



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Approved Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas-at-Wade on Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7.30pm.

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

Also, Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr T. Roper plus 4 members of the public.

126/19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Cheniston - unwell, KCC Cllr Liz Hurst, District Cllrs David Hart & Reece Pugh, PCSO Forsyth & Community Warden Tony Gander.

127/19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The applicant of planning ref: R/TH/19/1687 was previously a Parish Councillor and therefore known to the Parish Council.

128/19-20 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th December 2019. These were proposed by Cllr Radclyffe, seconded by Cllr Fallon, all present agreed and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

129/19-20 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bryant read his report as follows:

A happy new year to you all and I hope that not all your new year resolutions have faded away yet. It was some years ago that I discussed with your Parish Council a strategic plan entitled 2020 vision. I think we should be proud of what we have achieved over the last four years and as we start 2020, we will need to consider how we can improve the lives of residents over the next three and a half years.

2020 is the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe and over the weekend of 8th/9th May, the nation will be celebrating this epic milestone. The May bank holiday is being moved to Friday 8th May to allow this to happen. I am most grateful to Matt Feekings, who is a local Royal British Legion volunteer, who has provided us with a proposed programme of events. This will involve as many residents as we can, especially those with connections to the armed forces.

I am delighted that we are beginning to make headway with The Village Hall Committee, the new members appear to be far more open to a dialogue and I hope will provide a constructive contribution to the villages VE Day celebration. You will have noticed that the bench in the memorial area has been moved up to The Village Hall and I am most grateful to the VH Secretary for allowing this to happen. It was important for us to ask The West Family and The VH to allow us to move this bench so that a new memorial bench can be put in place for the VE Day celebrations.

All of this will be discussed under item 137/19-20 of the agenda.

I would like to thank Graham, Lesley, Mark, Lisa and all those that donated raffle prizes for making the Xmas Quiz such a great event and do hope that we will be able to put on more of these types of activity in the future. I am sure Graham will tell us more in his report.

We have had problems with The Pavilion heating this month and with The Bell Meadow lighting. These are being looked in to and hopefully will be sorted out soon.

The petition against the traveller's encampment was signed by 120 people. I have decided to extend the deadline for this for another three weeks (closing on the 3rd February) so that we can present TDC with at least 200 names. My grateful thanks to the residents that have agreed to distribute a leaflet advertising this and to The Sun Inn, Bell Inn and The Post Office for collecting the signatures.

Finally, as part of my new year's resolution of supporting our environment, I am conscious of global warming and would like residents to be aware of a scheme operated by Royal Mail, whereby householders can opt out of receiving junk mail. I have printed off copies of this and hope that you will help reduce our paper consumption by taking one of these and not receive so much unsolicited mail.

130/19-20 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

Due to the festive period, there was little to report. A letter had been received from a resident which was read to the meeting by the Clerk. The content referred to the proposals for the future of the Bell Meadow Pavilion Committee. Councillor North responded accordingly to the points raised in the letter. The proposals would be discussed further during item 139/19-20.

131/19-20 VILLAGE REPORTS.

Councillor Radclyffe reported that he had assisted with the removal of the Christmas trees in the villages and was making enquiries with regard to the purchase of new lights for the tree at Sarre and subsequent electrical power supply installation. Cllr Radclyffe advised he had been litter picking and cutting back the overgrowth from the footpath thus widening it significantly. He had also cleaned the drains and road signs.

Councillor Ageros confirmed there was little to report due to the festive period, he had however, planted some bulbs.

Councillor Bryant confirmed he had met with TDC who had loaned a backpack vacuum cleaner to the Parish Council to be used for litter picking. He would be meeting with a representative from KCC on Wednesday to discuss further the resurfacing of the memorial area and installation of the bollards at The Oaks.

Sonya Smyth was invited to update the members regarding the progress with the village gates in Sarre.

Ms Smyth explained, as requested, she had approached some residents in Sarre to canvass their opinions with regard to the highways safety project which included both gates and road markings. Cllr Bryant advised a highways improvement plan and survey would be necessary only if road markings are to be considered.

Ms Smyth confirmed she had presented pictures and an approximate valuation for the gates of £2500, at the previous meeting. No further discussion took place.

132/19-20 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Reece Pugh was unable to attend the meeting, however, he submitted the following report which was read by the Clerk as follows:

- Land at Minster Services - I am delighted to see that the owner of the land next to Minster Services has submitted an application for an MOT centre, rather than for pitches which were completely inappropriate. I will also be speaking with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning, Cllr Whitehead, regarding the decision taken by TDC to ignore the decision of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel and go ahead with the three planned temporary traveller sites, particularly Potten Street Car Park.
- Manston Airport DCO - The decision for the DCO application for Manston Airport is expected before or on 18th January and I look forward to seeing planes flying from Manston Airport again.
- Property Building Company - TDC is planning to establish its own property development company to build homes in Thanet. I'm concerned that this may be funded through building some privately owned properties on these developments which would increase their overall size. I am currently seeking clarification from the Cabinet Member for Housing on this.

Cllr Roper advised a decision from the Secretary of State would be made with regard to the DPO for Manston Airport by 18th January 2020. Operation Brock had been suspended until further notice.

A public consultation is to be held regarding the Parkway Station due to the significant increase in costs which was now forecast to be treble the original estimate. The deadline for submission of responses was 20th January 2020. KCC would be making a decision whether to go ahead with the project on 27th January 2020.

Access to the car park/station would be from the southern dual carriageway only which would be an inconvenience to those travelling from the opposite direction.

Cllr Roper confirmed the Cabinet had made the decision to consult with the Parish Councils rather than a full public consultation regarding the proposed temporary traveller sites, nothing further to add.

Cllr Roper advised he would be attending a meeting on Thursday (16th) regarding Polling Stations in the area and canvassed the views of the residents and Councillors as to whether they felt the current facilities were adequate.

133/19-20 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst offered her apologies, no report was available.

134/19-20 KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN & KENT POLICE PCSO's REPORT

PCSO Forsyth offered her apologies and no report was available.

Community Warden Tony Gander offered his apologies, however, a report was submitted and read by the Clerk as follows:
A number of flytipping incidents around the parish been reported accordingly to Country Eye and TDC Enforcement.
Working with the School on a number of small projects.

135/19-20 PAVILION SUB COMMITTEE

Cllr Graham North advised the regular bookings continued to be steady and comments about the facility were favourable. The Christmas Quiz had been successful with a positive atmosphere. The Pavilion had been opened during the summer months which had been well received by residents. A fourth football club had made enquiries regarding hiring the Bell Meadow, this was currently being explored.

Cllr North confirmed he had been looking into the provision of disabled toilet facilities. Councillors agreed the project would be a substantial investment and required more research.

136/19-20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

R/TH/19/1687- Huckleberry Farm, Down Barton Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Reserved matters application for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale including foul and surface water drainage pursuant to outline application OL/TH/19/0523 Outline application for the erection of 1No. single dwelling with all matters reserved

No objections raised, it was noted other consultees responded accordingly regarding drainage, archaeological surveys.

b) Results were given of previous applications as follows:

F/TH/19/0175 - Huckleberry Farm, Down Barton Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Permission Granted

F/TH/19/1496 – 9 Chantry Park, Sarre

Permission Refused

L/TH/19/1538 – The Bell Inn, St Nicholas At Wade

Permission Granted

137/19-20 VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

An outline programme of events for the Bank Holiday had been circulated for consideration. Some events would be held nationally

and therefore could not be amended. It was suggested that representatives from the Church, The Bell Inn, The Sun Inn and Village

Hall held a meeting to discuss the ideas further. It was proposed the Parish Council purchase and supply fabric bunting for the Villages which could be re-used as required. An approximate cost of £1000 was estimated which would be purchased from the Royal British Legion in order to support their funds. An initial budget of £2000 was agreed.

138/19-20 FINANCE

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

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for November. (Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe Seconded: Cllr Divers).

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

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	80.03
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	722.92
J. Read (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	33.99
Cleaners salary - Bell Meadow	116.56
Came & Co (Motor Insurance – Mower)	141.12
Information Commissioners Office (Renewal)	40.00
EDF Energy (Gas BMP)	356.80
Lloyds Bank Credit Card Charges	3.00
G. Bryant (Cllr Allowance 6mnths)	60.00
M. Feekings (Website Administrator salary)	76.06
Donation to Sun Inn for litter pick (Chq 300065)	120.00
Henwood Signs (Safety signs)	319.14
G. North (Repayment)	155.06
Bank Charges - Manual Handling fee	5.50
Bank Charges - Service Charge	24.15

Receipts:

Herne Bay Harriers	120.00
Van Orsouw	80.00
Donation for church Christmas tree	110.00
BMP income	280.00
Enve Canine	125.00

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

(c) The four quotes to supply and install fencing along the front of the allotments were considered. After discussion of each quote, a vote was taken and it was agreed to instruct Albion fencing to supply and install the fencing. Cllr Bryant advised he had approached Albion fencing to ensure the work would not be sub-contracted to a different company, which they confirmed would not be the case.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase and installation of fencing for the allotments from Albion Fencing as per quote of £2649.38. (Proposed: Cllr Bryant, Seconded: Cllr Fallon). A vote was taken, and the motion was carried (5 in favour, 1 against)

(d) A meeting of the finance committee was held and the budget set for approval. There will be no increase to householders in the precept for the forthcoming year. The income and expenditure for the Bell Meadow has been included based on the previous years figures, however, this money can not be guaranteed or confirmed until a decision is made regarding the future Committee.

RESOLVED: To approve the budget figures for 2020/21. (Proposed: Cllr Ageros, Seconded: Cllr Bryant)

(e) The precept figure had been calculated to ensure there was no increase passed on to householders. The figure to be requested from TDC was therefore agreed as £22599.

RESOLVED: To approve the precept request for 2020/21 of £22599 from TDC. (Proposed: Cllr Fallon, Seconded: Cllr Divers)

139/19-20 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Clerk advised two options for the progression of the Bell Meadow Committee had been circulated to Councillors for consideration. One option was to continue to progress with the Bell Meadow Community Partnership, a community led initiative overviewed by the Parish Council but registered as a Community Led Committee. The second, to progress as a sub-committee of the Parish Council, led by the Parish Council with full responsibility for events, finance and maintenance.

Thanks were extended to the current Committee for their hard work to date.

The options were discussed and it was felt that the preferred option would be for a Committee to be appointed as a sub-Committee of the Parish Council. It was suggested the new Committee were appointed initially for a year only. Support from the

public was encouraged to make the Pavilion more inclusive.

RESOLVED: To accept the Terms of Reference for the Bell Meadow Pavilion sub-Committee and appoint a new Committee to be reviewed after an initial one year term. The decision was unanimous. (Proposed: Cllr Bryant, Seconded: Cllr Divers)

140/19-20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- It was reported that the footpath along Court Road bridge was slippery and required attention. Cllr Bryant advised he would report the issue to highways and reminded resident's they were also able to report matters such as this online direct to KCC.

- Due to the inclement weather currently being experienced, a tree had been damaged and was blocking part of Potten Street. This would also be reported to the relevant persons accordingly.

- It was confirmed the representatives from the Church would welcome the use of the spare noticeboard. Cllr Bryant advised they would need to put their request in writing to the Parish Council for further consideration.

- The lights at Bell Meadow were currently inadequate and not functioning properly. The issue was noted and currently being investigated. It was understood they would be repaired within a couple of weeks, weather permitting.

The meeting was concluded by The Chairman at 8:58pm.

