

## **SELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 19:00 hours at Selling Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr Andrew Bowles (Chair), Cllr Kevin Hobson, Cllr Sue Henderson, Cllr Anthony Kitchen, Cllr Amanda Saunders, Cllr David Woollett, Wendy Gregory (Clerk) Ward Cllr Valentine and County Councillor Rich Lehman **plus 4 members of the public.**

#### **05.21.01 Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Andrew Bowles was nominated by Cllr Hobson and seconded by Cllr Saunders and approved by all. Cllr Bowles accepted the nomination. The Chairman nominated Cllr Kevin Hobson as Vice-Chairman and was approved by all.

#### **05.21.02 Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed County Councillor Rich Lehmann and said that on behalf of the Parish Council that we look forward to working with him for the next 4 years. Apologies were received from Cllr Andy Day due to work commitments.

The meeting was suspended by the Chairman for the presentation of the KALC Community Award to Dave and Karen and Hannah and the whole team at the White Lion Public House for the highly appreciated work they have done to improve life for the residents of Selling during the last year. David Thompson accepted the award on behalf of the team with a gracious speech of thanks.

#### **05.21.03 Declarations of interests and dispensations**

Cllrs had no interests to declare.

#### **05.21.04 Items to be taken in a private session**

No items were required to be taken in private session

#### **05.21.05 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary and Extraordinary Parish Council Meetings**

**Resolved:** The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 were approved by all.

#### **05.21.06 Clerk's Report**

An email of support has been sent to Boughton and Dunkirk for their Neighbourhood Plan. Fox Lane and Selling Road outside The Sondes has been street cleaned. It was discovered that Highways cut the grass verge on Selling Road close to Monica Close despite having a Cultivation Licence which should have excluded it. Highways have updated their paperwork and do not anticipate any further problems.

**Resolved:** The Clerk's report was received.

05.21.07

**Open Forum**

Ward Cllr Valentine is hopeful that now the consultation of the Local Plan has finished that there will be amendments to the weaker parts, in his opinion that will include Neames Forstal. County Councillor Lehmann introduced himself and gave an overview of his first week. He spoke about a request for a 20mph speed limit at the station area of Selling. The Chairman advised that traffic speed through Selling Station/Neames Forstal is the number one priority in Parish Highways Improvement Plan and that the Parish Council will continue to work on that.

A member of the public commented that the name of Selling on the White Gate at Monica Close doesn't make sense. The Chairman advised that Highways have been advised that there shouldn't be a village name.

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee thanked the Parish Council for the funds provided for the children's play area.

05.21.08

**Matters resolved under the scheme of temporary delegation under LGA72s101**

None.

05.21.09

**Financial matters included under the scheme of temporary delegation**

None

05.21.10

**Financial matters**

**a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation**

**Current Account**

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£5,488.31
Plus Receipts	7,270.40
Less Payments	£2,958.55
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>£9,800.16</b>

**Reserve Account**

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£15,217.09
Plus interest payments	.12
Plus transfer from the Current account	£0
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>£15,217.21</b>

**Less payments not yet cashed** £1,055.56

**Total monies as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021** £23,961.81

**Resolved:** The bank account balances and reconciliation were approved.

**b) Accounts for Payment**

i) Clerks salary £585.43 by BACS and expenses for Apr 21 £71.78

- ii) Zurich Insurance £167.44
- iii) Streetlights 1 of 4 £51.00
- vi) Mr S Fewins £500

**Resolved:** The above accounts were approved for payment.

- c) Subscription to Zoom

**Resolved:** To cancel the subscription to Zoom

- d) **Annual Governance Statement AGAR 2020/21**

The Clerk read each of the statements

**Resolved:** Selling Parish Council has a sound system of internal control. Agreed by 5 councillors, Cllr Saunders disagreed.

- e) **Accounting Statement AGAR 2020/21**

**Resolved:** The accounting statement was approved.

- f) **External auditors**

**Resolved:** The approved accounts are sent to the external auditors

#### **05.21.11 Planning Applications**

**Application 21/501809/FULL change of use of existing stables and attached garage to granny annexe, including erection of a two storey side extension and garage, and septic tank (revised scheme to 19/501267/FULL) at Little Owens Court Farmhouse**

**Resolved:** There are no objections to this application

**Application 21/502152/FULL replacement of timber sliding sash and steel Crittal single glazed windows, with Heritage grade bespoke uPVCu sliding sash windows at Selling Primary School.**

**Resolved:** There are no objections to this application

**Application 21/501845/FULL Erection of a detached storage shed at Brookes Croft, Vicarage Lane.**

**Resolved:** There are no objections to this application

#### **05.21.12 Outreach Post Office**

The Chairman summarised what had been discussed previously and reminded councillors that a vote had taken place, at the Annual Parish Meeting, by residents who wished the Parish Council to support this service.

**Resolved:** The Parish Council will reimburse the Village Hall for the previous hires of the hall for the outreach post office and will pay ongoing hire fees at the end of each month.

#### **05.21.13 Community Partnership Broadband scheme**

The Clerk circulated the response received from Openreach. 395 premises have been selected by Openreach, this is a greater number than the 144 submitted but when other properties are linked, Openreach include them, even though the resident of the premises haven't actively participated. The initial estimate is £657,840 which is a cost of £1,665.41 for each property. It is thought that all premises will be entitled to £1,500 under the

Government scheme and there may be additional help for businesses and for residents with very low broadband speeds. To move this on, still with no obligation at all, the council need to ask for a formal offer letter. This will take 4 to 6 weeks by which time, the situation regarding the Kent County Council scheme should become clearer. Cllr Bowles proposed that the Parish Council take this to the next stage and request a formal offer letter. It was seconded by Cllr Hobson and agreed by two other councillors, 1 councillor abstained and 1 councillor disagreed.

**Resolved:** To request a formal offer letter.

#### **05.21.14 Defibrillators**

i) Adoption of the existing two defibrillators

**Resolved:** Councillors accepted the email received on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> May confirming the gift to the Parish Council from the resident as proof that both defibrillators belong to Selling Parish Council.

ii) The matter of the maintenance procedure for the defibrillators was deferred to the next meeting

iii) The siting of the third defibrillator

Cllr Hobson demonstrated how the defibrillator works and reported that the owner of The Sondes has kindly agreed that the defibrillator can be installed onto the wall at The Sondes. The exact location to be confirmed.

**Resolved:** It was agreed that the third defibrillator will be installed at The Sondes.

**Action:** The Clerk to write formally to the owner of The Sondes to thank her formally.

#### **05.21.15 Increase in HGV traffic through Selling**

A discussion took place with examples of sightings of large vehicles driving through the village and damaging verges. Cllr Kitchen that he had sent an email to Gaskins and received a response and they expected the problem to reduce within 2-weeks.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to write to Gaskins Farm and to Mr Berry to advise them of concerns regarding the increase in HGV traffic.

#### **05.21.16 Parish Council Member Responsibilities and Representation on outside bodies**

**Resolved:** Councillors agreed to continue their previous responsibilities and representation. The full list is: Highways – Cllr Bowles, Law & Order – Cllr Day, Perry Wood – Cllr Henderson, Public Rights of Way – Cllr Day, Mid-Kent Downs – Cllr Woollett, the Village Hall Committee – Cllr Henderson, Kent Association of Local Councils – Cllr Saunders and Cllr Woollett, Church Building Trust – Cllr Bowles, Selling School – Cllr Hobson, and a new position on the Eastern Area Committee – Cllr Hobson with Cllr Saunders as a first reserve if Cllr Hobson is not available.

**Action:** The Clerk to advise Swale Democratic Services of the representatives for Selling for the Eastern Area Committee.

#### **05.21.17 Dates and times of future meetings**

**Resolved:** The Parish Council will meet on the third Thursday of the month at Selling Village Hall at 19:00

#### **05.21.18 Matters raised for information purposes only from portfolio holders and adopted schemes**

i) **Highways** – no report

ii) **Law and Order** – The police report was emailed to councillors

iii) **Selling's response to Covid-19** Cllr Hobson advised that the relevant links are on the website.

- iv) **Perry Wood** – no report
- v) **Public Rights of Way** – no report
- vi) **Mid-Kent Downs** – no report
- vii) **Village Hall Committee** – no report
- viii) **KALC/SAC** – the next meeting is on the 8<sup>th</sup> June
- ix) **Church Building Trust** – Correspondence has been received from the Chairman of the Church Building Trust wishing to clearly delineate the difference between the Church Building Trust and the Parochial Church Council
- x) **Action for Insects**  
Cllr Hobson said he would report on the website and the council’s Facebook page that we know who was responsible for cutting the grass verge and to advertise the availability of community grants for improvements to the village.
- xi) **Selling School**  
Cllr Hobson attended the Board Governors meeting. The school would like to build a new hall. Cllr Hobson submitted the report that is sent to parents to councillors for their information.

**05.21.19 Correspondence**

The Clerk asked councillors whether they would like to hear more on the Faversham area Local and Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

**Action:** The Clerk to contact the Deputy Faversham Town Clerk to request further information.

A discussion took place about when correspondence is forwarded to councillors.

**Action:** The Clerk to draft a correspondence policy

**05.21.20 Items to be placed on the next agenda**

To resolve a maintenance procedure for the defibrillators

To resolve the removal of the notice board at Hogben’s Hill from the Parish Council assets

The removal of the delegated LGA72s101 powers

Any other items to be considered, should be emailed to: [clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk) no later than Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June.

**05.21.21 The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> June at 19:00 at Selling Village Hall.**

The meeting closed at 21:02 hours.

Signed.....

Date .....