



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

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

Also, Present: KCC Cllr Derek Crow-Brown, Sara Archer – Clerk, plus 4 members of the public.

65/21-22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Geraldine Goy (ill) and District Councillor David Hart offered their apologies.

66/21-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

67/21-22 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th September 2021. These were proposed by Cllr Radclyffe, seconded by Cllr Fallon, all present agreed and therefore the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

68/21-22 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers advised that the playground inspection had been completed and thanked the handymen for their work to ensure the equipment was maintained.

An email had been received with regard to the speed of the tractors travelling through the village. The site manager was extremely helpful and would address the concerns with the drivers. He welcomed any further issues to be directed to him. A litter pick had been arranged for 6th November, volunteers were welcomed, all to meet outside the village hall at 10am.

69/21-22 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted regarding food waste which was being left in the wooded area at Bell Meadow. It was agreed that a notice should be posted on the gate to discourage this due to the safety implications on pets and wildlife. The signs for Sarre were in hand, unexpected delays had been experienced by the production company.

The Clerk advised that she had unfortunately received the resignation of Martin Savage, handyman. He would be a great loss to the team and was thanked for his hard work and dedication during his employment with the Parish Council. The vacancy would be advertised in due course.

The Clerk was pleased to report that the Premises Licence for the Pavilion had been granted which meant the bar could be reopened for events.

The fireworks evening was discussed. The school would be contacted to arrange overflow car parking, Cllr Radclyffe and Ageros would marshal as per previous years. Cllr Divers would be responsible for first aid and the Bell Meadow Pavilion Committee would be arranging refreshments. Cllr Fallon was thanked for contacting the horse owner and arranging for them to be moved for the evening.

Cllr Derek Crow-Brown was thanked by a resident from Sarre for his input in arranging for the footpaths to be cleared.

70/21-22 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Radclyffe confirmed he had litter picked in Sarre and had attended a highways conference at Manston Airport where he raised the issue of speeding in the village and requested 'slow' markings on the roads and additional warning signs. An email had been received in response to his concerns, which advised that there was not enough evidence to support this request and suggested the Police were contacted to initiate speedwatch. Portable speed signs were discussed at the conference and funding may be available from the KCC Councillors towards this option. The Clerk confirmed the tree lights had been ordered.

Cllr Ageros reported there had been flooding issues on the forecourt at Sarre. The drainage system was inadequate. Cllr Crow-Brown advised he would follow up the issues on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Fallon confirmed she had met with the site manager at the Manor Road development regarding the dropped kerb on the footpath adjacent to the site. She would be meeting him again on Friday to discuss the problems further including the replacement bollard. The pothole along Manor Road had also been reported and would be temporarily repaired.

71/21-22 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

No District Councillors present.

72/21-22 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Crow-Brown reported as follows:

I recently received a request from a Sarre resident to tidy the pavements in the village surrounding the Crown Inn on the A28 and A253. Peter Thomas of TDC organised his team to tidy the area which had become a slip hazard in wet weather. I am reliably informed the team did an excellent job.

A St Nicholas resident recently sent a letter to Sir Roger Gale requesting a traffic refuge on the Canterbury Road in the vicinity of Manor Road. Richard Heaps of KCC has today measured Canterbury Road at St Nicholas at Wade near the junction with Manor Road at 7.8m.

When KCC Highways place a pedestrian refuge are normally looking at a minimum width of 1.6m, but where pedestrians are likely to have buggies, frames or mobility devices a 1.8m wide refuge is required to enable the refuge to fully accommodate them without overhang into the carriageway. This could be the case in this instance where there are likely to be many elderly pedestrians. They would also need to maintain a minimum of 3.2m for each lane between the edge of the carriageway and the kerb to provide sufficient width for larger vehicles and snow ploughs. Essentially Highways would be looking at a required minimum road width of 8.2m to get an island in at this location, and unfortunately there is insufficient width here.

Birchington to Margate Cycle Way -

A second consultation on proposals for a new cycle route between Birchington and Margate – following the Canterbury Road – opened on 14 September.

The project is part of the Active Travel scheme being funded by central government.

KCC has been granted £6.1 million for four proposed schemes, including the Birchington to Margate Sands cycle route.

Most of the Thanet scheme runs along the A28 Canterbury Road, travelling from Birchington in the west, following the A28 past Westgate-on-Sea to join Westbrook Road in the next phase, connecting to the Viking Coastal Trail.

Kent County Council officers have said the route would provide better connections to key destinations in and around Birchington, Westgate-on-Sea and Margate. These include railway stations, schools, town centres, coastal attractions and business areas. The proposals also include improved crossing facilities, wider footways and new areas of greenery. The scheme aims to support local high streets and businesses by increasing footfall and making efficient use of road space; help address public health crises by enabling residents to get active and stay healthy; encourage cycle and pedestrian friendly streets; provide a variety of safe and efficient means of transport and improve air quality.

73/21-22 BUS SHELTER

Cllr Fallon advised that confirmation was still awaited from KCC regarding the grant. The quote for the bus shelter was due to expire at the end of November, therefore it may potentially be subject to change if the funding has not been received by this date.

74/21-22 BELL MEADOW PAVILION COMMITTEE

The security of the premises was discussed, additional measures would be put in place to ensure the insurance is not compromised.

The lack of water pressure and hot water flow in the showers was discussed. It was suggested Grummants were contacted to test the system if problems persist.

The fireworks evening arrangements were discussed. The Committee would be holding a fancy dress competition and approached the Parish Council for some funding towards prizes. A budget of £200 was agreed to assist the Committee.

This was proposed by Cllr Fallon and seconded by Cllr Radclyffe.

The refurbishment of the bar was discussed. It was agreed that non-essential work should be completed when a third handyman had been appointed. It was suggested a DIY shop was approached to assist with the project in return for advertising their store.

Quotes are being obtained for the tennis courts/multi-use games area. Funding from the Lawn Tennis Association would be explored, together with the covid-recovery grant.

75/21-22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) TCA/TH/21/1456 - Alpha, The Length, St Nicholas At Wade

1No Walnut - Crown reduce by 25% in height and radius

No issues of concern were raised. Refer to Tree Officer.

L/TH/21/1539 - St Nicholas Church, The Street, St Nicholas At Wade

Application for Listed Building Consent for a pair of timber gates to be installed leading up to main south door of church
Application noted.

b) None reported.

76/21-22 FINANCE

a) The Clerk presented the monthly bank reconciliation between the cash book and bank accounts.

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

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

Came & Co Insurance	£1,791.70
J. Smith - Refund for Plot 3b	£17.00
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£218.08
Kent Playing Fields Association Subscription fee	£20.00
PKF Littlejohn - Audit fee	£360.00
S. Searle - Planter flowers	£177.99
S. Archer - Clerk Salary & Expenses	£1,244.02
J. Read - Handyman Salary	£51.08
N. Sangster - Handyman Salary	£264.26
M. Savage - Handyman Salary	£456.97
George Bryant - Cleaner Salary	£17.92
Lloyds CC - Direct Debit	£224.21
AEW Electrical - Lighting at Bell Meadow	£1,020.00
S. Archer - Licence admin	£11.99
Isle of Thanet News - Licence advert	£22.00
Isle of Thanet News - Licence advert	£60.00
Isle of Thanet News - Licence advert	£22.00
S. Irving - Repayment for BMP Bar Provisions	£275.84
S. Smyth - Repayment for BMP Bar Provisions	£107.30
Unity Bank Service Charge	£18.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire - Humphreys Parsons	£39.00
BMP Hire - Whist? Tyler	£18.60
BMP Hire - Whist? Tyler	£18.60
BMP Hire - Hobbs	£44.00
BMP Hire - Whist? Tyler	£18.60
BMP Hire - Coffee Morning	£26.00
Cemetery fees	£195.00
BMP Hire - School Leavers + other cash	£320.63
TDC 1/2 Precept & 1/2 Agency payment	£15,253.00

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for September (Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe, Seconded: Cllr Divers)

c) The Clerk circulated the budget update. No concerns were raised.

RESOLVED: To approve the quarterly budget update. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, Seconded: Cllr Radclyffe)

77/21-22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- A resident requested the Clerk to confirm she was the Responsible Finance Officer for the Parish Council, and advised the Council to ensure they acted inside the law. A personal matter was then raised, which was not deemed appropriate to be discussed in a public forum. The Chairman therefore respectfully closed discussion with the resident.

No further items were raised.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 8:40pm.