



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors L. Ageros, L. Fallon, D. Divers, G. Goy, P. Radclyffe

Also, Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr T. Roper, plus 20 members of the public.

145/20-21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr, Gordon Bryant, District Cllrs Pugh & Hart, KCC Cllr Hurst and PCSO Forsyth.

In view of the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Divers was elected as Chair for this meeting.

146/20-21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Divers declared an interest regarding item 155/20-21 application – TCA/TH/21/0146 and would not be taking part in any discussions on this proposal. All Councillors declared a personal interest in knowing the applicant for this proposal which was duly noted.

147/20-21 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via zoom on 9th February 2021.

These were proposed by Cllr Fallon, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all present agreed and therefore the minutes would be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

148/20-21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bryant was not in attendance, however, a statement was read by the Clerk on his behalf as follows:

I regret that due to the abuse that I faced last evening, I will not be in attendance this evening. The behaviour demonstrated by some of the Pavilion Committee last evening was intolerable and for the sake of the mental health of both my family and I, it is necessary to step back for a short while whilst I reflect on what longer term action to take.

Please be aware that I reported one former Parish Councillor to Kent Police for threatening behaviour last year and two weeks ago, I requested that the Police investigate another former Parish Councillor for intimidation and harassment. Until this matter is resolved, I feel it would be better for all concerned to suspend myself from the Parish Council.

149/20-21 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had received an email from representatives for the Church Commission regarding the acquisition of extra land around the flagpole at Sarre. An indicative offer for the land was required in order for it to be considered by the Church Commission. The Clerk would respond to the correspondence requesting an outline map of the land to be transferred.

A number of correspondences and objections had been received from members of the public regarding the reintroduction of cricket to Bell Meadow, requesting that the Parish Council take into consideration the views of the resident's before making a decision on the hire of the facilities to Reculver Cricket Club. A press enquiry had been received relating to the same, and the item would be discussed further during item 153/20-21.

A report from the PCSO was read by the Clerk. Lots of road traffic collisions had been reported, abandoned vehicles and dangerous driving due to the A299. Possible drug dealing/use at the end of Shuart Lane had been reported and was being monitored. The fly tipping at this area had also been reported.

Lastly, the Clerk gave an update regarding the status of the new ariel runway. The installation of a barrier fence between the ariel runway and the rest of the play area was awaited. The Parish Council had been advised of a 6-8 week lead time on the fencing which should be installed mid-April.

150/20-21 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Ageros offered his apologies for not attending the Bell Meadow Committee meeting on the previous evening due to work commitments. He advised he had taken a 'straw poll' of footpath walkers regarding the cricket proposal, the majority of those spoken to objected strongly to the proposal. Further discussion would take place during item 153.

Cllr Radclyffe advised he had been litter picking, and reported that three drains had been cleaned, a further four needed to be addressed but had been reported. A handyman had been requested to attend the village for street cleaning.

151/20-21 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Roper advised he had received a briefing regarding the Public Space Protection Order for the beaches in order to address the littering and anti-social behaviour as experienced last summer. The local elections are taking place in May. A Multi-Agency Taskforce including agencies such as the Police, KCC and TDC has been set up to address any problems suffered in the area, for example, drugs, housing, anti-social behaviour etc, reporting can be logged together with any action taken.

Cllr Roper also confirmed the number of cases of covid related illness were reducing and the vaccination programme was running well.

Cllr Pugh was not in attendance, however, he submitted a report which was read by the Clerk as follows:

Asset Disposal of Bell Meadow – currently seeking a meeting with estates team at TDC.

Planning enforcement at Summer Road – Cllr Fallon made me aware of breaches to planning conditions in Summer Road and I am trying to get the enforcement officer to start proceedings – TDC just seem to want a retrospective application.

152/20-21 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst was not in attendance however, she had offered a short report which was read by the Clerk:

I would like to advise you that neither myself or Emma Dawson are standing in the forthcoming elections in May. We have both decided to step back and have a more relaxing time! We would like to thank you for all the support you have given us during our time with Kent and wish you the best. Hopefully, your new Councillors will represent you well. We go into purdah next week, so will not be attending any future meetings. Any complaints regarding potholes, KCC have started a £10 million blitz in Kent. They are covering area by area so uncertain when our roads will be sorted.

Sincere thanks were expressed from the Parish Council for all the support received from Cllrs Hurst and Dawson.

153/20-21 RECULVER CRICKET CLUB

Cllr Divers advised that the final draft working agreement together with the correspondence received from the members of public would be considered at this meeting, however, a decision regarding the proposal would not be made. An extraordinary meeting would be arranged in two weeks time in order to take a vote on the proposal accordingly.

The working agreement had been updated to reflect the reduction in use of the facilities required by the cricket club. It was confirmed that the exclusive use referred to the cricket square and changing rooms whilst cricket was being played, as with any other hire.

Use by the club would be on the following basis:

Senior Cricket - Saturdays League Match Day

Set Up to End - 11:30am to 7:30pm approx .. (various depending if match finishes early). There is 8-9 Home Matches starting from end April to first week in September.

Require the following: Changing Rooms/Toilets/Kitchen/ (Bar if possible)

Junior Cricket - Friday & Sunday League Match Days

Sunday Morning - Set Up to End - 9:45am to 12:30pm 5-7 Home Matches from start of May to end of July.

Friday Evening - Set Up to End - 5:45pm to 8:30pm 4-6 Home Matches from start of May to end of July

We require the following on both days: Changing Rooms/Toilets/Kitchen (If you wanted to open bar but not essential)

Junior Training Evening - Mondays ... start 26th April 2021 to 30th August 2021 (depending how many children we have through summer holidays)

We require the following: Toilets & Kitchen (If you wanted to open bar but not essential)

Suggested benefits for the residents includes adding another sport to the village, vitalises the Pavilion and Bell Meadow and brings life to the village, anyone can join the club and play in the village, providing an opportunity for both adults and juniors to play.

The Parish Council had been advised that a petition had been started by a resident, 100 people would love to see cricket return to the village but not have such a high monopoly of the Bell Meadow. Cllr Divers responded that village events such as boot fairs etc... would take priority over the use of the Bell Meadow rather than the cricket club.

It was confirmed the cricket club had been offered the first year free of charge in exchange for developing the amateur cricket strip. After this, they would be charged at the market rate for hire of the facilities.

Safety concerns had been raised and the cricket club had advised that nets could be erected as appropriate, particularly by the children's play area. The Parish Council would also require sight of the Cricket Club's Public Liability Insurance.

Residents were encouraged to contact the Parish Council direct with any queries or concerns they may have. The final draft proposal would be placed on the noticeboards and website for public sight and details of the extraordinary meeting would be published in the usual way.

154/20-21 BELL MEADOW PAVILION COMMITTEE

Cllr Ageros was unable to attend the meeting. He explained he had carried out a straw poll with an outcome of approximately 27 against and 4 had a neutral opinion.

155/20-21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

F/TH/21/0136 - St Nicholas Court Farm, Court Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of a two-storey detached building to provide 9 bed seasonal farm worker accommodation

Objections raised, not supported, not a necessary development.

F/TH/21/0153 - St Nicholas Court Farm, Court Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of detached 2 storey building to provide farm worker rest and training rooms

Objections raised, as above.

F/TH/21/0149 - Land East Side Of, Summer Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Variation of condition 5 of Outline approval OL/TH/17/0314 for the erection of up to 6No. dwellings including access, to allow for amendments to access design

Highways and safety concern raised regarding the junction, no other comments.

TCA/TH/21/0146 - 2 Sea View Cottages, The Length, St Nicholas At Wade

1No Birch (T1) Reduce crown by 5m in height

Refer to Tree Officer.

b) None received.

c) Concerns had been received from residents regarding application F/TH/19/0175. The Parish Council had noted and supported these concerns, the planning enforcement team at TDC had been contacted and a site visit had been carried out.

156/20-21 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 February. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, seconded Cllr Fallon).

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

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	23.42
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	752.36
J. Read (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	85.07
George Bryant (Cleaner's salary)	116.56
Lloyds Bank (Credit Card)	111.34
M. Feekings (Website Admin)	26.83
E. Saunders (faulty light at BMP)	209.38
Came & Co (Mower Insurance)	141.12
SNS (Domain hosting)	28.56
PKF Littlejohn (Audit fees)	360.00
KALC (Dynamic Cllr Course)	60.00
Bank Charges	6.00

Receipts:

Cemetery fees	2003.75
HMRC – VAT refund	532.59

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

(c) The grant application for Manor Hall was discussed. Essential repairs were required to the roof, in particular repointing, at an approximate cost of £1000. The representative was in attendance to answer any queries and had applied for a grant of £500.

RESOLVED: To approve the grant of £500 towards the repairs to the roof of Manor Hall. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, seconded: Cllr Ageros)

d) The Clerk advised that a new printer was required due to the existing one not functioning properly. It was proposed a more robust laser printer was purchased to cope with the amount of printing carried out, with copying and scanning facilities included. It was suggested that an A3 printer would be more suitable, the Clerk would make further enquiries and defer a decision until the next meeting.

e) The Clerk had circulated the Bell Meadow Pavilion accounts for the period 1st October 2019 – 30th September 2020. No comments were made. The impact on the income of the Pavilion due to the pandemic was noted.

157/20-21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Parish Councillors were asked to confirm when they were informed of the proposal to reintroduce cricket to Bell Meadow. It was confirmed that the information circulated by social media was that given by the cricket club at the last meeting and therefore, not 'fake news' as at the time, no other information was available. The statement of 'fake news' was retracted by Cllr Divers accordingly.

Senior practice has not been included in the draft proposal, however, this has not been requested by the cricket club, therefore would not be considered in this agreement.

Resident's were encouraged to contact the Parish Councillors direct by email or via the Clerk to voice concerns or raise any queries prior to the Extraordinary Meeting.

The option of giving the Cricket Club a year trial with the option to renew further if no issues have arisen was suggested.

It was confirmed the private bookings of the Pavilion and Bell Meadow would be dealt with in the usual manner via the Bookings Officer and not via the Cricket Club.

The exclusivity refers to the cricket square and changing rooms only, however, when playing, they would use the whole boundary.

It is expected that the cricket club would approach the Parish Council with a list of fixture dates to be considered, however, any village events would be given priority.

It was confirmed the information provided on the draft agreement regarding the days requested by the cricket club would be monitored. Any extra days would be considered in the usual manner, if and when they were requested.

The proposal would be considered thoroughly and all views would be taken into account before a decision is made.

The meeting was concluded by The Chairman at 9:04pm.