



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade (Subject to approval at the next meeting in April)

Present: Councillors D. Divers (Chairman), L. Fallon, P. Radclyffe, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, Mark Lawrance, Lee Terry
Also, Present: KCC Cllrs Derek Crow-Brown & Linda Wright, District Cllr Abi Smith, Norman Sangster – Handyman,
Sara Archer – Clerk

137/21-22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

District Councillor Reece Pugh, Parish Councillors Geraldine Goy and David Tweedale offered their apologies.

138/21-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared. Cllr Radclyffe advised he was a neighbour of a planning application to be discussed under item 150 (a).

139/21-22 ST NICHOLAS COURT FARM

Iain Moss from St Nicholas Court Farms (SNCF) was introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

Iain advised that the new grain store currently under construction is to accommodate an increased grain harvest and to give the flexibility to hold and market crops throughout the year. Additional land has been acquired to be harvested, thus resulting in the need for further storage facilities. Research has been carried out to explore the most effective way to store and dry the grain. The technique decided upon, a drying and cooling floor, is the most efficient with less noise and renewable electricity and heat being generated on site.

Discussion took place regarding the site of the proposed new grain store, however, it was explained there are restrictions in place which govern how close to the marshes a building can be situated. It was therefore suggested planting was used to screen the building as much as possible.

The Parish Council were invited to take a tour of the farm and facilities which was welcomed. A date would be arranged in due course.

Iain was thanked for taking the time to attend the meeting and answer the queries that were raised with regard to the grain stores.

140/21-22 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th February 2022. These were proposed by Cllr Lawrance, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all present agreed and therefore the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

141/21-22 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers thanked Norman and James for their assistance with clearing debris from the recent storms. Reflectors had been fixed to the bollards along The Length. A meeting had been arranged with a representative from KCC to discuss issues regarding the traffic calming measures along Manor Road. The concerns were noted and were being looked into together with input from TDC. The problems would be followed up with Enforcement and relevant Officers at TDC. It was confirmed that the dropped kerb was a temporary measure which would be removed in due course.

142/21-22 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported that an application had been made to register the Pavilion as a food premises to ensure food and drink could be served at events. An inspection would be carried out by TDC in due course.

143/21-22 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Fallon advised the road gutters along Court Road had been cleared. The new bus shelter had been erected along the Canterbury Road and the potholes along Manor Road had been repaired.

Cllr Lawrance reported he had attended a meeting of the Fabric Committee of the Church which had discussed the stability of the church wall. Enquiries were undergoing with regard to the responsibility for repair to the wall. Cllr Lawrance would continue to liaise and update at the next meeting.

Cllr Smyth confirmed two trees had been blown down in the recent storms, obstructing the footpath, and thanked Cllr Ageros for removing the debris and making the area safe. The Clerk was requested to contact the Church Commission representatives to assess the trees along the footpath from the flagpole towards St Nicholas and address the overhanging branches accordingly. Discussion took place with regard to the replacement of the dog waste bins, however, it was felt this would not address the problem of some dog owners not taking responsibility of picking up after their dogs.

Quex Barn was accepting donations of clothing and medical supplies to send to the Ukraine.

Cllr Ageros had volunteered to take care of the saplings prior to being planted in the Parish.

Cllr Radclyffe reported he had litter picked in Sarre and cleared debris following the recent storms. The forecourt drains were still in need of attention.

144/21-22 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Abi Smith advised she would be following up the issues reported to the Enforcement Officer regarding the development at The Length and the removal of the hedge at Manor Road. She had requested the Local Plan was 'paused' at a recent meeting at TDC, however, this was refused.

Cllr Reece Pugh was not in attendance, however, he sent a report to the Clerk as follows:

It was noted there was a huge effort going on at Manston Airport to provide aid to refugees from Ukraine - there may be a possibility that the airport is used by the RAF for evacuation flights and delivering of aid.

There is some information on the updated Local Plan, the current call for sites is to plan for housing need between 2031-2040. If the Parish is concerned about any land that may be offered, let me know and I can check with the strategic housing team at TDC. Also, Cllr Pugh advised that he would get sign off from the Chief Executive at TDC for the planting of the trees in Bell Meadow when the exact locations were identified.

145/21-22 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Wright reminded residents to be vigilant following the recent storms, as many scammers were trying to benefit from the damage caused, offering building repairs and roofing, often that was unnecessary.

It was confirmed the Local Plan could not be amended as it was already being implemented.

Cllr Wright advised she had been actively involved with the aid effort at Manston for the Ukraine. Physical donations were no longer needed, but donations towards medical supplies were now being prioritised.

Cllr Crow-Brown reported the following:

I recently attended the Kent Fire and Rescue Authority meeting in Maidstone. The fire authority was praised for their response to numerous incidents following Storm Eunice, responding to hundreds of calls.

The subject of Electric Scooters and lithium batteries was mentioned, given there has been a spate of battery fires reported across the UK. Advice given is don't store your scooter fully charged or with the charger plugged in for prolonged periods.

Don't store the electric scooter fully discharged. Lithium Li-ion batteries degrade when they drop below 2.5 V. Most manufacturers recommend to store scooters with a 50% charge, and top them up to this level periodically for very long-term storage. Store e-bikes and e-scooters and their batteries in a cool place. Avoid storing them in excessively hot or cold areas. Follow manufacturer's instructions for the storage and maintenance of lithium-ion batteries if they are not going to be used for extended periods of time.

Plans for a £1.2billion budget for 2022/23 were agreed by Kent County Council (KCC) on 10th February.

Proposals to balance the books as the county emerges from COVID, and ensure the vital needs of Kent communities are prioritised, were accepted by the full Council by 47 votes to 16.

Reconciling an £84million rise in the cost of services with the need to make a £38million saving over the next financial year, the 2022/23 Kent County Council budget includes:

- £484million – for providing adult social care and health services
- £52million – for maintaining roads, improving communities and digital connectivity
- £270million – for helping young people, and
- £5million – for protecting and improving the environment and tackling climate change

Full Council voted through a 2.99% increase in Council Tax, equal to an additional 82pence for a typical band D household per week, to help cover costs that cannot be met by annual central government funding alone. 1% of the rise will be ring-fenced to meet an increase in spending on adult social care.

146/21-22 PCSO REPORT

No report submitted. It was agreed the Clerk would contact the PCSO to express concern that no representation or report has been made for any meetings.

147/21-22 BELL MEADOW PAVILION COMMITTEE

No meeting had been held, however, Matt Feekings had provided quotes for the wipeout inflatable course. These were considered to be too expensive and a budget of £500 was set. Matt would be asked to make enquiries of what could be hired instead of the inflatable wipeout activity.

Sonya Smyth advised she had three quotes for the MUGA, and understood the Chair had organised a further two quotes. These would be considered by the Committee and recommendations made to the Parish Council in due course.

148/21-22 HIGHWAYS

The meeting held to consider the issues raised at Manor Road had been discussed previously in the meeting.

149/21-22 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllrs Tweedale and Lawrance have been walking the local footpaths in the Parish and noting any issues and concerns. It was noted the footpath along The Length was overgrown and needed to be maintained.

The Clerk advised of the quote received to replace the PRoW map outside the Post Office. At a cost of £1000 this was considered to be too expensive at this time. An Ordnance Survey map could be customised for £16.99 which was agreed for the Clerk to purchase as an interim replacement.

150/21-22 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) FH/TH/22/0183 - The Old Post Office , Canterbury Road, Sarre

Alterations to fenestration and replacement front door together with erection of dwarf wall with picket fence to front yard
Application discussed, no objections raised.

FH/TH/22/0182 - 1 St Nicholas Park, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of 6ft boundary fencing adjacent to highway

No objections providing the highways observations regarding the sight lines are met.

F/TH/22/0235 - Land North East Of, The Length, St Nicholas At Wade,

Variation of condition of planning permission F/TH/19/1231 for the erection of 34No. dwellings, together with associated landscaping, parking and access to allow amendment of condition 26 removing the requirement for M4(3) units

Discussed at length regarding the impact on inclusivity and disability arrangements. Agreed to object to the application.

b) None recorded.

151/21-22 FINANCE

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

RESOLVED: To approve the monthly bank reconciliation for February. (Proposed: Cllr Terry, seconded Cllr Radclyffe).

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

Casement Signs - Sarre Village signs	£	1,588.20
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£	101.88
J. Read - Handyman salary & expenses	£	110.62
S. Archer - Clerk's salary & expenses	£	1,079.67
N. Sangster - Handyman salary & expenses	£	302.31
Zurich Insurance - Van Insurance	£	848.81
Lloyds Bank CC	£	150.10
CPRE - Membership renewal	£	36.00
TDC Events - Jubilee event fee	£	75.00

RESOLVED: To approve payment of invoices included in the monthly payment schedule for March.

(Proposed: Cllr Fallon, Seconded: Cllr Lawrance)

152/21-22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The clearance of the footpath from the St Nicholas roundabout towards the village was discussed. The cats eyes were also in need of being replaced and kerbs cleared. The issues were noted and would be reported to KCC via the Highways Improvement Plan.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:20pm.