



## St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



### Approved Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7.30pm.

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

**Also, Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllrs R. Pugh & Trevor Roper plus 2 members of the public.**

#### **14/20-21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from District Cllr David Hart and County Cllr Liz Hurst.

#### **15/20-21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Bryant declared an interest regarding planning application TCA/TH/20/0635 and would not be taking part in any discussions. No other interests were declared.

#### **16/20-21 PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020. These were proposed by Cllr Fallon, seconded by Cllr North, all present agreed and therefore the minutes would be signed by the Chairman as a correct record when able.**

#### **17/20-21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cllr Bryant read his report as follows:

You will be pleased to hear that I have not got too much to report this month. Due to the lockdown, progress in many areas has been slow. I rang David Ogilvie Engineering about the memorial bench and could only leave a message. They have not got back to me yet.

Any rumours that you may have heard about moving the multi use games area in Bell Meadow are false. Any proposal such as this would have to be put before this Council for consideration. If any other Councillor knows anything about this perhaps, they will enlighten us. I am aware that Sunningdale Developments are proposing to put a gate in the fence between the boundary of Orchard Close and Bell Meadow, but they have not approached us about a pathway.

The Mars bars were purchased and handed over to The Waste Management Team at TDC. They were well received. I am aware of some negativity against the bin collectors throughout Thanet and therefore I hope that this small gesture has gone some way to improve morale.

I was contacted by a resident regarding issues in Bridges Close and the overgrown pavement/alleyway from Bridges Close and The Street. Thanet Housing Association have been contacted and I think that it is beginning to get tidied up. (addendum: I have asked Martin if he and/or James can do a clean-up around there).

Finally my thanks to all of you that have continued with the litter picking and general clearing up around the villages. I am most grateful to everyone involved in this.

#### **18/20-21 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported that a resident had been in contact regarding an unsafe tree at Bell Meadow. The handyman had examined the tree and confirmed it would need to be removed by a qualified tree surgeon. Quotes would be obtained and brought to the next meeting. (addendum: Cllr Bryant obtained three quotes which were circulated to the Parish Councillors, the work was deemed to be urgent and therefore it was agreed to instruct Westgate Tree Services to carry out the work immediately).

The Clerk advised she had met with the internal auditor, the forms would be signed and completed accordingly.

Cllr Hurst had queried whether the Parish Council would like a public stand alone sanitizer and would offer funding towards the costs should the Parish Council like to install one. Councillors considered the suggestion and agreed it was not necessary at the moment.

Concern regarding the road safety at Potten Street Road/Potten Street junction caused by inconsiderate parking was discussed. It was suggested the PCSO was contacted to advise the resident of the issues.

### 19/20-21 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Pugh advised that missed waste collections have been due to a reduced number of operatives working in order to adhere to social distancing measures, and an increase in waste being produced. Residents were encouraged to leave the bins out and they would be collected as soon as it is possible.

Some public toilet facilities have been opened at the local beaches and the business grant scheme has been well received throughout the District.

The District Council have launched a High Street Fund, £138k has been allocated to assist the High Streets and reopen businesses primarily in Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs.

Cllr Roper added that portaloos are being put at Margate beach along with extra security officers to help alleviate the issues caused by the number of visitors to the area, and the RNLI are providing more lifesavers on the busiest beaches.

The refuse tips are reopened on an appointment only basis via KCC.

Refuse vehicles are being replaced next April, to be narrower to enable greater access to the more restrictive roads, at a cost of approximately £225k each.

### 20/20-21 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst was not present and no report provided.

### 21/20-21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

#### **TCA/TH/20/0635 - 2 Rose Cottages, The Length, St Nicholas At Wade**

1No Holly - 5m to be taken off the top (crowned) and spread of the tree to be reduced to 160cm in diameter

*Agreed to refer to the Tree Officer*

#### **FH/TH/20/0670 - 6 Downbarton Farm Cottages, Down Barton Road, St Nicholas**

Erection of a two storey side extension following demolition of existing extensions

*Plans did not appear available online for this particular application. Clarification would be sought from TDC before comments being made.*

#### **F/TH/20/0668 - Huckleberry Farm, Down Barton Road, St Nicholas**

Erection of 1No three bedroom dwelling for accommodation for glamping site manager

*Application circulated, concern that the archaeological digs had not been carried out. Objections raised.*

It was suggested that Cllr Hart was invited to attend a meeting of the Chairs of the Parish Councils to answer queries regarding planning issues in particular.

It is expected the Local Plan will be approved at a full council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July.

b) None received.

### 22/20-21 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 May. (Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe following the meeting).**

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

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	180.15
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	654.32
J. Read (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	80.75
G. Bryant (Cleaner's salary)	116.56
M. Feekings (Website Administrator salary)	156.93
Lloyds Bank (Credit Card)	51.64
Monkton PC (Half payment towards Clerks membership fee)	80.00
Clerks & Councils Direct (Magazine subs)	12.00

#### **Receipts:**

R. Searle (FOI admin request)	14.21
-------------------------------	-------

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

(c) The purchase of a sign for the cemetery to advise of appropriate conduct, was discussed. The Clerk made enquiries for wording with other local cemeteries. Wording to be confirmed and quotes to be obtained.

(d) Cllr Fallon presented the quotes for the remarking of the parking bays at Bell Meadow. Discussion took place regarding the quantity of bays and provision of a disabled bay. Cross hatching would be included next to the Pavilion to improve access for buggy's and wheelchairs. It was recommended to appoint Hi-Way Services, KCC contractor, to carry out the works.

**RESOLVED: To approve the appointment of Hi-Way Services to complete the work subject to the inclusion of cross hatching as discussed (Proposed: Cllr Fallon Seconded: Cllr Divers)**

(e) The proposal to donate monies originally set aside for the church wall repairs, and reallocate them for new entrance gates was discussed. Inclusion on the working party to consider the design of the gates was suggested. It was considered not to be necessary to continue to reserve monies solely for the church wall.

**RESOLVED: To donate the sum of £5000 to the Friends of the Church for the sole purpose of installing a new gate to the entrance of the Church, subject to the inclusion of a Parish Councillor on the working party giving consideration to the plans. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, Seconded: Cllr North)**

(f) The Cemetery charges for 2020/21 were reviewed, it was agreed to increase the current charges by approximately 25%.

**RESOLVED: To approve the proposed increase in Cemetery Charges for 2020/21. (Proposed: Cllr Bryant, Seconded: Cllr Fallon)**

(g) The Asset Register 2020/21 had been circulated. It was suggested a review was carried out to ensure everything was included. Cllr Fallon volunteered to complete with the Clerk and bring to the next meeting for approval.

### **23/20-21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- Clarification was sought regarding the involvement of the Friends of the Church to take on the installation of the new gates as both the church wall and gates are the responsibility of the Parish Council. It was considered their involvement would be beneficial to the project and was felt public consultation was not necessary in this instance.

It was advised the small church wall was unsafe and in need of repair. A structural engineers report would be considered as appropriate.

- It was suggested that planning issues being discussed should take a more professional approach.

The meeting was concluded by The Chairman at 8:45pm.