

SALTWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 7th March 2022 at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School

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

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 FHDC Cllrs Whybrow, Treloar & Martin

2 Registering declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

Cllr Curran declared an interest in planning application 22/0146 (his neighbour)

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 7th February 2022 were unanimously approved

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising of note

5 Reports

KCC Cllr Love reported that he was now a member of the Growth and Economic Development Committee which will meet later in the month. Cllr Love also spoke about how the Ukrainian crisis was impacting FHDC and KCC, budget savings, and the Princes Parade development. Cllr Love confirmed that whilst KCC is cutting financial support to some bus services, to balance its budget, routes through Saltwood would not be impacted

FHDC Cllr Treloar's written report on the local Green Business Grant scheme and the Core Strategy Review was read and discussed

6 Finance

a/ To receive bank balances

The Clerk reported the bank balances as at 28th February 2022 -

Community (current) account	£2550.72
Business Manager (savings) account	£12465.75

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 (February 2022)	£257.29
Safeplay, playpark quarterly inspection	£54.00

c/ Annual review of the Clerk's salary

After a general discussion it was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary from point 16 to point 17, £12.95 per hour, effective from 1st April. The Clerk thanked the Cllrs for the increase

d/ Other Finance matters

After a discussion it was agreed to explore opening a community bank account with Metro Bank

7 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Inclusion

There were no members of the public present

8 Planning & Enforcement

New Planning applications

22/0300 – Fell T2 Monterey Cypress situated in a conservation area
Bennington, Rectory Lane, CT21 4QA

There were no objections to this application but request a replacement tree be planted

22/0146 – Replacement garage, construction of swimming pool and provision of fence and gate to front boundary
Slaybrook Hall, Sandling Road, CT21 4HG

There were no objections to this application

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

Cllr Boland reported that he was preparing a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office regarding the responses received from the Environment Agency to his FOI requests regarding the proposed tree works at Mill Leese Wood. Further FOI requests had also been submitted to the Environment Agency

10 Playpark

Cllr Johnson reported that the quarterly inspection had recently been carried out

11 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

It was agreed that the Parish Council would plant a tree instead of holding an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (the Village Society had also decided to plant a tree). It was agreed that a cherry tree would be fitting tribute

12 Inspection of Parish Council owned trees

Cllr Boland outlined the quote he had received for the tree works. After a discussion it was agreed to cut back the ivy now and to reduce the large Ash in the corner of the playpark by 40% during the winter period

13 Telephone Box/Defibrillator

Cllr Boland reported that the defibrillator and cabinet were both fully functional

14 Correspondence

Contact form via website – village car park in need of maintenance – agreed no action was required

Email re opportunity to end the use of green lanes by recreational motor vehicles in Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – consultation closes 9th April – agreed no action

Email from Sally Chesters re time of last collection from the Post Box on The Green – agreed Cllr Boland will discuss with Sally **Cllr Boland**

Letter received from HSBC enclosing new price list – agreed to raise a formal complaint as proper notice was not given regarding the change of account and new bank charges **Clerk**

15 Any Other Business

The Clerk was asked to put a notice on the website regarding the Cllr vacancy

Clerk

16 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Parish Council Meetings would be held on 4th April 2022, at 6.30 pm at Saltwood C/E School

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 8.20 pm