



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th June 2022 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors D. Divers (Chairman), L. Fallon, L. Terry, P. Radclyffe, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, D. Tweedale
Also, Present: KCC Cllrs Derek Crow-Brown & Linda Wright, District Cllr Abi Smith plus 5 members of public,
Sara Archer – Parish Clerk

13/22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Cllrs Mark Lawrance and Geraldine Goy, and PCSO Eileen Shrubsole.

The Clerk advised the meeting of the intention of Cllr Goy to resign. Thanks were extended to her for her work on the Parish Council, and she was wished all the best for the future. She had been an asset to the Council and would be missed.

14/22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations made.

15/22-23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting and Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th May 2022. These were proposed by Cllr Tweedale, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

16/22-23 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers thanked Norman and the handymen for their hard work in the lead up to the Jubilee weekend to ensure the Villages were looking excellent for the celebrations, and to Cllr Ageros for working on the planters and flagpole garden.

All those who volunteered across the weekend, and were involved in making the Jubilee celebrations a success were also sincerely thanked, much positive feedback had been received.

Following a query received regarding the allocation and expenditure for prizes for the games played in the Meadow. Cllr Divers confirmed that no precept money had been used for the provision of these.

Unfortunately, the increase in dog fouling was made apparent during the preparation for the Jubilee celebrations. Dog owners were reminded it is an offence not to pick up after your dog. It was suggested the Dog Warden was contacted and requested to attend Bell Meadow to monitor the situation.

Cllr Divers reported that following the concerns raised by resident's, enquiries had been made with the planning department and KCC regarding the retaining wall being built adjacent to the Canterbury Rd in Sarre. Iain Livingstone had responded requesting further information which had been duly passed on, however, no further correspondence had been received. Confirmation that there were no restrictions on the land due to the conservation area and that it is in the curtilage of a listed building, was requested, and the highways signs required reinstalling due to the hazardous bend.

Cllr Divers advised that further to his enquiries with regard to the church wall, he had received confirmation that the maintenance of the wall was indeed the responsibility of the land owner, thus, the Parochial Church Council.

The recent roadworks at The Length had caused unnecessary disruption. This issue had been reported to KCC who responded promptly, offered their apologies and confirmed the contractors would be penalised for the inconvenience caused.

Cllr Divers had been approached regarding the overgrowth and brambles at the side of the tennis courts. It was agreed they would be cut back at the end of the summer period. The handymen had been made aware of the issue.

17/22-23 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had received further correspondence from the representatives of the Church Commission with regard to the transfer of the flagpole land to the Parish Council. They had requested the Parish Council paid a maximum of £1000 towards the costs of the transfer. After some lengthy discussion, it was proposed that the Church Commission were thanked for their offer of transferring the land, however, it would not be accepted at this time and the Parish Council would continue to lease the land for £1 per annum.

RESOLVED: To decline the offer of transfer of the flagpole land at Sarre from the Church Commission. Proposed: Cllr Divers, Seconded: Cllr Fallon

A site visit would be requested for the trees along the banks from the flagpole land towards St Nicholas to be surveyed. The Clerk confirmed a full sized allotment plot had become available and suggested it was split in half to make two half plots in line with the majority of the other allotments at the site. The proposal was discussed and agreed it was a sensible approach. The handymen would be asked to go ahead with the division as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: To divide allotment plot 4 into two plots creating Plots 4a and 4b. Proposed: Cllr Tweedale, Seconded: Cllr Divers

18/22-23 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Fallon advised she had reported the potholes in Manor Road which had been repaired, and missing drain covers in Potten Street. Tree branches had also been removed in Potten Street.

Cllr Tweedale confirmed the Public Rights of Way maps had been marked and printed. The Clerk had passed on details of Colin Bridge, the Ramblers Footpaths Officer for North Thanet who had been contacted for advice on the maintenance of the footpaths. TE10 had been overgrown and since been cleared.

Following on from the success of the Jubilee weekend celebrations, Cllr Tweedale and Cllr Lawrance volunteered to organise a similar style fete in future years.

The storm drains along A28 required cleaning, to be reported to KCC.

Cllr Smyth confirmed the trees along the A28 required maintenance. The footpaths in Sarre were also in need of clearing. This had been included in the handyman's schedule of works.

Cllr Ageros offered his congratulations to Cllrs Tweedale and Lawrance for the provision of the traditional family games at the Jubilee celebrations which had been very well received.

Cllr Radclyffe reported he had litter picked in Sarre and the drains remained blocked. The forecourt drain in particular still required attention. Cllr Crow-Brown would report the issue direct once he had been passed the relevant information which had been requested from the neighbouring property.

19/22-23 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Abi Smith advised she would continue to follow up any enforcement issues, including the issue with the retaining wall at Sarre. She had also been assisting a family in the area with housing a refugee and her son from the Ukraine.

20/22-23 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Derek Crow-Brown reported approximately 3060 Ukrainian refugees were being supported in the County, mainly woman and children. Support with translation, finances and general needs had been offered to the individuals.

He had recently attended an Armed Forces Covenant meeting held at the Leas Cliff Hall which was very informative.

Flytipping along the cycleways between Brooksend and St Nicholas was being monitored and acted upon accordingly.

Cllr Crow-Brown advised he was following up the repairs to the footpath along The Length on behalf of the Parish Council.

Thanks were extended to Paul Valek, KCC Highways, for his prompt response to the Chairman's queries regarding the A28.

Cllr Linda Wright confirmed she would be attending an Adult Social Care meeting in due course. The newly appointed Medical Director was proactive and their ideas had been positively received.

21/22-23 PCSO REPORT

The PCSO Eileen Shrubsole was not in attendance, however, a report had been submitted which was read by the Clerk as follows:

I continue to patrol St Nicholas at Wade as much as possible, I have attended the age uk group meetings at the Bell, as well as being fun, I find it a good way to gather information of what is happening in the area. I often wander around the play park for visibility, sadly the new park in Birchington has been covered in graffiti. If you have an event you would like me to attend please let me know. My working hours are 7am – 5pm Monday – Friday

Crimes of note:

Scams targeting people in their own homes via Email/ letters and on the phone are still happening, I would urge people not to give any personal information out, also be cautious with strangers knocking at their addresses, there have been a number of reports of a person impersonating a police officer telling residents that their money is unsafe in the bank and they need to withdraw it and give it to him for safekeeping, this is a scam, no police officer would ask anybody for money. If anyone would like advice on this or talk to me about anything crime related feel free to stop me when I'm about or pop into Birchington library, if I am not there please leave a message with the library staff.

22/22-23 BELL MEADOW

Cllr Fallon had been approached to lead a working party for the Bell Meadow and Pavilion, tasked with exploring options to make the facility function more effectively for the community. The working group would consider actions and make recommendation for the Parish Council to consider. All residents were welcome to get involved and were advised to contact Cllr Fallon to express their interest. The football pitch required reseeding as a matter of urgency. This would be looked into.

23/22-23 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllrs Tweedale and Lawrance have been walking the local footpaths in the Parish and noting any issues and concerns. No further issues to report.

24/22-23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) F/TH/22/0669 - 4 Downbarton Farm Cottages , Down Barton Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Change of use from agricultural land to domestic landscaped garden

The application was discussed in length. A vote was taken with 2 votes to abstain, 2 votes to support and 3 votes to call the application in. It was therefore agreed to request Cllr Abi Smith to call-in the planning application.

Discussion regarding the planning procedure was also considered.

b) None to report.

25/22-23 FINANCE

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

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

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

Hartleys – Foldable tables BMP	£	164.75
N. Sangster - Handyman Salary & Expenses	£	514.86
J. Read - Handyman Salary & Expenses	£	42.60
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£	225.22
S. Archer - Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£	1271.62
PPL PRS Ltd – Music Licence BMP	£	139.20
Lloyds Bank CC	£	176.78
E. Harvey-Burgess	£	31.40

Receipts:

D. Kirby - BMP Hire: Coffee Morning	£	26.00
BMP Hire: Private Hire	£	45.50
D. Kirby – BMP Hire: Coffee Morning	£	26.00

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for June.

(Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe, Seconded: Cllr Divers)

c) The Clerk presented the accounts and annual return for 2021-22. No comments were made, therefore it was approved to sign Sections 1 & 2 of the AGAR form accordingly. The Internal Auditors report was considered and noted.

RESOLVED: To approve Sections 1 & 2 of the Annual Return for 2021-22. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, Seconded: Cllr Fallon)

26/22-23 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

a) The Clerk advised of the working groups which required the appointment of a representatives for forthcoming meetings.

Thanet Area Committee (TAC) – Cllr Divers

Finance Committee – Cllr Divers, Cllr Ageros, Clerk

Bell Meadow – Cllr Fallon

Thanet Rural Regeneration Group (TRRG) – Cllr Fallon

27/22-23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- An update regarding the position of the land at Crumps Farm was requested. It was confirmed a working group had been formed, led by Ben Jones, who was monitoring the situation.

- It was noted that the green bin collection was being missed from Parish Close. When resident's had queried this with TDC, a number of reasons had been given for the lack of service. Affected resident's were advised to report the missed collection direct to TDC, then pass on the reference number to Cllr Linda Wright who would follow the issue up with the Director of Operational Services, Gavin Waite.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:10pm.

