

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held remotely on Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 19:00 hours by video conference

In attendance were Cllr Bowles, Chairman, the Clerk Wendy Gregory, 9 members of the public, 6 other Parish Councillors and Ward Cllr Valentine

- 041.21.01 Chairman's welcome**
The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees
- 041.21.02 Apologies for absence**
None
- 041.21.03 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 10th April 2019**
No Minutes have been found for this meeting and the 2020 meeting was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent social distancing restrictions.
- 041.21.04 To consider questions from Parish Electors**
There were no questions
- 041.21.05 Support for the outreach Post Office**
The Clerk gave a brief overview of the discussions that had taken place over two previous meetings on the subject of supporting the outreach Post Office as had been requested by the Village Hall Committee. The Village Hall Committee had asked for a contribution of £15 per week to pay for the cost of the hire of the hall as the outreach Post Office had refused to pay any hire fee. Two residents spoke in favour of the Parish Council supporting the outreach Post Office. A vote took place and 9 votes were counted in favour and 1 abstention, others remained without video or mic and responses were unable to be recorded. The vote resulted in a majority for the Parish Council to support the outreach Post Office by paying the hire of hall fee and the Chairman advised that the matter will be resolved at an Ordinary Parish Council meeting with a clear steer from residents.
- 041.21.06 Chairman's Report for the year 2020-2021**
Cllr Andrew Bowles, distributed his report to councillors prior to the meeting and it was read out by Cllr Bowles at the meeting. Cllr Bowles summarised the many highlights of the year and thanked councillors and the clerk. A tribute was made to the community spirit and the benefits of living in Selling during the year of Covid-19. A copy of the Chairman's Report is attached to this document.
- 041.21.07 County Councillor's Report**
Cllr Andrew Bowles advised that his latest County Councillor report has been distributed and copies are displayed on the website and the village notice boards. This is the last report as Cllr Bowles has decided not to stand for re-election. A member of the public, thanked Councillor Bowles for his service as a County Councillor.
- 041.21.08 Ward Councillor's Report**

Ward Cllr Valentine gave his report. In May 2019 a five-party coalition took control of Swale Borough Council and one of the first areas of focus was the re-development of Sittingbourne town centre. The opening of the Light cinema and the bowling alley are particular highlights. A climate emergency was declared and an action plan made to implement it. There is electric car charging in all town centres and the council's fleet are mostly electric, improving air quality. A housing company has been set up and is owned by the council for development for social renting. Previous car parks in Sittingbourne will be the sites for new developments of 139 flats. Cllr Valentine gave an overview of the new working practices and additional tasks that had arisen due to the Covid-19 pandemic and finally urged residents to comment on the Local Plan and have their say.

041.21.09

Other Reports

1st Selling Brownies

Sue Smart, Assistant Brownie Guider submitted a report which was read out by The Clerk. A copy of this report is attached.

The Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Selling

Reverend Peter Newell, Priest in Charge, provided a report for the meeting and this was read out by the Chairman, Andrew Bowles. The report included an invitation for all to join in the Morning Worship on Zoom which meets each Sunday at 9:15. Details of how to join are shown in the attached report.

Selling CEP School, Selling

Madeleine Gower, Interim Headteacher, emailed a report and this was read out by the Vice-Chairman, Kevin Hobson. The report is attached. There are still spaces available for children in all year groups and the school welcomes any help from the local community and the Parish Council to draw new families to the school.

Selling Village Hall

Sue Smart, Chairman posted a report for the village hall. The report was read out by The Clerk and a copy is attached.

041.21.10

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20:03

Signed

Date