



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7.00pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors D. Divers (Chairman), L. Fallon, P. Radclyffe, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, D. Tweedale, M. Lawrance

Also, Present: KCC Cllr Derek Crow-Brown, District Cllr Abi Smith, Norman Sangster Head Handyman, Sara Archer – Parish Clerk

57/22-23 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public were excluded by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted during the period 7:00pm – 7:30pm.

58/22-23 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Cllr Eric Dore who has been co-opted onto the Council following the vacancy which arose from the recent resignation of Cllr Goy, and was pleased to advise that the Parish Council were back to a full complement of Councillors to represent the community. The necessary documentation was completed and returned to the Clerk.

59/22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from Community Warden Alison Ring.

60/22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that Cllr Lisa Fallon declared an interest in item 72 (b), September schedule of payments.

61/22-23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 9th August 2022. These were proposed by Cllr Divers, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

62/22-23 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers extended his thanks to the Clerk for her work putting in place the necessary arrangements at short notice, following the sad passing of Her Majesty The Queen and to the Councillors for operating the flag at Sarre. The Parish Council were represented at the official reading of the Proclamation at Margate, and a good attendance was noted at St Nicholas when it was read at Parish level.

Cllrs Tweedale and Lawrance attended a meeting at Manor Road with Cllr Divers and representatives from KCC to discuss the concerns with the road layout. It was agreed that the footpath on the sharp bend would be narrowed and the dropped kerb removed. Visibility access is to be installed, however, the signage must remain in situ as it is governed by highway regulations. The road is due to be resurfaced, this will be scheduled when the remedial works above have been completed.

63/22-23 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk confirmed the appointment of Alison Ring as the Community Warden for the Parish. She advised a Facebook page had now been created and was 'live'. It would be used to post relevant information, agendas and other documents for resident's information. The page can be found by searching for St Nicholas at Wade with Sarre Parish Council. Thanks were extended to Eric Dore for his work in attaining War Grave plaques for the Cemetery. He would be installing the signs in due course.

The handymen were thanked for their work in preparing the allotment for re-allocation. It was agreed that the allotment would be split horizontally to make a more workable plot. After discussion about the condition of the fencing, it was agreed that allotment holders would be written to and advised that all damaged fencing would be removed and not replaced for ease of maintenance carried out by the handymen.

Concern had been raised with regard to the discarded food waste in Bell Meadow. It was discussed and agreed that the notices should be renewed on the fences and a leaflet would be circulated to the properties which back on to the Meadow politely advising of the issues the waste can cause.

A letter had been received suggesting the Christmas tree at St Nicholas was relocated to a position that was more visible. It was discussed and agreed that the suggestion was reasonable, however, unfortunately, there would be issues with the power supply, and safety concerns for residents who attend the carol singing service.

Correspondence had also been received with regard to planning application F/TH/15/0770. Concern had been raised by the resident regarding the garages that had been built. Councillors extended their sympathy to the resident, however, unfortunately they were unable to assist at this time and suggested the Planning Enforcement Officer was contacted once again. The Clerk would also write to the Enforcement Team to reiterate the concerns.

64/22-23 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Fallon confirmed the surveyor had attended the tennis courts and she was awaiting their report. The Courts needed resurfacing and levelling at an approximate cost of £20,000. Funding streams would be explored towards the costs if it was agreed to go ahead with works.

The repairs to the bus shelter had been explored. Options were to replace the glass with either polycarbonate or toughened glass. The item would be discussed further during agenda item 72 (d).

The pavements between Birchington and Sarre had been weed killed and strimmed. KCC would be contacted to request the gutters and cats eyes were cleansed.

No response had been received to the advert encouraging residents to join a working party for Bell Meadow Pavilion.

An email had been received from one of the football teams using the facilities suggesting a reduced rate was implemented for the under 13's team. The suggestion was considered, however, due to the ongoing pitch maintenance and already reasonable hire rates, it was agreed that no reduction would be offered at this time.

Cllr Tweedale advised he had been working to clear the footpaths, removing barbed wire etc. and cutting the hedgerows on Court Road. Dead birds had been discovered at Orchard Road. Bird flu was considered and the issue would be reported to Cllr Crow-Brown to be followed up.

Cllr Tweedale had litterpicked Manor Road and Stuart Lane. Complaints had been received regarding the biomass scattered on the road from the farm trailers. St Nicholas Court Farm (SNCF) would be contacted to raise the concerns.

Cllr Lawrance noted there had been an increase in dog fouling in the village and speeding was also a concern. The issue would be raised with the new PCSO, Brandon Greenleaf.

Cllr Smyth advised she had already spoken to Iain Moss of SNCF regarding the trailer debris which also exacerbates the blocked drains. He had confirmed he would contact the drivers and remind them not to overfill the trailers.

Cllr Ageros had been maintaining the village planters and would be planting spring bulbs. The trees at the edge of the allotments required pollarding, the Clerk would make enquiries.

A number of trees were available for residents to collect if they wish.

Cllr Ageros expressed concern with regard to the lack of training for the use of the defibrillators. Although sessions had been organised in the Village, they had been poorly attended. Cllr Ageros explained that heart problems were a side effect of the Covid 19 vaccine and should not be taken light hearted. Further training sessions would be arranged in due course.

Cllr Radclyffe reported he had litter picked in Sarre. He thanked KCC Highways for clearing the footpath hedge, TE10 and clearing the pathways at the T-junction. The drains required cleaning in preparation for the winter months. The grit bins also required re-filling.

Three Christmas trees also needed ordering, Cllr Radclyffe very kindly advised he would sponsor the Church tree as he had done previously. It was noted that the quality was poor last year, this would be discussed when ordering the trees.

65/22-23 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Abi Smith advised that TDC had been approached with a motion asking for greater input from Southern Water to comment on housing developments and how they plan to control the levels of discharge. Permeable roads are built on most new developments, however, this is not adequate enough to reduce the excess flow.

Residents were reminded of the 'Green Doctors' from Groundworks South session. They offer advice on reducing household energy costs. Sessions to be held on 25th October, 13:00hrs at the Bell Meadow Pavilion. Appointments are to be booked in advance, contact details available on the posters circulated on noticeboards and the website.

66/22-23 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Derek Crow-Brown confirmed that KCC were experiencing budget inflationary pressures and additional stresses due to the Ukrainian war with cuts already being made.

He had attended a six month update from Southern Water which addressed the sewage discharge issue.

The issue of the use of prime agricultural land for development was raised with Laura Trott, and a plea to include an exemption in the National Planning Policy Framework was put forward.

67/22-23 PCSO/COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

No report submitted by the PCSO.

Community Warden Alison Ring was not in attendance, however, she submitted the following report which was read by the Clerk:

I have been a warden now for approximately 16 months and have been covering Birchington. As I have commenced working part time I have been transferred to St Nicholas, Sarre, Acol and Manston Villages. I have always loved St Nicholas at Wade, especially The Bell Inn! I am really looking forward to getting to know everyone and supporting the village as much as I can.

At the present time my working hours, and salary, are split between warden work and a pilot project in Birchington, Westgate, Westbrook and Garlinge, called Positive Wellbeing. The project is about supporting residents for up to 12 weeks who are lonely and socially isolated reconnect with their communities to hopefully reduce those feelings, which we all know lead to anxiety, loss of confidence and low mood.

The project has been running for three years and will come to an end at the beginning of January 2023. However, the plan is for KCC Warden Service to be incorporating this model of working themselves throughout the whole of Kent.

The Warden Service is changing, and we must be able to justify our jobs by evidencing what we are doing.

Another change that is on the increase is the welfare work we do across the whole of Thanet for other agencies, in particular Social Services, Wardens are often asked to call on people to check they're ok. Often people are not ok and need to support manage activities of daily living.

If the Parish Council, Church, anybody, is concerned about someone in the village struggling to cope, please let me know as I'm always happy to contact them.

68/22-23 BELL MEADOW

Nothing further to add from previous discussions. Volunteers were welcomed to join a working party to promote the use of the facilities.

69/22-23 FIREWORKS EVENT

The fireworks display would be held on 29th October, 7pm. Cllr Fallon had spoken to the owners of the horses to ensure they would be removed from the paddocks prior to the event. Cllr Radclyffe and Ageros would be responsible for the parking. Cllr Fallon would contact the headteacher to confirm use of the School car park.

The School were also selling glow sticks and light products as in previous years.

Cllr Fallon advised she would be away for the actual event, but wished everyone well for a successful evening.

70/22-23 HIGHWAYS

The issues at Manor Road and been previously addressed in the meeting.

71/22-23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) F/TH/22/1103 - Land Adjacent 1 New Cottages, Potten Street, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of 1No detached two storey 3-bed dwelling with associated access and parking

No objections raised.

F/TH/22/1086 - Little Orchard , Canterbury Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Relocation of the pumping station and the re-orientation of plot 13

Resident's objections noted. Object in support of residents. Contact TDC to request clarification as to the rationale of the relocation and how the flow of sewage is affected.

PN12/TH/22/1136 - Thanet Earth, Barrow Man Road, Birchington

Application to apply for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the local planning authority is required in respect of the installation of solar panels

No objections raised.

F/TH/22/1271 & L/TH/22/1270 - The School House , Down Barton Road, St Nicholas

Application for Listed Building Consent for a new boundary fence and sub-division of garden

Noted the planning was retrospective. Request the Tree Officer to attend and assess the trees at the property. Objections to be submitted.

b) FH/TH/22/0182 – PERMISSION REFUSED

72/22-23 FINANCE

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

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

b) The Clerk presented the monthly payment schedules for September and October which included the following invoices:

HMRC - Employee PAYE	£	181.40
Workwear Express - Handyman Uniform	£	252.13
Pitchmark Group - White lining paint BM	£	107.96
S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	£	1,014.02
T. Oliver - Handyman's Salary	£	107.68

J. Read - Handyman's Salary & Expenses	£	46.83
N. Sangster - Handyman's Salary	£	234.04
E. Harvey-Burgess - Website Admin Salary	£	22.42
L. Fallon - Repayment for BMP Stock	£	158.92
Lloyds Bank CC	£	72.04
T. Oliver - Handyman's Salary	£	174.70
J. Read - Handyman's Salary	£	119.26
S. Archer - Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£	1,081.09
J. Perfect - Handyman's Salary & Expenses	£	521.65
N. Sangster - Handyman's Salary & Expenses	£	543.21
E. Harvey-Burgess - Website Admin Salary	£	53.60
Lloyds Bank CC	£	209.59
TDC - Premises Licence payment	£	180.00
PKF Littlejohn - Audit fee	£	360.00
Externiture - Bus Shelter	£	6,516.48
Unity Trust Bank Charges	£	18.00

Receipts:

Roberts Stonemason - Headstone	£	95.00
C. Humphrey-Parsons - BMP Hire	£	26.00
WS Cole & Son - Holland 717	£	475.00
D. Kirby - BMP Hire: Coffee Morning	£	26.00
A. Guilliford - BMP Hire	£	19.50
TDC - Half Precept & Half Agency payment	£	16,397.00
D. Kirby - BMP Hire: Coffee Morning	£	26.00
D. Hayward – BMP Hire: Yoga	£	45.50

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for September and October.

(Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe, Seconded: Cllr Dore)

c) The budget would be circulated and noted at the next meeting.

d) The replacement material for the vandalised bus stop was discussed. The Clerk would contact the insurance company and enquire if a claim could be made.

It was agreed that the polycarbonate would be more suitable and should be used to replace the broken glass windows. Cllr Fallon would follow this up as soon as possible.

73/22-23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- It was suggested that TDC were contacted to supply additional dog fouling signs. The Clerk would contact the relevant department.

- It was confirmed that incidents of flyposting can be removed.

- It was suggested the Cemetery fees should be reviewed in line with other Parishes. This would be considered during the end of year finance review.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:40pm.