

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 16th February, 2023 at 19:00 hours at Selling Village Hall

Present: Cllr Kevin Hobson (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Bowles, Cllr Andy Day, Cllr Amanda Saunders, Cllr Anthony Kitchen, Cllr David Woollett and Wendy Gregory (Clerk). Ward Councillor Tim Valentine. There was 1 member of the public.

02.23.01 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Ward Cllr Alastair Gould due to a holiday, Cllr Sue Henderson and County Cllr Rich Lehmann.

02.23.02 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllrs had no interests to declare.

02.23.03 Items to be taken in a private session

No items were taken in private session.

02.23.04 Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Bowles and seconded by Cllr Woollett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 19th January 2023 were a true record and agreed by all.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 19th January 2023 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

02.23.05 Clerk's Report

Details of the Parish Council's Foundation Award was published in full in the KALC newsletter; February edition and has also been published on the parish council website Facebook page. An email was sent to Helen Whately MP covering the items that councillors had planned to speak to her about. Faversham Town Council have been contacted in response to their initiative of a community bus and advised that councillors welcome a community bus service but not at the expense of the existing train and resolved that they will not actively support a community transport scheme but would like to be kept informed. The kerbs that were missed in the recent road sweeping have been reported. Strutt and Parker on the advice of the Village Hall Committee have been approached to ask permission for the possible siting of a village sign on Swire land. Strutt and Parker asked for and were provided with a map of the grass verge and a copy of the results from the survey. It is understood that the information will be forwarded to the family for instruction. Guidance has been requested from the Conservation and Design Manager at Swale as to what is required to review Selling's Conservation areas and a reminder sent.

Resolved: The Clerk's report was received.

02.23.06 Open Forum

Ward Cllr Valentine reported that he has received complaints about the large number of diversions in and around the area and a general discussion took place about recent and current road closures. Complaints have also been received about the removal of the poplar trees from agricultural land which isn't illegal.

02.23.07 Financial matters

a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation

January 2023

Current Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£5,838.01
Less Payments	£1,846.84
Closing Balance	£3,991.17

Reserve Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£15,251.32
Plus, interest payments	£10.70
Closing Balance	£15,262.02

Less cheques not yet cashed £ 72.60

Total monies as of 31 January 2023 £ 19,180.59

Councillors were asked if they followed the reconciliation, they agreed and Cllr Bowles, initialled the bank account reconciliation and the bank statements.

b) Accounts for Payment

- i) Clerk's part salary and expenses for January '23 £109.78
- ii) Streetlights 4 of 4 £51.00 incl. VAT
- iii) VisionICT £21.60 incl. VAT
- iv) Selling Village Hall, Oct 22 – Dec 22 PO hire £198.00
- v) Selling Parochial Church Parish Magazine £15.00
- vi) Cllr Saunders travel £35.20

Resolved: The above invoices were approved for payment and the cheques signed by Cllr Bowles and Cllr Day.

c) Replacement defibrillator pads

The defibrillator pads for Perry Wood and Selling School expire on the 28th April 2023 and the paediatric pads expire on the 28th March 2023. It was proposed by Cllr Bowles and seconded by Cllr Saunders that replacement pads were purchased and agreed by all.

Resolved: Replacement defibrillator pads will be purchased.

d) Attendance at the conference 'Standards Matter' for the Clerk and Cllr Saunders.

It was proposed by Cllr Bowles and seconded by Cllr Kitchen and agreed by all that a place is booked for both the Clerk and Cllr Saunders and the full cost of the course and the cost of travel will be paid for Cllr Saunders and a 50% contribution as requested by the Clerk.

Resolved: Places at the conference will be booked.

e) Accounts for Payment for information only

- i) Clerk's salary £635.70 by Standing Order 12-01-23
- ii) SSE Southern Electric £61.75 by Direct Debit 23-01-23

f) Compare the budget with actual spend

The report was received.

02.23.08 Planning Applications

To consider planning policies, applications and appeals received and resolve to submit comments where appropriate. *Please note that any applications received following the issue of this agenda will be considered.*

There were no new planning applications.

Cllr Saunders read out a message of thanks from a resident regarding the support they had received from members of Selling Parish Council on a planning matter.

Cllr Saunders reported that at the KALC/SAC meeting delegates were advised by the Enforcement Officer to question works taking place within Conservation areas. Cllr Saunders gave an example of noticeable works to a building within Selling and advised that when asked, the planning department declined to give any information. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should approach the Planning Team at Swale to clarify what information is allowed to be shared in matters of what is permissible and not permissible within the parish.

Planning Decisions. The Clerk advised that the application for 5 Peacocks Place was refused. The alterations requested by Moons of Selling have been approved.

02.23.09 The Village sign

Cllr Saunders has contacted a member of the group who organised the village sign at Badlesmere. The Clerk has sought permission from the landowner to site a village sign on the right-hand side of the village car park which is the larger grass verge leaving enough space for the area behind to be cut. The agent has requested information about the design of the sign at the earliest opportunity. Cllr Bowles agreed to speak to the artist already approached to work on this to find out what the costs will be for a design. **Action:** Cllr Saunders to circulate the words previously sent to the artist for the design. Councillors will make efforts to secure a draft of the design in time to show at the Annual Parish meeting.

02.23.10 The Annual Parish Meeting

A discussion took place about dates and possible speakers. Cllr Saunders requested that notices be put up to ask residents for suggestions for speakers or subjects that they would like.

Resolved: The date of the Annual Parish Meeting will be Thursday 27th April.

Notices will be posted asking residents for suggestions to be received by the date of the March meeting. Invitations will be sent out to local groups requesting updates.

02.23.11 The King's Coronation

It was acknowledged, from information known to councillors, that there was a Big Lunch village event being organised for the 'Coronation Big Lunch Sunday'. Councillors focused on the volunteering themed event on 'Coronation Big Help Out Monday' and an event to showcase the volunteer groups within the village was agreed.

Action: The Clerk to check the availability of the village hall for Monday, 8th May. The Clerk to draft an invitation to send to groups to be approved.

02.23.12 Conservation Area Review

This item is deferred until the information requested has been received.

02.23.13 Commemorative plaque for the clock in the village hall

Councillors were asked to give approval to suggested wording for the plaque.

Resolved: The wording should be: Donated by Selling Parish Council for the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, 2022

02.23.14 Matters concerning Highways

i) An update on flooded roads.

Cllr Day advised that work starts on building the soakaway to reduce flooding at the dip on Selling Road on the 27th February. This part of Selling Road will be closed except for access during this time. Cllr Kitchen reported the blocked drain at Hogben's Hill and the blocked gully at Fox Lane/Selling Road and both are currently under investigation.

ii) To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch Scheme

Cllr Kitchen advised that he has been given a date at short notice for training and will request an alternative date.

iii) To hear of any other matter concerning highways

The pothole reported at The Street, has works programmed. The potholes reported outside of Gaskains and at Fox Lane have been completed.

02.23.15 Matters raised for information purposes only from portfolio holders and adopted-schemes.

i) **Law and Order**

Cllr Day reported a trial bike being pursued by a police car and helicopter

ii) **Perry Wood**

No report.

iii) **Public Rights of Way**

No report

iv) **Mid-Kent Downs**

No report

v) **Village Hall Committee**

No report.

vi) **KALC-SAC**

No report.

vii) **Church Building Trust**

No report

viii) **Selling School**

No report

02.22.16 Correspondence

Details of the **KALC Annual Planning Conference** was circulated to councillors and those interested in attending should advise the Clerk. An invitation to the **Swale Corporate Peer Challenge Focus Group**. Cllr Saunders agreed to represent Selling Parish Council.

02.22.17 Items to be placed on the next Agenda

Cllr Saunders reported that she was requesting on behalf of a resident, that the parish council inspect the bench at the church because it needs rubbing down and

varnishing. Any other items to be emailed to: clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk no later than Tuesday, 7th March, 2023

02.22.18 The date of the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be Thursday, 16 March, 2023

The meeting closed at 21:02 hours

Signed.....

Date

Draft