

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllr Kevin Hobson (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Bowles, Cllr Andy Day, Cllr Amanda Saunders, Cllr Sue Henderson, Cllr David Woollett and Wendy Gregory (Clerk). County Councillor Rich Lehmann. There was 1 member of the public.

03.23.01 Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllr Tony Kitchen due to an injury.

03.23.02 Declarations of interests and dispensations

Cllrs had no interests to declare.

03.23.03 Items to be taken in a private session

The chairman asked if councillors wished to take any items in a private session. No items were requested to be taken in a private session.

03.23.04 Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Ordinary Parish Council Meetings

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders and seconded by Cllr Bowles that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 16th February 2023, with the additional wording under item 02.23.07 b of; 'A data breach by the parish council was reported by a councillor', were a true record and agreed by all. It was proposed by Cllr Day and seconded by Cllr Woollett, that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the 28th February, 2023 were a true record and agreed by all.

Resolved: The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 16th February 2023 with the additional wording of 'A data breach by the parish council was reported by a councillor', under item 02.23.07 b were signed by the Chairman as a true record. The Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of the Parish Council were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

03.23.05 Clerk's Report

A notice has been displayed on the website, Facebook and all notice boards asking for suggestions from residents for who they wish to hear from at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. One response has been received, which was not a suggestion. The rules of the Annual Parish Meeting were researched and guidance given to councillors. Highlights from the Standards Matter Conference were reported and will be circulated to councillors. The Kent Branch of the SLCC held a meeting providing information about the elections and the nomination process. Nomination packs have been emailed to all councillors. A recruitment notice has been put up on the website and the notice boards for Parish Councillors, and the Notice of Election has been displayed. The planning team were asked what the policy was in providing information about whether permissions had been sought for carrying out works within a conservation area, the response was circulated to councillors. Swale Borough Council have been in touch about the missed areas during road sweeping and the Contract Monitoring Officer for the area has been asked to visit and grade the roads that were mentioned and Biffa have been asked to attend to cleanse and

return to standard as necessary and as quickly as possible. The Clerk won a KALC award in celebration of International Woman’s Day for; “being a woman who has inspired others with work and engagement that has gone above and beyond.”

Resolved: The Clerk’s report was received.

03.23.06 Open Forum

County Cllr Lehmann reported that new openings had been made from the fields on to Newhouse Lane and it is expected that these will be repaired shortly. The Traffic Regulation Order for Selling Road should be going out for consultation soon.

Boughton Hill is expected to be open with traffic lights on the 2nd May. Details were given about the KCC scheme for tree planting.

03.23.07 Financial matters

a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation

February 2023

Current Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting £3,991.17

Less Payments £ 873.37

Closing Balance £3,117.80

Reserve Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting £15,262.02

Plus, interest payments £10.54

Closing Balance £15,272.56

Less cheques not yet cashed £ 380.80

Total monies as of 1 March 2023 **£ 18,009.56**

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 February ‘23 £79.33

ii) Selling Village Hall £296.00

iii) ICO – Data Protection - £40.00

iv) NALC Standards Matter - £90.55 incl. VAT

v) Imperative Training Ltd - £112.14

vi) Cllr Saunders’ travel expenses - £62.70

vii) LexisNexis - £131.99

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

c) Accounts for Payment for information only

i) Clerk’s salary £635.70 by Standing Order 12-02-23

ii) SSE Southern Electric £55.29 by Direct Debit 21-02-23

03.23.08 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.*

23/500666/FULL Ivy Cottage, Willow Tree Walk, Clockhouse Lane, ME13 9FR.

Erection of a two-storey front and side extension together with roof alterations including gable additions and the addition of a timber post porch. Erection of a detached 1.5 storey garage for two car spaces and store. **This application has been withdrawn.**

23/500667/FULL 5 Peacock Place, Hogben's Hill ME13 9RB Garage conversion into a habitable space (Resubmission of 22/504648/FULL) **Resolved:** Cllrs have no objections.

23/500867/FULL Land adjacent to Forge House, Crouch Lane Erection of new three bed dwelling with associated parking, gardens and landscaping. Councillors expressed concern about the small provision for parked vehicles for an additional three-bedroom property and it was noted that access in and out of the property is tight. **Resolved:** Cllrs have asked that as long as Planning Officers are satisfied with the provision of adequate parking space, they have no objections.

22/505535/FULL Owen's Court Cottage, Owens Court Road. Cllrs feel that the revised planning application is still visually intrusive to the adjacent listed building. **Resolved:** Cllrs object to this application. A copy of the objection will be forwarded to the Ward Councillors requesting that this matter be called in to be decided by the Planning Committee.

23/501259/TPOA. To reduce overhanging branches of Two Pine Trees (T1 and T2) at 11 Haze Wood Close. **Resolved:** Cllrs have no objections.

03.23.09

The Village sign

Cllr Saunders circulated a report. **Next steps.** To await the costing from an artist for the design.

03.23.10

The Annual Parish Meeting

There were two suggestions for speakers; A Swale First Responder to run a resuscitation demonstration and a talk from the Hilton Trust to hear about the Trafalgar Flags and their connection to Selling.

Resolved: The Clerk to invite both organisations to speak at the Annual Parish meeting.

03.23.11

The King's Coronation

Cllrs expressed a wish to be kept in the loop as to what arrangements were being made for the 'Big Lunch'. An advert has been published for 'The Big Help Out'; '12:00pm onwards a showcasing of local activity volunteer and community groups'.

Action: The Clerk to draft an invitation to send to groups who may wish to showcase their organisations, to be approved.

03.23.12

Conservation Area Review

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

Action. The Clerk to contact the Ward Councillors to ask for assistance to understand what is required.

03.23.13

Maintenance of the wooden benches

A quotation is being sought.

03.23.14

Matters concerning Highways

- i) An update on flooded roads.
The works for the soakaway to reduce flooding at the dip on Selling Road are extensive and look like they will make a significant improvement to the road when it rains. Flooding has been reported on Crouch Lane. Fox Lane is being resurfacing.
- ii) To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch Scheme
The Chairman advised that the speedwatch training has taken place with two volunteers who will be able to train the other registered volunteers and the loan of a speed gun has been secured from the police.
- iii) To resolve any action following the resident's complaint concerning cars parked outside of Selling School. **Cllr Hobson proposed that the parish council write to the school to advise of the complaint received and ask what advice parents are given for dropping off and picking up their children, seconded by Cllr Bowles and agreed by all.**
Resolved: To write to the school advising of the complaint of parked vehicles.
- iv) To hear of any other matter concerning highways
None

03.23.15

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

- i) **Law and Order**
No report.
- ii) **Perry Wood**
A reptile survey will be undertaken and metal refugia shelters are being installed and shouldn't be disturbed.
- iii) **Public Rights of Way**
A report was given about the removal of approximately 30 mature trees on farmland seen from the footpath from Neames Forstal to the Cadman's Meadow.
- iv) **Mid-Kent Downs**
A brief summary was given about the Winterbourne Fields proposal which is being aired.
- v) **Village Hall Committee**
Two new ceiling fans have been installed. The AGM is at 30th March at 5:00pm.

The Chairman asked permission to extend the meeting beyond 2 hours to finish the business of the agenda. Councillors agreed.

- vi) **KALC-SAC and other committees**
Two councillors who are representatives for the parish council attended the KALC-SAC meeting and gave an update. A councillor attended the Swale Corporate Peer Challenge Focus Group and spoke about problems with the Planning Department who weren't working from the office and could be difficult to reach and problems had been experienced in getting all of the information about some planning applications. Reports from the session are to be made to the appropriate departments.

vii) Church Building Trust

No report

viii) Selling School

The IT Suite has been replaced by a library which is proving to be a better use of space. The desk-top computers have been donated to a charity. Donations are coming in for books to stock the library.

03.23.16 Correspondence

All items have been circulated.

03.23.17 Data breach

The Clerk summarised the actions taken and advised that the matter was notified to the ICO. The ICO have advised no action would be taken and they consider the matter closed.

03.22.18 Items to be placed on the next Agenda

The damage caused by parked cars to grass verges on Church Lane. The Annual Parish Meeting and the Big Help Out day for the Coronation. Any other items to be emailed to: clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk no later than Tuesday, 11th April, 2023

03.22.19 The date of the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be Thursday, 20 April, 2023

The meeting closed at 21:34 hours

Signed.....

Date