



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom, on Tuesday 13th April 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors G. Bryant (Chairman) L. Ageros, L. Fallon, D. Divers, G. Goy, P. Radclyffe
Also, Present: Sara Archer – Clerk, District Cllr T. Roper, plus 3 members of the public.

A Two minute silence was held to reflect on the life of The Duke of Edinburgh who gave a lifetime of service and duty without malice and with great good-humour.

162/20-21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Geraldine Goy and District Cllr Reece Pugh.

163/20-21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

164/20-21 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via zoom on 9th March 2021.

These were proposed by Cllr Fallon, seconded by Cllr Radclyffe, all present agreed and therefore the minutes would be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

165/20-21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bryant read his report as follows:

I would like to start by thanking David Divers for taking the chair at such short notice for the March meeting. For the sake of clarity, I suspended myself from the last meeting whilst a police investigation was being made against a resident. This matter has resulted in a formal warning being given and I hope that the intimidation and harassment will now stop. I also stated that I would stand down for the March meeting for the sake of the mental health of my family and I. At no time did I state that I was suffering from mental health issues, it was merely a preventative measure.

Sara and I spent some time talking with Andrea Plant from TDC a few weeks ago about the transfer of Bell Meadow to The Parish Council. It was confirmed that Bell Meadow asset disposal was Passed by TDC in January 2015. Therefore we will discuss the process under Item 170.

I am pleased that the plans for the cricket square have now been passed following the extraordinary meeting on 31st March. The working agreement has now been passed to Reculver Cricket Club and I understand from Sara that it has been signed by them and hopefully work will start soon.

There have been complaints from residents in The Length and Bedford Way about the parking by the housing development contractors. I have spoken to the Groundwork foreman and the new site manager about the problems. I have asked that they either park on site or in the Manor Road phase 3 area. I was told that there would only be room for six vehicles on site and therefore they are considering the rental of part of the field behind Chalk Pit Cottage so that cars can come off the A28 Canterbury Road without touching The Length. Another resident has complained about the junction of The Length with the A28 and I have asked KCC Highways to consider putting double yellow lines on both corners to the ten metre legal zone on junctions. This will now form part of the village highways improvement plan that continues to be working document.

166/20-21 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised she had been sent a copy of an email from a resident regarding the conduct at a Bell Meadow Pavilion Committee meeting which had originally been sent to the Parish Councillors on 11th March.

Complaints had been received regarding the parking at The Length, and the discourteous parking of footballers in Bridges Close. The teams would be contacted to raise the issue and encourage them to park more considerately in future. Two enquiries had been received with regard to co-option onto the Parish Council and the Clerk advised she had attended a conference call with TDC regarding a potential grant from the Government Welcome Back Fund.

The Clerk then handed over to Cllr Fallon to provide an update on the safety fencing for the ariel runway.

Cllr Fallon confirmed she had been in contact with the suppliers to express the displeasure of the Parish Council in the delay in supply and installing the fencing. The company have advised they would be shipping the fencing next week and installing on Saturday 24th April. The situation would be monitored to ensure the time scale is met. It was confirmed a deposit of 25% was paid.

167/20-21 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Ageros offered his apologies for not attending the Bell Meadow Committee meeting on the previous evening which had been re-scheduled for Tuesday 20th April. Members of the Committee had requested the Parish Council approved the training for Food Hygiene certificates. Further discussion would take place under item 172.

Cllr Radclyffe advised he had raised the flag at Sarre at half mast in respect of the passing of the Duke of Edinburgh. He confirmed he had been litter picking, and reported that he had mown the grass along footpath 10.

Cllr Radclyffe enquired on the progress of the Village Sign, and requested that the 'Slow' sign was repainted on the roads.

Cllr Bryant advised he would explore the possibility of installing Solar powered speed signs with KCC.

168/20-21 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Cllr Roper reported that 11 new refuse trucks were now in operation. Over £2million had been spent on the new vehicles which now have tracker systems in place. Two trucks would operate on each round, one to collect paper/card and a second to collect the other recycling. The Public Space Protection Order signs had been erected on the beaches.

TDC are implementing a scheme to reduce the grass cutting, to help the environment and also reduce costs.

169/20-21 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Liz Hurst was not in attendance.

170/20-21 TRANSFER OF BELL MEADOW

Cllr Bryant and the Clerk had attended a meeting with the asset transfer manager for TDC who confirmed the transfer of Bell Meadow had been approved by cabinet in 2015. The initial step was to have the grounds valued. TDC would organize for three independent valuations to be obtained, at the expense of the Parish Council, which could cost between £600 - £3000.

If the Parish Council were to gain control of Bell Meadow, costs would be saved on event application fees, however the annual grant from TDC to maintain the Meadow, would be forfeited, which is currently £7500.

The Clerk advised the Parish Council would also be liable for the Solicitors, Estates and Legal Costs for the transfer to take place. There is also a possibility that charges may be applied to remove waste.

It was agreed the Parish Council approached TDC to initiate the first step and request for the valuations to be sought.

171/20-21 BOLLARDS AT BELL MEADOW

The damaged bollards along the footpath at Bell Meadow were discussed. Cllr Divers confirmed he had liaised with the electricians who installed the bollards. They would be contacting the manufacturers to enquire whether it was a fault in the product. The outcome was awaited from these enquiries. If repairs were required to be carried out by the Parish Council, strengthening and stabilising the posts with concrete would be considered.

172/20-21 BELL MEADOW PAVILION COMMITTEE

Cllr Ageros was unable to attend the meeting however, he had been approached to enquire with the Parish Council to authorise training to be completed online by two Committee members for a Food Hygiene Certificate. Councillors confirmed they would approve the training for one Committee member to complete this training on the understanding that it is not necessary for the certificate holder to be present at events but rather the certificate to be obtained for the premises.

Compliance with regard to covid regulations was queried in order to re-opening the Pavilion. Preparations for 17th May should be undergone with planned events being given consideration.

Clarification regarding the bar license was sought. It was confirmed that a private licensee was required to give permission for use of the bar for events. They should also be named on the Premises license.

Quotes for the installation of a hand basin were in hand.

173/20-21 HIGHWAYS

The request for 10m double yellow lining at the junction of The Length and Canterbury Road was considered as parking at this junction was a danger. The planning application for the new development may have included parking restrictions, this would be investigated by Cllr Fallon.

174/20-21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Council considered the following applications:

F/TH/21/0336 - The Haven, Manor Road, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of two storey side and rear extension, together with alterations to materials

No objections

FH/TH/21/0393 - 1 Sandalwood Drive, St Nicholas At Wade

Replacement of existing 1.65 metre boundary fence and gates with a 2 metre high close boarded fence and gates extending to enclose part of front garden

No objections

FH/TH/21/0527 – 15 Bedford Way, St Nicholas At Wade

Erection of conservatory to side elevation

No objections

b) None received.

175/20-21 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 March. (Proposed: Cllr Divers, seconded Cllr Fallon).

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

M. Savage (Handyman's salary & expenses)	28.31
S. Archer (Clerk's salary & expenses)	887.66
J. Read (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	144.80
George Bryant (Cleaner's salary)	107.59
N. Sangster (Asst. Handyman's salary & expenses)	51.09
Lloyds Bank (Credit Card)	28.71
M. Feekings (Website Admin)	13.42
SNS (Domain Hosting)	28.52
Ladywell Accountancy (PAYE Administration)	292.00
Gordon Bryant (Cllr Allowance)	89.90
HMRC (Employee PAYE)	226.00
Manor Hall (Grant)	500.00
EDF Gas at BMP)	258.39
EDF (Electric at BMP)	155.60
Clerks & Councils (Subscription)	12.00
ACRK(Subscription)	55.00
Bank Charges	25.95

Receipts:

Bank Interest	227.51
cemetery fees	588.00
cemetery fees	118.75

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

(c) The Clerk advised that a new printer was required due to the existing one not functioning properly. It was proposed a more robust laser printer was purchased to cope with the amount of printing carried out, with copying and scanning facilities included. It was suggested that an A3 printer would be more suitable, the Clerk made further enquiries however the expense could not be justified for a larger machine.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of a laser printer with an extended warranty if appropriate, for the Clerk. (Proposed: Cllr Radclyffe, Seconded: Cllr Divers)

176/20-21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- A resident requested the attendance of a handyman at Sarre. No visible presence has been seen in the village for some time. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted the team and would follow up the request further.

Residents were advised to contact the Sarre Councillors to request works via the Clerk.

- Disappointment was expressed that it was felt the Chairman had raised private issues within the public forum of a Parish Council meeting. Intimidation and harassment issues had been reported to the Police concerning a resident. Councillors considered it inappropriate for the matter to be discussed further.

The meeting was concluded by The Chairman at 8:55pm.