use of Potten Street and would be doing everything they can to reject the site. Concern was raised regarding the lack of consultation which has taken place, which also included KCC who had not been involved in discussions. The completion of risk assessments was queried and would be raised with TDC.

The potential of the Parish Council to take TDC to a judicial review would be considered if necessary.

It was suggested a letter was written by the Parish Council to the Leader of TDC outlining their concerns about this issue.

42/20-21 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Pugh advised of highways issues that had been reported to him concerning the Thanet Way.

Ramsgate Town Council had pledged between £5-10,000 towards a judicial review against the Airport. The monies had not yet been paid.

Residents were advised that TDC are still offering a green waste collection.

Cllr Roper advised of the beach management plan by TDC and RNLI. A coastal inspector had been monitoring the main beaches. Dedicated teams had been appointed to inspect the toilets, waste bins etc.

20 mph limits have been appointed in Margate and Broadstairs.

The Parkway Station was still progressing.

Cllr Hart echoed the safety concerns of residents on the beaches.

43/20-21 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst confirmed she had approached highways to try and prevent St Nicholas being used as a short cut when there were road works on the Thanet Way.

Manston Airport would be used as last resort for Operation Brock in future.

Residents were encouraged to monitor their water useage particularly during the hot weather.

Hedgehog awareness was raised to encourage residents and motorists in particular to protect the wildlife.

Assistance with food and supplies had steadily reduced across the county.

Immigrants were an increasing problem financially in Kent.

44/20-21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

F/TH/20/0866 - Land Adjacent And Rear Of Ashbre Manor Road St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of 2No.semi-detached two storey dwellings, with new access and layout including hard and soft landscaping

Objections raised on the grounds of overdevelopment in the Village.

FH/TH/20/0943 - Sycamore House, Court Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of gate and gateway and track to allow vehicle and equine access to the stable block.
Concern that the proposal will block access to the public footpath TE5b. No objections in principle.

- b) 6 Downbarton Farm Cottages – Permission granted.
Land north side of Downbarton Road – Permission refused.

45/20-21 CCTV PROJECT/LITTER MANAGEMENT

Cllr North confirmed TDC had been approached to provide cameras for the problematic areas, however, it was felt it was not a prioritised flytipping area. To install a camera privately would cost approx. £10,000 plus an annual maintenance cost of £1000.
It was therefore recommended not to go ahead with the project at this time. Other options including signage was discussed. Cllr North would approach TDC.

46/20-21 FINANCE

(a) The Clerk presented the monthly bank reconciliation between the cash book and bank accounts. This had been sent to Cllr Radclyffe for inspection prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for July. (Proposed: Cllr Fallon, seconded Cllr North).

(b) The Clerk presented the monthly payment schedule which included the following invoices:

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	207.09
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	751.19
J. Read (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	268.05
G. Bryant (Cleaner's salary)	107.59
M. Feeakings (Website Administrator salary)	49.44
Lloyds Bank (Credit Card)	17.39
TDC (Licence - BMP)	180.00
Business Stream (Water BMP)	38.51
EDF (Gas at BM)	126.19
P. Manning (Trench work – BM)	100.00
Playing Fields Association (BM Subs)	20.00
HiWay Services (Parking Bay markings BM)	540.00
Westgate Tree Services (Tree removal BM)	220.00
David Olgilvie (Memorial Bench)	1235.40
Festive Lights (Sarre Xmas Tree Lights)	219.90

Receipts:

Cemetery fees £ 925.00

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for August (Proposed: Cllr Fallon, Seconded: Cllr North)

(c) The village signs for Sarre were discussed. £76.10 + VAT. It was suggested the wording was amended slightly to read 'Reduce your speed now'. The Clerk would liaise with Casement signs accordingly.

RESOLVED: To purchase three signs for the village gates at Sarre at a cost of £76.10 +VAT each. (Proposed: Cllr Bryant, Seconded: Cllr Radclyffe)

(d) The installation of the electricity supply for the Christmas tree lights at Sarre was discussed. The quote from UK Power Networks was circulated prior to the meeting and was considered to be far too expensive to be justified for such limited use. In view of this, Cllr Radclyffe therefore very generously offered to supply electricity from his house. This offer was gratefully received subject to all safety measures carried out. Cllr Radclyffe would be reimbursed for the electricity costs.

RESOLVED: To accept the offer from Cllr Radclyffe to supply the electricity for the Christmas Tree lights and reimburse charges for electricity, costs to be agreed. Proposed: Cllr Fallon, Seconded: Cllr North)

The proposal to install a zip wire was mentioned and would be discussed fully at the next meeting.

47/20-21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- It was suggested consideration was given for the location for the zip wire to be placed near the bike track in Bell Meadow.
 - It was suggested a joint interview was arranged with the media regarding the temporary travellers site at Potten Street.
- Pollution statistics, risk assessments and ownership of the land should all be factors taken into consideration.
- The website needed updating with Councillors contact details and biographies, and recent minutes to be added.

The meeting was concluded by The Chairman at 9:18pm.