

# **SALTWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School**

**Present** : Cllrs Boland (in the Chair), Johnson, Matthews & Carter

**In attendance** : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, and KCC Cllr Love

Cllr Boland opened the Meeting by thanking everyone for attending

### **Action by:**

#### **1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Sadler and FHDC Cllrs Whybrow & Martin

#### **2 Registering declarations of interest in items on the Agenda**

There were no declarations of interests in items on the Agenda

#### **3 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were unanimously approved

#### **4 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising of note

#### **5 Reports**

KCC Cllr Love spoke about the 'Reconnect Programme' for young people impacted by COVID, and KCC's budget challenges for 2022/23

#### **6 Finance**

##### **a/ To receive bank balances**

The Clerk reported the bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 -

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Community (current) account        | £3246.87  |
| Business Manager (savings) account | £12465.54 |

The balances were unanimously approved

b/ To approve invoices presented for payment

The following invoices were approved for payment –

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| G Eaton, Clerk's salary/expenses           | £257.29  |
| Saltwood Primary School, hall hire         | £25.00   |
| Inland Revenue, Clerk's tax (Oct-Dec 2021) | £164.77* |

\* As the Clerk is an employee of the Parish Council his monthly salary has tax deducted. Every 3 months the tax deducted must be paid over to the Inland Revenue

C/ To approve the playpark inspection contract and the grounds maintenance contract

It was unanimously agreed to accept Landscape Services quote for grounds maintenance for 2022 for the sum of £1062.13 plus VAT

It was unanimously agreed to accept Safeplay's quote for three operational inspections of the playpark for the sum of £135.00 plus VAT

D/ To consider banking arrangements

There was a discussion regarding HSBC's decision to change the status of the current account from a Community Plus account to a Charitable account which incurs bank charges. The Clerk was asked to email HSBC and to express great displeasure in this unauthorised change. Cllr Boland reported that he was investigating alternative banks and accounts, including interest bearing accounts

**7 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Inclusion**

There were no members of the public present

**8 Planning & Enforcement**

New Planning applications

**21/2364** – Single storey extension to south west, two storey gable fronted extension to north west

**Foxhole, Sandling Road, CT21 4HG**

There were no objections to this application

**21/2416** – Rear extension and an enhanced porch with internal alterations and external first floor terrace. Extension to existing garage with new replacement roof structure, external spiral staircase and terrace

**The Coach House, Sandling Road, CT21 4HG**

There were no objections to this application

**21/2471** - Section 73 application for removal of condition 4 (garage/parking) of planning permission Y10/0254 – Erection of a double garage following demolition of existing outbuildings to allow for conversion of garage into living accommodation

**The Pleasance, Sandling Road, CT21 4QJ**

There were no objections to this application on the condition that it remains within the curtilage of the main dwelling and cannot be sold as a separate dwelling

**21/2488** – new outbuilding consisting of car port and workshop

**2 The Coppice, New Road, CT21 4QE**

There were no objections to this application

### **9 Environment Agency's proposed tree works at Mill Leese Wood**

There was a general discussion regarding the proposed tree works at Mill Leese Wood and it was noted that no works would take place until at least the spring . Following the Chairman's complaint about the extent of redactions of the Engineers' reports provided as a result of his Freedom of Information (Fol) request, the Environment Agency was now undertaking a further review of the way in which they have handled the Fol request. The Chairman said that, if he remained dissatisfied with the outcome of this further review, he intended to raise the issue with the Office of the Information Commissioner. It was also noted that Damian Collins MP had informed the Chairman that he was still engaged on the matter and wished to be kept Involved. Cllr Love also emphasized his desire to continue helping on this issue

### **10 Playpark**

There was nil of note to report

### **11 Inspection of Parish Council owned trees**

It was noted that quotes for the inspection were awaited

### **12 Telephone Box/Defibrillator**

Cllr Boland reported that the electrical supply to the defibrillator would be connected soon. He was in the process of advising local businesses, groups, and schools that the defibrillator was now in situ

### **13 Correspondence**

Email received from Kent PROW re further extension of the temporary closure of Byway HE345, Saltwood, until 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

#### **14 Any Other Business**

There was a general discussion regarding the wreaths at the War Memorial, and it was agreed that the wreaths should be removed at the end of January. Cllr Boland kindly offered to do this

#### **15 Date of next Meetings**

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meetings would be held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 7<sup>th</sup> March, and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022, at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 7.45 pm