

**1407/June/2021**

**MINUTES OF ST. MARY IN THE MARSH PARISH COUNCIL  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
HELD ON 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE, 2021 AT VILLAGE HALL JEFFERSTONE LANE.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Graham Allison            **Chairman**  
              Cllr. T. Wilson                       **Vice-Chair**  
              Cllr. T. Cooper  
              Cllr. P. Millen  
              Cllr. R. Tillson  
              Cllr. M. Wilson  
              Clerk to the Parish Council  
              0 members of the public

**APOLOGIES: Cllr. G. Comber**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

**Approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 3rd April, 2019.**

Proposed by Cllr. T. Wilson, seconded by Cllr. Tillson, that the Minutes of the meeting be approved. Unanimous.

**Chairman's Report:**

The St. Mary in the Marsh Parish Meeting gives me the usual opportunity to look around the Parish which consists of the villages of St. Mary's Bay, St. Mary in the Marsh a small part of New Romney out to Hope All Saints.

It has been a very difficult time with Covid-19 restrictions, meetings not taking place, meetings taking place on Zoom and a lot of work curtailed.

At the recent May meeting we paid tribute to Raymond Moses, who was Clerk to the Council 1967 – 1976.

7-acre field at St. Mary in the Marsh was purchased for a Village Hall, the Council has decided to apply for residential use, with plans being submitted to the planning authority within the next few weeks together with the infiltration tests that have been carried out. With regard to Glebe land as soon as lock down measures are lifted and consent is given by the District Council the derelict building will be taken down and hopefully permission given for a new building.

## **1408/June/2021**

After a year without seawall trading in 2020 this has recommenced on A site (High Knocke Car Park) and an interest being shown on B site (Sands Motel).

The Sands Motel development site is far from straightforward, we lost our electric and water connection, the developer has agreed they will be re-instated during the completion of the works, and after being informed in no uncertain terms, by the district council, that the old toilet block erected by the old Romney Marsh Rural District Council was of no concern of the Folkestone and Hythe District Council it has transpired the district council has been paying connection charges since 1974.

It has been the vision of the Parish Council that the slipway area should be developed with a new toilet block, Bistro/Cafe area and some commercial trading units, combined with car parking area and making more use of our slipway, but it appears the suggestion has come from the District Council. We have also felt that the play equipment should be erected on the Oak Drive play area on the tree estate which District Council has ignored.

The Sands Motel footpath is in a poor condition and we are advised that the wall was only a temporary measure and that the path will be made good in due course.

The Jefferstone Lane playing field has been the centre of a few problems of recent time. The retractable posts have been replaced on several occasions due to damage and we decided to install a gate, in an attempt to prevent unauthorised vehicles driving onto the field. Motor cycles also have become a nuisance and we have had to involve the police regarding anti-social behaviour. The area has become well used as a recreation and relaxation area.

Two airfield plaques have been installed by the Commemorative Stone and will be shortly joined by a Royal British Legion Tommy Statue.

The precept has not been increased for 2021/2022 remaining at £43,000. We have received the first CIL revenue £2933.75 resulting from achieving the Neighbourhood Plan.

Remembrance Day on 11<sup>th</sup> November, together with VJ and VE Commemoration, a modified service took place due to Covid restrictions, with the Piper, Trumpeter and the Greatstone Singers all taking part.

EV Charging points have been discussed and whilst the Council has no area to install it was questioned if electric points were a long term solution or would other energy opportunities become more popular.

The Romney Marsh Tourist leaflet has been delayed for 12 months. £3388.00 was collected from Marsh Councils and interested bodies which will enable 30,000 leaflets to be distributed over a two year period.

**1409/June/2021**

I would like to thank Mark Colman for keeping the grounds at the Playing field and St. Mary in the Marsh well cut and tidy.

I also thank the Councillors for their work and our Clerk for keeping us legal.

Parishioners, you have listened to me and now it is your turn.

**Any Other Information Items:**

No other items raised.

Meeting closed at: 7.15pm

Signed.....

Date.....