

SALTWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6th February 2023 at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School

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

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

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Curran

2 Registering declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Matthews declared an interest in planning application 22/2084

There were no other declarations of interests in items on the Agenda

3 Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January 2023 were unanimously approved

4 Matters arising

Cllr Boland reported that he was continuing his search for outside Christmas light for the Green. Frank had also contacted local Schools about the forthcoming Parish Council elections

It was noted that Cllr Boland had discussed various issues associated with the burial ground with the Honorary Treasurer of Saltwood Church and the proposed donation of £250 towards maintenance costs was confirmed

5 Reports

KCC Cllr Love spoke about the 2023/2024 budget challenges and proposed 2.99% increase in Council Tax. Rory also set out the processes of planning School places across the County

FHDC Cllr Whybrow reported on FHDC 2023/2024 budget pressures and levelling-up funding secured from central Government

6 Finance

a/ To receive bank balances

The Clerk reported the bank balances as at 31st January 2023 -

Community (current) account	£41187*
Business Manager (savings) account	£12500

The balances were unanimously approved

*It was noted that £28945 would be returned to FHDC being CIL monies paid in error

b/ To approve invoices presented for payment

The following invoices were approved for payment –

G Eaton, Clerk's salary/expenses (Jan 2023)	£265.50
Harmers, ground works	£1020.00

7 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Inclusion

There were no members of the public present

8 School bus services

There was a general discussion about the 10A bus service and the adverse effects its withdrawal would have on residents and school children in particular. However, it was noted that the service would continue through Saltwood but would arrive 30 minutes later than previously. It was noted that this was a commercial decision made by the bus operator Stagecoach, and not a KCC decision

9 Planning & Enforcement

New Planning applications

22/2067 – erection of new unit on land to east of the existing dwelling for the sole purpose of holiday letting and erection of a double garage on northwest side of existing dwelling

Station House, Sandling Road, CT21 4HG

There were no objections to this application

22/2193 – erection of single storey pool house, pool and associated hard standing

Bennington, Rectory Lane, CT21 4QA

There were no objections to this application

22/2084 - works to trees in a Conservation area comprising of: T1 Holly crown reduction by 3 metres, T2 Cherry crown reduction by 3.5 metres and laterally by 1.5 metres, T3 Apple crown reduction by 1.5 metres and laterally by 1.5-2 metres, T4 Cherry crown reduction by 1.5 metres and laterally up to 1 metre, T5 Whitebeam crown reduction by 1.5 metres and laterally by 1 metre T6 Cherry crown reduction by 1.5 metres and laterally by 1 metre, T7 Whitebeam crown reduction by 1.5 metres and laterally by 1 metre, T9 Willow crown reduction by 5 metres and laterally by 3 metres, T10 Cherry crown reduction by 2.5 metres and laterally by 1.5 metres, T11 Sycamore tree - removal of fallen sycamore sapling

7 Grange Road, CT21 4QS

There were no objections to this application

10 Environment Agency's proposed tree works at Mill Leese Wood

Cllr Boland reported that currently no work is being undertaken at Mill Leese Wood because of the start of the bird nesting season

The ICO had recently issued a Decision Notice stating that the complaint against the Environment Agency had been dismissed. Cllr Boland was minded to challenge this decision arguing that the proper procedures had not been followed

11 Correspondence

Email and posters from KALC - becoming a Parish Cllr

Email from KCC - bus pass renewals

Email from FHDC confirming that work all the Districts charging points for electric vehicles had now been completed

12 Any Other Business

There was a discussion about 'fly tipping' by individuals using the Village Hall for events and dumping their rubbish next to the bins on the Green. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Robert Thompson Charity requesting they insert an appropriate clause in the hire agreement not to leave rubbish on the Green and dispose of it appropriately

Cllr Boland/Clerk

13 Date of next Meetings

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meetings would be held on 6th March and 3rd April 2023 at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.10 pm