

SALTWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING

Held via Zoom on

MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2020 at 1830

PRESENT:

Cllr. N. Matthews (Chairman), Cllr. L. Johnson, Cllr. N. Meurice, Cllr. F. Boland, Cllr. L. Sadler,
Cllr. M. Carter (part)

KCC Cllr. R. Love
FHDC Cllr. G Treloar

Locum Clerk: C. Skinner

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and accepted from: Cllr Whybrow, Cllr N Russill-Roy and Cllr Martin

WELCOME

Cllr Matthews declared the meeting open at 1835 and welcomed all to the meeting.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Matthews declared a voluntary personal interest under Highways in relation to matters connected to the village hall of which Cllr Matthews is a Trustee.

3.0 APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. Minutes of a remote meeting held on 7th September were **resolved** to be a true and accurate record. Proposed: Cllr. Boland, seconded: Cllr. Johnson.
- b. Minutes of a remote meeting held on 16th September were **resolved** to be a true and accurate record. Proposed: Cllr. Sadler, seconded: Cllr. Boland.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Cllr. Matthews thanked Cllr Boland for attending the recent Otterpool Park meeting.
- Cllr Matthews will discuss next steps regarding completion of the internal audit with the Clerk.

SIGNED:

5.0 REPORTS FROM KCC and FHDC COUNCILLORS

Cllr Love (KCC) – Following the interim budget there has been an increase of £36m which will be covered 2/3 from savings/underspends. As an example of this, the reduction in travel costs to and from County Hall. Back office cuts are preferred to frontline cuts where further savings are needed. County Hall remain mostly closed but libraries are starting to re-open and where possible, customer facing services are gradually being restored. Another casualty has been Members grants and allowances which have been cut by £1/2m. It is not anticipated that an increase in Council Tax will be made. On other projects KCC aim to be ‘net zero’ carbon by 2020, Kent are doing well towards this and KCC itself with reach this by 2030. Waste recycling payments are also being overhauled with payments to DDC and FHDC being determined by actual amounts of recycled waste rather than the current flat payments made. KCC’s Scrutiny Committee recently discussed tourism. Kent’s visitor economy is valued at £3.8bn and it employs 77K people. KCC will discuss this further and consider a report on 6th October 2020.

Cllr Treloar (FHDC) – The District Council has been holding most meetings online except a full council meeting. Adoption of the local plan has also been discussed online after a lot of work done by FHDC officers and now takes full weight in planning decisions. The recently published Government White Paper on Planning will not be considered by FHDC. East Kent Housing has ceased to operate, and its’ responsibilities have been taken inhouse by FHDC. The matter of refugees coning to Napier Barracks generated an online public meeting at which the situation was clarified – a recording is available online via the FHCD website.

Cllr Boland asked if parish councils will be consulted on the Government White Paper for Planning? Cllr Treloar is unsure of the date but believes it to be imminent.

Cllr Matthews thanked Cllr Love and Cllr Treloar for their informative reports.

6.0 FINANCE

6.1 Bank Balances on 29th September 2020

HSBC (1)	£ 9085.17
HSBC (2)	£12463.97
National Savings A/C	£ 1009.21

The balances were noted and accepted as a true record, proposed by Cllr Boland, seconded Cllr Meurice – All AGREED.

6.2 Payments since the last meeting – NONE

6.3 Payments to be authorised:

Cllr Neil Matthews	£ 41.50	Reimbursement of expenses
Gary Marsh	£ 70.00	For grass cutting
Sprinks	£ 60.00	For bench plaque
Cathy Skinner	£120.00	For locum clerk services

It was proposed to authorise the above payments by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Meurice – all AGREED.

SIGNED:

7.0 PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION TIME

Penny Marsh was present but had no comments to add.

8.0 PLANNING

- 8.1** 20/1280/FH - Heppinge, Rectory Lane, Saltwood. Works to trees situated within a Conservation Area comprising: felling of one Holm Oak; removal of encroaching limb of one Cherry and removal of two limbs of one Sweet Chestnut.

It was resolved to leave this decision to the FHDC Tree Officer.

- 8.2** 20/1224/FH - Minstead, Sandling Road, Saltwood. Erection of part single, part two storey side extension and new build 4 bay garages. The work also includes converting existing garage to home gym, the removal of existing access road to the rear and formation of new roadway.

To Note – this application should be number 1242.

Cllr Meurice has looked at the plans and does not believe that there will be an impact on other properties. Cllr Matthews has concerns about the size of the 4 bay garages and large storage area above them which may be suitable for other uses.

It was resolved that the Parish Council will ask FHDC to condition this application (if granted) to exclude change of use for any business use, to prevent removal of trees and to retain all within the curtilage of the existing dwelling.

- 8.3** 20/1290/FH Track from Sandy Lane to Hayne Barn House, Sandy Lane, Saltwood. Proposed installation of a ground source heat pump system serving the previously consented five hotel units (Class C) including associated plant room.

It was resolved to make no objection.

8.4 Other Planning Matters

Cllr Meurice asked if there was a local resident's association? Cllr Matthews confirmed that there is and that although not consultees, they do maintain a watching brief on applications in the parish.

9.0 TELEPHONE BOX/DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr Boland has made preliminary enquiries and will circulate his notes shortly.

SIGNED:

10.0 HIGHWAYS CONSULTATION

KCC have issued a consultation document (Appendix 1 to these minutes) which aims to address a previously agreed request for parking restrictions made by this council.

It was noted that waiting restrictions could have an impact on the village hall and restaurant users and with this in mind it was agreed that an amendment be requested to the effect that a 2 hour maximum time limit would alleviate such issues.

Cllr Meurice commented that the School Road issues have not be covered in this consultation and remain a problem due to the speed of traffic. Ideally a build out would work but cost is an issue. Cllr Love confirmed that he is still working on this aiming firstly for speed limits and then for rumble strips.

It was resolved to accept the proposals from KCC subject to the extension to 2hrs waiting time. The issue of School Road will also be commented on in the response. Proposed by Cllr Boland, seconded Cllr Matthews - all AGREED.

11.0 WEBSITE

Cllr Sadler confirmed that this should be finished by the end of the current week. A payment method needs to be agreed for the domain name account, to be discussed separately with Cllr Matthews.

Domain name will be saltwoodpc.org.uk

12.0 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

It was decided that we could not hold the Remembrance service/ceremony this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. The Parish Council would just lay a wreath at the War memorial. Mrs Marsh will inform the rector of the council's plans.

13.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Parish Council Logo – this is near completion and will be ready to use on the website.

Cllr Boland would like to discuss a finance working group at the next meeting.

Play park signage – Cllr Johnson has looked into this and will obtain costs for consideration; it may be necessary to consider alternative sites for the signage.

Replacement and refurbishment of litter bins is ongoing.

14.0 NEXT MEETING

Monday 2nd November 2020 at 1830, via Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2035.

SIGNED: