

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held remotely on Thursday 20th August at 18:00 hours by video conference

Present: Cllr Andrew Bowles (Chair), Cllr Kevin Hobson, Cllr Sue Henderson, Cllr Andrew Day, Cllr Amanda Saunders, Cllr David Woollett and Wendy Gregory (Clerk)
plus 4 members of the public.

08.20.01 Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Swale Borough Cllrs Gould and Valentine

08.20.02 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllrs had no interests to declare.

08.20.03 Items to be taken in private session

No items were required to be taken in private session

08.20.04 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary and Extraordinary Meetings

Resolved: The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 16th July 2020 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Hobson and seconded by Cllr Saunders and approved by all. The minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 23rd July 20 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Saunders and seconded by Cllr Day and approved by all.

08.20.05 Clerk's Report

A discount was received for the noughts and crossed game of just over 5% in recognition of the problems and delays in installing the equipment. The website accessibility course was excellent. Very informative and useful. Inspector Mitchell has advised that Microsoft Teams is currently being rolled out to Police Forces throughout the country. The cost of a rubbish bin is £307.20 with an annual cost of £142.86 for emptying. Notices to advise the public that the bins in Perry Wood are suitable for dog waste are with the warden. The quotes received from playground equipment providers have been forwarded to Cllr Henderson to share with the Village Hall Committee.

Resolved: The Clerk's report was received.

Action: The Clerk was asked to check, through SB Cllr Valentine, that a charge for emptying bins is a new policy.

Action: The Clerk to request from Graeme Tuff the final version of the signs for Perry Wood carpark

Matters of interest arising (for information only)

None

08.20.06 Open Forum

The report from SB Cllrs Gould and Valentine was read out by the Clerk. The climate and ecological emergency declaration has helped reinforce the ability of the planning committee to ask for better carbon reduction standards (50% over the current building regulation standards) Future sites will only be included where new residents are potentially able to meet their daily needs without using a car, and all sites will be assessed against this. Landscape value will also be taken in to account, so prominent sites remote from facilities are less likely to be included in the Local Plan. In September SBC will be making a presentation to Town and Parish Councils on the Borough's climate and ecological emergency action plan. Cllr Bowles gave a brief overview of County matters The County Council has approved the Kent & Medway Low Emissions Strategy. It commits KCC on their own properties and work to achieve carbon zero by 2030 rather than 2050. The Kent Environment Strategy cross-party working group has been working hard on low carbon opportunities, post Covid-19 with particular interest in how to sustain the current interest in cycling and walking. The Council meeting 10th September will be an emergency budget meeting. There will be a special member briefing in September on the implications and the detail of the Government's new proposals in terms of Local Plans.

08.20.07 Matters resolved under the scheme of temporary delegation under LGA72s101

None

08.20.08 Financial matters included under the scheme of temporary delegation

None

08.20.09 Financial matters

a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation

Current Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£17,234.62
Plus Receipts	0
Less Payments	£2,220.21
Closing Balance	£15,014.41

Reserve Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£5,214.93
Plus interest 30 April	.86
Plus interest 29 May	.83
Closing Balance	£5,216.62

Less payments not yet cashed **£40.00**

Totals as of 27th July 2020 **£20,191.03**

Resolved: The bank account balances and reconciliation were approved

b) Accounts for Payment

- i) Clerks salary £569.83 paid by BACs and expenses for July 20 £107.88
- ii) Sovereign Play Systems £384
- iii) Renewal of ACRK £55
- iv) 50% contribution for SLCC membership for the Clerk £54.50
- v) 50% contribution for a subscription to LCR £8.50
- vi) 50% contribution for SLCC Portfolio CICA course £125

Resolved: The accounts were approved for payment

08.20.10 Planning Applications

A planning appeal has been made by 17 Neames Forstal against the decision made by SBC. The planning application that has been approved for building on land behind The Sondes, has some alterations to the original plan but no action is required from the Parish Council.

Cllr Woollett brought to the attention of the meeting, an article in a Faversham newspaper of 6th August; "New homes allocation disaster for Faversham". The proportion is changing between the three districts of Swale. A new proposal changes Sheppey from 17.5%, Sittingbourne 30.5% and Faversham 12.5% to Faversham 35%, Sheppey 14% and Sittingbourne 10.5%.

Action: Add Local Planning Policy as an item on the next Agenda

08.20.11 Selling Parish Council's response to Covid-19

Cllr Hobson gave an update. "Since the beginning of the pandemic we have maintained the key objectives of our response strategy to the COVID-19 emergency. We ensured our residents are able to access current and authoritative information: to provide updated advice, news and guidance from government and trusted sources (such as NHS and PHE) on our website to post selected key information and signposting on our Facebook Page. Cllr Bowles, thanked Cllr Hobson for keeping the website and Facebook pages up-to-date.

08.20.12 Law and Order

Cllr Day reported that the play area was vandalised and has received assurances from the PCSO that this incident is being fully investigated. There have been reports of vehicles staying overnight in Perry Wood, this matter is being dealt with by SBC. It has been noticed that there has been a greater police presence in the village which is welcome and reassuring for residents. Cllr Hobson reported that the Kent Police Crime mapping is incorrect and is reporting crime under the Ward of Boughton and Courtenay which doesn't match the reports given.

Cllr Saunders advised that she had reported drones to the police

Action: The Clerk will raise the matter of inaccuracies of the Crime Mapping with the PCSO.

08.20.13 Section 106 monies

Cllr Henderson advised the meeting that the cost of installing a low maintenance surface is looking too expensive and is unlikely to be feasible. There are a number of items that need repair or replacing before the Play Area can be re-opened. These items are relatively low cost and could be paid for from the Village Hall Committee funds.

Resolved: It was agreed that a sub-committee will be formed by Cllr Hobson, Cllr Saunders and Cllr Henderson to work with the Village Hall Committee to provide a proposal for improving the play facilities using the Section 106 monies and report back at the September meeting.

Action: The Clerk to resend the details of the Section 106 monies to all Councillors.

08.20.14 Highways

Cllr Hobson supplied a supporting paper to ask the Parish Council to adopt the Kent Wildlife Trust 'Action for Insects Plan' and explained how this could tie-in with the application for a 'Cultivation Licence' and make the small green spaces in the village more attractive and enhance the health and wellbeing of the residents.

Resolved: The Action for Insects Plan paper was adopted.

Action: Councillors to identify areas in the whole village of suitable sites

Action: The Clerk, to check with Zurich Insurers and advise them that we are considering taking out Cultivation Licences for roadside areas.

Action: Report the overloaded Highways drain at the junction of Shepherds Hill Lane and Hogben's Hill.

08.20.15 Hogben's Common

Cllr Saunders gave a brief overview of the history of this site.

Resolved: It was agreed by all, that the plantation should be clear felled.

Action: The Clerk to contact Bidwells and advise that the Parish Council is supportive of their plan to clear fell the area.

08.20.16 Closure of the Selling Post Office

Cllr Saunders and others expressed regret that the service had ended. At the present there was no further action to be taken.

08.20.17 Call for sites to be submitted as proposed Local Green Spaces Local Plan Review

Cllr Bowles pointed out that much of Selling is covered under greater protection of the AONB

Action: The Clerk to contact SBC to ask if it is possible to register SwireTrust Land, a time-limited green space for the Children's Play Area. The lease has been renewed for the next 7-years (2020 -2027)

Action: The Clerk to contact SBC to ask if the cricket pitch and the cricket field and the pond could count as Local Green Spaces in the Local Plan Review

08.20.18 Councillor Reports

Reports are to be emailed.

08.20.19 Correspondence

Cllr Saunders asked if the complaint made by the many of the Clerks in the Swale area, over the Chairman's comments from the KALC SAC meeting had received a response. The Clerk advised that a response had been received which advised that the comment wasn't considered a breach of the "Code of Conduct" but that it had been recognised that the comments could have a dispiriting effect and that the Chairman had been written to informally and offered advice on use of language by the Monitoring Officer.

08.20.20 Items to be placed on the next Agenda

- i) S106 monies
- ii) Local Planning Policy
- iii) Law and Order
- iv) Highways
- v) Action for Insects Plan
- vi) Selling School Report

Any further items to be considered should be emailed to:
clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk by Tuesday 8th
September, 2020

**08.20.21 The next meeting will be held by video conference on Thursday 17th
September at 19:00**

The meeting closed at 20:04 hours

Signed.....

Date