

SEAL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Council
Mrs Clare Boland

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Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

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You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the SEAL PARISH COUNCIL which will be held on THURSDAY 14th April 2022 in Seal Pavilion on Seal Recreation Ground beginning at 7.30pm to transact the business shown on the agenda below.

There will follow 10 minutes parishioner's question time.

- 1 To receive and accept apologies:**
- 2 The minutes of the last meeting to be agreed and signed.**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Clerk's report**
- 5 KCC Matters – Councillor Gough's – See Note attached from last meeting**
 - KCC's survey of two bridges on Mill Lane by Tumbling Bay, requires replacement of small slab extension on both sides of Tumbling Bay West, and on north side of Tumbling Bay East.
 - A25: The SID column. – KCC update
 - Bank Lane is made narrower on the bend at Riverdale Farm by deep accumulated debris at the side the road and by potholes, creating a hazard.
 - Copse Bank footpath/Ashplatt Footpath is covered with leaf mulch and is treacherous could KCC consider general maintenance annually.
 - Zion Street – KCC to update
 - Church Road resurfacing
 - HGV's volume of traffic using A25, solutions to weight and width restrictions, dangerous to pedestrians, elderly and children in relation to air quality requires monitoring.

6 Other Matters Requiring Discussion and Action

6.1 Sevenoaks Scouts

A discussion on plans for the barn on Childsbridge Lane.

6.2 Highway Improvement Plan

At the last meeting it was discussed to prepare a draft letter regarding A25 for the support in reduction of speed to Councillor Gough and STC to be approved by the Council.

LEAD: CH

6.3 Seal Village Memorial Tree

The Parish Council requires to know the type of tree planned for the forecourt area and size to draft an agreement for maintenance.

LEAD: JS/CT

6.4 Seal Pavilion

The Parish Council to consider the drop outside the enclosed area of the Pavilion to decide whether the area requires to be surfaced or fenced.

6.5 Memorial Garden

The parish council proposed at the last meeting to order a memorial bench, unfortunately the price of the bench has increased to £1,843.75 and will require approval from the Council.

We may have to quote for the Lectern display as prices may have increased. The Parish Council to find out locations, how many requested and displays.

LEAD: CT/Clerk

6.6 Seal Recreation Ground

Kent Fire Brigade reported an incident in Seal Recreation Ground on 24th March, involving criminal damage to council's property and the incident is being investigated by the Police.

LEAD: Clerk

6.7 Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council is actively seeking new Councillors. An interest in the local community is the main qualification but we are particularly looking for legal skills due to our current councillor with these moving out of the Parish. If you would like to become a Parish Councillor or are interested in our work, please contact the Clerk on 01732 833360 or sealparishc@outlook.com.

6.8 Donations

a) KSS Air Ambulance Charity are seeking a grant of £300 towards their mission of saving lives and ensuring the best possible outcomes for patients.

b) Seal Know your Neighbours are seeking financial assistance for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

6.9 St Lawrence Recreation Ground

St Lawrence is looking to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee and Mr Bourne will provide further details of expenditure costs for this celebration.

LEAD: RB

6.10 Air Quality Action Plan Consultation

Mr Michaelides to discuss the zoom meeting attended with SDC on improving air quality in the Sevenoaks District between 2022 and 2027.

LEAD: AM

6.11 KCC Bus Funding Consultation

The Parish Council to consider responding to the public consultation on reducing the money spent on providing some bus services that private bus companies cannot afford to run, and which are no longer cost effective.

LEAD: All

6.12 Climate Change

The Parish Council to discuss and agree the draft response to KCC's consultation on a Tree Strategy for Kent, details circulated to Councillors.

LEAD: TM

7 Accounts and Cheques

8 Items for Information only

8.1 Annual Assembly

Our Annual Assembly will be held 18th May 2022, please come along and support the Council at this meeting. It is the parishioner's chance to put forward ideas and raise questions. If you would like to attend please contact the clerk.

8.2 Bus Shelter

SDC have acknowledged receipt for a new bus shelter suggested location 30 Childsbridge Lane and we await their response from Clear Channel.

9 Planning

The Council to agree the minutes of the planning committee meeting on 10th March and 28th March and to ratify the responses to planning application consultations submitted after these meetings.

A draft response for consideration for Sevenoaks Quarry planning application.

Matters for Information Only

Please see website for further information on health advice, financial advice for residents and waste and recycling services and residents who are vulnerable

<https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/info/20069142/>

KMCCG COVID-19 Vaccination

<https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/your-health/coronavirus/covid19vaccine>

KCC advice on Coronavirus updates <https://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/health/coronavirus>

Main source of advice for Coronavirus

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

A reminder to report all Highway issues direct to KCC 03000 41 81 81

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem> –

A reminder to report problems on PROW to 03000 41 7171 8am-8pm Mon-Friday.

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/waste-planning-and-land/public-rights-of-way/report-a-problem-on-a-right-of> Please report street light outages in Seal (other than on the A25) to the Parish Council.

Mrs Clare Boland 8th April 2022

Note Attached – Ongoing Matters with KCC and the Parish Council

Due to apologies by Councillor Gough's an update was received after the last meeting, and the Parish Council noted the developments below:

- **Cyclist are coming down Carters Hill at great speed. The Schemes Project Manager to investigate examples of signage produced by the parish council. The clerk to contact Weald PC.** I understand that Whitney Gwillim has responded to the PC already on this point as the signage requested is not of a type approved by the DfT.

- **Reduction in A25 speed limit.** We are moving to consultation. Whitney Gwillim will be sending this to our TRO co-ordinator this week

- **Update on resurfacing due to the bad condition of small roads in Seal, in particular Church Road, Pudding Lane and Zion Street.** Officers report – as stated at a previous meeting – that subject to Pothole Blitz funding this will be completed in the new financial year. As part of the budget making process (at KCC Cabinet level) we have secured funding for the pothole blitz, so hopefully we should be able to address this.

- **Childsbridge Lane Railway Bridge - white lines no room for pedestrians, particularly those with pushchairs and cyclists. Hatching by the bridge was removed some time ago Councillor Gough will update us on Traffic Orders.** – Officers have been unable to find any scheme drawings but will arrange for a safety audit based on a new design. I know that officers have concerns that an area of white hatching could give pedestrians a false sense of security, so Councillor Gough will continue to press the case.

With regard to the plan to bring down the speed limit from 60 to 40 (post Kemsing), this will as discussed be done under a TRO that would cover A25 works and the Childsbridge lane works This is also due to be handed over to the TRO co-ordinator this week (see above). Whitney is also 75% through an initial outline design for the works. No funding is required at this stage as Whitney Gwillim will cover the TRO costs in-house; however, I may well be able to contribute to some of the construction costs. That can be agreed once we know how well the proposals have been received at consultation.

- **Childsbridge Lane - speed signs, glason gates, KCC produced estimate for Parish Council to pursue.** Having reviewed this again Whitney Gwillim can bring the costs down somewhat and will provide an updated estimate as part of the design work.

- **Underriver House Road, work was completed by UK Power Network's last year, cabling underground,** - No update – may need to clarify with the clerk.

- **Fawke Wood Road, St Julians pot holes which have recently been filled – KCC to update.** The failing patches have been identified as defects by Kent Highways and will be renewed.

- **Reducing speed limits along country lanes.** I have followed this up and had a really valuable conversation with Rory McMullan, the officer leading on Vision Zero. Some of the evidence of the greater risk (per driver/ kilometre) on rural roads is in the Vision Zero report. We are taking a close look at an experiment in Surrey of reducing to 40mph on roads where the average speed data supports it, though there are a range of issues to be addressed related to this (effectiveness and enforcement being the main ones). We have working groups on this issue and I will follow up some of this with our senior team.

- **Bitchet Green Area, there is an area of hard standing off Rooks Hill at the Bitchet Green end which is currently barriered off, but could this be used for extra parking?** The funding is not available for the large scale works to make this useable highway. The site would need to be cleared and resurfaced and we have other higher priorities.