



St Nicholas-at-Wade with Sarre Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th July 2022 at 7.30pm in The Bell Meadow Pavilion, St Nicholas at Wade

Present: Councillors D. Divers (Chairman), L. Fallon, L. Terry, P. Radclyffe, L. Ageros, S. Smyth, D. Tweedale, M. Lawrance
Also, Present: KCC Cllrs Derek Crow-Brown & Linda Wright plus 2 members of public,
Sara Archer – Parish Clerk

29/22-23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were noted from District Cllrs Abi Smith & Reece Pugh, and PCSO Eileen Shrubsole.

30/22-23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Smyth declared an interest in item 40 (b).

31/22-23 PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 14th June 2022. These were proposed by Cllr Tweedale, seconded by Cllr Fallon, all were in agreement and therefore signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

32/22-23 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Divers advised a meeting was being arranged with representatives of various agencies involved with the road scheme at Manor Road to discuss the issues and Manor Road in its entirety. Cllr Derek Crow-Brown would also be invited to attend. Cllr Crow-Brown confirmed he had also been making enquiries with regard to the drainage issues in Sarre. Ian Day, KCC, would be visiting the site tomorrow to inspect the drains in question.

Cllr Divers reported that following the concerns raised by residents, enquiries had been made with the planning department and KCC regarding the retaining wall being built adjacent to the Canterbury Rd in Sarre. Thanks were extended to Cllr Abi Smith who had been following up the concerns and Enforcement Officers were investigating the issue.

General advice from Southern Water had been received to remind residents to be mindful of their water usage, and from KCC regarding the Bird Flu epidemic. If residents observe a bird acting unusually, they should not attempt to go near it but to call KCC or TDC and report it accordingly.

Following the last meeting, residents had passed on reference numbers regarding the missed green bin collections. These were forwarded to Cllr Wright who would contact the necessary department at TDC and ensure action is taken. A resident from Parish Close was in attendance and advised he had been informed that the vehicle could not access the road. This issue would also be raised by Cllr Wright.

33/22-23 CLERK'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk advised that the kitchen had now been tiled by the handymen.

The allotment plot holders had been contacted with reference to the unkempt state of some of the plots. Discussion took place regarding the action to be taken going forward. Cllr Ageros offered assistance to trim the weeds for the plot holders who were unable to get to their allotment. It was suggested a further letter was written to the plot holders requesting works to be undertaken within one month and if no action was taken it would be understood that it is their intention to relinquish responsibility for their plot.

34/22-23 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Tweedale expressed concern regarding the advertising signs erected by Cave Fencing along the A28. The signs were placed on the fields and therefore permission may have been granted by the landowner. Fly tipping and a damaged sign had been reported accordingly. Footpath TE4 had been cleared of the overgrowth.

Cllr Tweedale suggested the PCSO was contacted regarding the inconsiderate parking of vehicles on the footpaths. He had emailed the PCSO direct but had not yet received a response. It was suggested that photographs of the offending vehicles were sent to the Enforcement Team at TDC.

Cllr Lawrance advised the weeds and dirt on the footpaths and roads along the A28 from the roundabout towards the junction with Manor Road required attention.

The parking at the school remained an issue, the PCSO would be contacted and asked to be a visible presence following the summer holidays.

The road sign and kerbing at Sandlewood Drive required repair. This would be raised at the meeting with KCC/TDC.

Cllr Smyth noted works were scheduled for The Length resulting in another road closure.

The drainage issues at Sarre were last reviewed by Ian Day, KCC in 2019. The foundations of the drain needed to be repaired. This would be discussed at his site visit.

The hazard signs at the bend beside the retaining wall at Sarre needed to be reinstalled as a matter of urgency, Paul Valek had been contacted.

Cllr Ageros offered his assistance with the allotment plots. He had been maintaining the village planters and litter picking.

Cllr Radclyffe reported he had litter picked in Sarre and enquired when the handymen would be attending. The footpath TE10 required the overgrowth to be cleared. Cllr Crow-Brown would report this to the relevant department.

It was with sadness that Cllr Radclyffe reported the passing of Dr Hugh Bird. The funeral would be held on 19th July, 1:30pm in St Nicholas Church. Traffic diversions and adequate parking provision would be put in place to keep disruption to the Village at a minimum.

35/22-23 THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL COUNCILLORS' REPORT

No Councillors in attendance, no reports submitted.

36/22-23 KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Linda Wright reiterated the advice to report unusually behaved birds to KCC/TDC and under no circumstances should they be touched. Dogs should also be kept on leads as the virus can be passed on to pets.

The monkeypox outbreak had been downgraded and cases were under control.

A peak with covid numbers was expected at the end of September, however, booster jabs were being offered along with flu vaccines. Those eligible would be notified direct.

A members briefing had advised that the disabled facilities on beaches were being monitored and opening times were being extended.

The increase in school children vaping was of concern. There seemed to be a misunderstanding amongst many that the vapes did not contain nicotine, however, the content of nicotine varied and was still addictive.

Cllr Derek Crow-Brown confirmed a Thanet Area Committee meeting would be hosting Iain Livingstone, Planning Manager, as a guest speaker on 18th July. In view of this, one additional member was invited from each Parish to attend the meeting. Cllr Smyth volunteered to attend along with Cllr Divers.

A brief from the Leader/Interim CEO and Director of Housing, TDC was attended. The empty homes Officer gave a presentation advising that Thanet was the most successful District with returning empty homes back into the rental market.

Cllr Crow-Brown advised members of the Local Lettings Plan, headed by Ashley Jackson, which would potentially prioritise residents for leasing properties in their respective local Parish.

A backlog of disabled Blue Badge applications had been fast tracked due to the intervention of Cllr Crow-Brown.

Landowners were being encouraged to set aside land to attract pollinators to the fields. Farmers were also advised to discontinue the use of pesticides.

37/22-23 PCSO REPORT

The PCSO Eileen Shrubsole was not in attendance, no report had been submitted.

38/22-23 BELL MEADOW

Cllr Fallon advised an advert would be publicised for volunteers to join a working party for the Bell Meadow and Pavilion. The working group would consider actions and make recommendation for the Parish Council to consider. All residents were welcome to get involved and were advised to contact Cllr Fallon to express their interest.

The football pitch would be reseeded and rested before the new season which was in hand. The goal mouth would be cordoned off to allow the grass to repair. An increase in pitch hire costs was considered and it was agreed a small increase to £50 per match should be charged.

Cllr Fallon had been approached to install dog poo bags at the Manor Road and Summer Road entrances to the Meadow, enquiries would be made.

A representative of the Lawn Tennis Association had approached Cllr Fallon with regard to the tennis courts. Further enquiries would be made into the potential options of improving the court and possibility of a MUGA.

39/22-23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) None received at time of publication.

b) F/TH/22/0423 – Permission refused.

40/22-23 FINANCE

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

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

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

Maytree Canterbury – Flowers for planters	£	365.70
N. Sangster - Handyman Salary & Expenses	£	383.17
J. Read - Handyman Salary & Expenses	£	51.04
T. Oliver – Handyman Salary & Expenses	£	219.80
HMRC - Employee PAYE	£	12.68
S. Archer - Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£	1003.77
SLCC – Clerk's Membership	£	134.00
Lloyds Bank CC	£	398.47
E. Harvey-Burgess	£	27.00
S. Smyth – Repayment for bar stock	£	101.36
Seaward Copyshop – Jubilee leaflets	£	46.45
Chubb – Fire equipment service BMP	£	107.06
EDF – BMP Gas	£	641.11
EDF – BMP Electricity	£	69.46
St John's College - Lease	£	60.00
Unity Bank – Service Charge	£	18.00

Receipts:

BMP Hire: Private Hire	£	22.75
VAT Reclaim	£	5650.84
KCC Grant – Bus Shelter	£	4000.00
BMP Hire – Football – Blean FC	£	440.00
BMP Hire: Private Hire	£	44.50
D. Kirby – BMP Hire: Coffee Morning	£	26.00
Allotment Plot 3a	£	26.00
Cemetery fees x 2	£	950.00
Allotment Plot 3b	£	26.00
BMP Hire – Football - Minster FC	£	396.00
Monkton PC – Half payment towards Clerks membership to SLCC	£	67.00
Cash deposit – Allotment Plot 1a, BMP Hire, BMP Bar takings, Jubilee events	£	641.11

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

(Proposed: Cllr Terry, Seconded: Cllr Lawrance)

41/22-23 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Clerk presented the following policies which had been previously circulated:

Code of Conduct/Complaints/Grant Scheme/Internal Controls System/Media & Communications/Risk Management/Standing Orders

No comments were made and the policies were duly approved.

RESOLVED: To approve the Policies listed above. Proposed: Cllr Fallon, Seconded: Cllr Lawrance.

42/22-23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- It was noted the footpath TE3 which runs alongside the A299 was overgrown and required clearance. This would be reported accordingly.

- The antisocial behaviour of quad and motorbikes in the fields at The Length was discussed and the possibility of CCTV would be explored. There was also evidence of drug use and other anti-social activities at the end of Stuart Lane which would be reported to the PCSO.

- A query with regard to the Speedwatch scheme was raised. The scheme was currently being overhauled to improve its efficiency and should be reintroduced in due course.

- The vehicle counters at Stuart Lane had been noted, however, the reason for them being installed was unknown.

The meeting was concluded by the Chairman at 9:00pm.