



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas-at-Wade on Tuesday 9th July 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

Also Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr Trevor Roper, plus 10 members of public

34/19-20 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public will be excluded by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted during the period 7:15pm – 7:30pm.

35/19-20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from PCSO Forsyth, District Cllr David Hart, District Cllr Reece Pugh, Community Warden Tony Gander, Civic Spaces Chairman Rob Searle

36/19-20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

37/19-20 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th June 2019. These were proposed by Cllr Fallon, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all agreed and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

38/19-20 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Graham and I met with representatives from Kompan on Thursday, 20th June to finalise the play area and ensure that we have all the necessary safety certificates in place. We were advised that a Handover Pack had been sent to the Parish Council upon completion of the installation, however, to our knowledge this had not been received, therefore the representative sent a further electronic copy the next day. Graham spent some time checking through the documentation and we are now satisfied that the warranties and certificates of safety are in place. Once Graham, as our health and safety officer, was satisfied we paid the final payment of the original invoice to Kompan. However, we were surprised to learn that Kompan now expected a further £5,000 to be made for hardcore used in the groundwork. I have requested to see the invoice and I am awaiting this.

As I mentioned last month, we are still pressing for the s.106 money from the phase two development in Manor Road. This is way overdue and TDC has now sent a further letter and have stated that it will be put in the hands of debt collectors unless the funds are received soon. This has left us with a slight cashflow difficulty as much of The Parish Councils money is held on ninety-five days' notice deposit which does not allow access to the funds any sooner. This means that any further spending is on hold until we are in a stronger short-term financial position.

I have requested quotes for a digger and driver for removing the waste from the cemetery. This was after spending a considerable amount of time checking with The Environment Agency as to whether we required clearance for this. I am happy to advise that it is not considered to be contaminated waste and St Nicholas Court Farm have all the necessary waste transfer licences to deal with it. St Nicholas Court Farm have kindly agreed to help us with this by removing and disposing the waste. You can see that The Pavilion continues to show improvement. My thanks to Martin and James for all the work that they have done in the last month in boxing in the new boiler unit. I hope that you will agree that they are doing an excellent job. You will see that the new blinds are now in place and that a final sprucing up in the changing rooms and lobby area is imminent.

39/19-20 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the main activities carried out by the Handymen since the last meeting which included grounds maintenance at Bell Meadow, St Johns Green, Manor Road, the cemetery and allotments. The Clerk advised she had been in contact with a local community group who appeared to be set up in a similar way to how the new Bell Meadow Community Partnership would be run, however, a response was awaited. It was hoped that a meeting could be arranged with the group.

40/19-20 VILLAGE REPORTS.

Councillor Radclyffe reported that he had been litter picking within the village. He advised that the bin at Sarre had not been emptied by TDC and was over filled and smelling. A similar situation had been experienced in Bell Meadow and the assistant handyman had reported it to TDC. Cllr Bryant would also contact TDC and request the bins were given immediate attention.
(addendum: TDC contacted on Wednesday, 10th July and bin has been regularly inspected over the period 10th July to 16th July to confirm that daily emptying is taking place)

Councillor Ageros advised that Sarre had experienced severe flooding once again. KCC had been notified and work was due to be completed within 28 days to address the flooding problem, however, this deadline was soon to expire and therefore the matter would be chased.

It was confirmed that the KCC Highways Manager had attended and arranged for sandbags to be distributed, however, work to clear the drainage ditch was required.

It was noted that the farm vehicles are leaving dust and straw on the roads which also wash into the drains.

Cllr Bryant encouraged residents to join with the litter squad which was meeting at the Village Hall on Saturday.

41/19-20 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Reece Pugh and Cllr David Hart were not in attendance at the meeting; however, the following report had been submitted which was read by the Clerk as follows:

Footpath maintenance

After receiving complaints from residents regarding the overgrown footpath between St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre, I have contacted the landowner for the Sarre end, Baxter Farms as they are responsible for maintaining the verges either side of the footpath.

East Kent Housing - Gas Safety Checks

Some of East Kent Housing's tenants are waiting for a gas safety check. The increase in the number of properties that require new gas safety checks has risen as a result of a contractor for East Kent Housing that was responsible for renewing them failing to do so as their contract came to an end. East Kent Housing has now instructed a new company that is quickly completing the overdue safety checks.

If any tenants have any concerns, there is more information here: <https://www.eastkenthousing.org.uk/.../your-gas-safety-check.../>

I hope this is useful. If we can be of assistance with anything, please do let us know.

Cllr Trevor Roper confirmed he had spoken with the Head of Housing and Planning with regard to the outstanding Section 106 monies and would continue to monitor the situation on behalf of the Parish Council.

Helicopters

Cllr Roper had made enquiries regarding the number of helicopters that have been flown over the area recently. The company responsible were Arena Helicopters, based in Redhill and were specialists in land surveying.

Dreamland

The attraction was being sold along with the car park with a caveat that no houses could be built on the land.

Port

Ongoing issues, losing £2.5 million. A review would be taking place in the next few months.

Local Plan

Inspectors are meeting next week to review the Plan. The final draft would be concluded in February.

Manston Airport

The Development Consent Order was progressing however, it was unlikely that a decision would be made before February. Although Riveroak had purchased the Airport, unanswered questions remained.

42/19-20 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst was not present, and no report was available.

43/19-20 KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN & KENT POLICE PCSO's REPORT

PCSO Forsyth was not present at the meeting however a report was submitted and read by the Clerk as follows:

Good evening everybody, I hope you are well. I am very glad to say that I haven't got very much to report to you.

I have looked back over the last month for crimes of note and there aren't any!!

There is one item which is worth noting and this is that on 11TH June a blue Transit van was seen hanging around Down Barton Road, the occupants appeared to be interested in some containers. Nothing was stolen and they don't appear to have been seen again but this does leave me to say that please keep all belongings in your cars, houses, sheds, garages etc under lock and key.

If anybody wishes to look up sanitised crimes in your area, you can visit [Police.co.uk](https://www.police.co.uk) and enter your postcode. My email is 60457@kent.pnn.police.uk but please remember to report all crimes through the correct channels. Community Warden Tony Gander was not present and no report was available.

44/19-20 PAVILION SUB COMMITTEE

Cllr North expressed his thanks to Cllr Divers and the handyman for the work carried out at the Pavilion. The Clerk had arranged for the fire extinguishers to be serviced; Cllr North would meet with the company. In view of the recent work at the Pavilion, the risk assessment would be updated accordingly.

(Addendum; subsequent to this meeting the servicing took place on Wednesday, 10th July and certificate duly obtained)

Residents were encouraged to become involved in the formation of the new committee.

A meeting was to be arranged at the end of this month; members of the public were welcome to attend.

45/19-20 CIVIC SPACES COMMITTEE

Mr Rob Searle was not present and no report was available.

46/19-20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- A resident enquired why the meeting documents were not available to view on the website. The Clerk apologised as these had not been sent to the voluntary website administrator for publication. They would be forwarded as soon as possible.

- The pilot scheme for the new bins was discussed further. The scheme was not working in a satisfactory manner and the chairman would raise the issues with TDC.

- It was reported that the footpath between Summer Road and Bell Meadow was overgrown and the incidents of dog fouling had increased since the removal of the dog waste bin by TDC.

- An enquiry was made with Cllr Roper for an update on the position of TDC regarding plastic waste recycling. No response had been received from TDC to date.

- Discussion took place regarding the Public Question Time agenda item. Consideration would be given to moving the item to the end of the meeting in order to allow the public to respond to all content discussed on the Agenda. Councillors were asked to consider the suggestion and it was agreed to move the item to the end of the agenda for a trial at the next meeting.

- Concern was raised about the new footpath at Manor Road. It was explained that signage would be placed along Manor Road to make drivers aware of the new road layout. Cllr Bryant would approach the developers to enquire whether fluorescent paint could be used on the kerb to further highlight the hazard.

- It was suggested the handyman could cut down some of the overgrown pathways. Although the issue was noted, it was confirmed that Highways were mainly responsible for the maintenance of footpaths and they should be contacted in the first instance.

- Clarification was sought regarding the waste soil at the cemetery. The Environment Agency had been contacted and advised that the soil was not regarded as being contaminated and could be removed as necessary.

- An enquiry was made to Cllr Bryant why he had stated at the previous meeting that he would not spend money at Sarre. Cllr Bryant explained this was not a statement he could recall.

47/19-20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

OL/TH/19/0818 – 4 Down Barton Farm Cottages, Down Barton Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Outline application for the erection of 5no dwellings with all matters reserved

The Parish Council had stated they would object to further development in the village. This application, when considered with previous applications for the area as a whole, would contribute to overdevelopment and it was therefore recommended that the Parish Council would OBJECT to this application.

b) F/TH/19/0739 – Permission GRANTED

L/TH/19/0500 – Permission GRANTED

48/19-20 FINANCE

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

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

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

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	578.98
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	838.50
J.Read (Asst Handyman's salary & expenses)	212.97
TDC (Fireworks event)	75.00
St Johns College (Lease of SJG)	50.00
Grummants (Heating works/Boiler at BMP)	10,000.00

Business Stream (Water at Pavilion)	67.63
Business Stream (Water at Cemetery)	80.60
Buzz Electrical (Electrics at BMP)	74.00
Westgate Security (Alarm at BMP)	186.10
EDF (Electric at BMP)	221.12
EDF (Gas at BMP)	55.25
Bank Charges	18.00

Receipts:

Enve Canine	100.00
Cemetery fees	100.00
A. Van Orsouw	80.00
Cemetery fees	600.00
Cemetery fees	375.00
Cash from BMP	443.00

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

(c) The grant application made on behalf of the Friends of the Church had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. Amanda Lynch, Chair, was in attendance to answer any questions regarding the application. It was confirmed the quote had been received from the chartered architect, however, this was used for guidance purposes and further quotes would be obtained for consideration. Further fundraising had been explored and a grant would be applied for from Virador.

RESOLVED: To approve the grant application of £500 providing all necessary permissions are put in place. The grant would be awarded in September. (Proposed: Cllr Bryant, Seconded: Cllr Fallon)

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