

The Salings Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Helen Waterfield
26 Bulford Close, Cressing, Braintree, CM77 8HH

T : 01376 550309

W : <https://salings-pc.gov.uk/> E: salings.pc@outlook.com

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday the 8th September 2021 at the Village Hall, Great Saling.

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr K. Jiggins.

PRESENT: Cllrs, C. Bennett, P. Martin, J. O'Connell.

Apologies for Absence received from Councillor R. Aggiss and District Councillor P Euesden. Cllr O'Connell arrived at 6.10pm giving her apologies for lateness.

21/151 Declarations of interest

To declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, other Pecuniary Interest or Non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members and having taken appropriate advice where necessary before the meeting.

Cllrs Bennett, Jiggins and Martin declared an interest in the Village hall agenda item.

21/152 **Consideration of the Minutes** of the meeting held on 11th August 2021. Agreed.

Proposed Cllr Jiggins Seconded Cllr Martin Vote Unanimous

21/153 **Public participation session and matters raised with Councillors from members of the public.** None present.

With respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Please note: When Council starts to discuss any item on the agenda, where a member has an interest, the member with that interest must have regard to the Code of Conduct and make the necessary disclosure and where appropriate leave the meeting.

21/154 **County Councillor and District Councillors Report.**

Report received and circulated from District Cllr Euesden.

21/155 **Public Rights of Way.**

The member of the public that asked this item to be on the agenda did not attend the meeting.

21/156 **Finance.**

D/D = Direct Debit. B/Trans = Bank Transfer. CQ = Cheque

B/Trans	Helen Waterfield Salary	£316.63
B/Trans	HMRC payment – (income tax)	-£4.20 CREDIT
B/Trans	Helen Waterfield (office costs, mileage)	£39.87
D/D	A & J Lighting – Maintenance	£27.36
D/D	Haven – Electricity	£48.78
B/Trans	M D Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd (Grass cutting)	£123.22
B/Trans	Grant to Church	£150.00
B/Trans	K Jiggins (hedgehog signs)	£11.98

	TOTAL	£717.84
--	--------------	----------------

Proposed Cllr Bennett Seconded Cllr Martin Vote Unanimous

The Barclays Bank mandate to be updated so that there are two Councillors authorising payments online.

21/157 Circulation of the actual to budget spending sheet.

Noted.

21/158 Playing Field and Village Hall update.

A quick grass cut had been done around the playing field by the Contractor, coming back to do it again when he returns from holiday. The grass cutting schedule circulated to all Councillors to be discussed in detail and review at a future meeting as possible increase in costs due to the change of schedule and contractor.

Inspection of play equipment person no one has applied for this vacancy yet. The Village hall are obtaining quotes for reinforcing the entrance to the car park due to lorry movements.

21/159 Discussion on employing a Village Handyman.

It was decided to call it a maintenance person the Council have two residents in mind who might be interested in this vacancy Cllr's Bennett and Jiggins to speak to them.

The Council have a village handyman they can call upon, now decided that they need to appoint a weekly maintenance person. Rate of pay and duties to be finalised.

21/160 Village Enhancement War Memorial – Quotations for Repair Cllr Martin.

Currently not found a Contractor interested in doing this repair. Quotes still to be obtained. £300 grant to be spent that we have received from District Councillor Euesden. It was agreed to spend at Lanthorns Nursery to get the plants from in a form of a voucher to spend next spring.

Proposed Cllr O'Connell Seconded Cllr Jiggins. Vote Unanimous

21/161 Policies. a) Data Protection.

b) Disciplinary Procedure.

c) Grant application.

d) Media Policy.

To review all polices and procedures [Policies and Procedures – Salings Parish Council \(salings-pc.gov.uk\)](http://salings-pc.gov.uk)

Approved at this time. Are they compliant are they needed. A health check to be done on all policies and decide which ones to keep.

21/162 Highways/Footpaths and Byways issues or concerns. Cllrs O'Connell and Aggiss

- Traffic Calming Great Saling

- Footpaths and Byways

Brief update from Cllr O'Connell on the gate installation. No reply from Rissi at Essex County

Council she has just returned from holiday. Cllr O'Connell will chase her next week on the arrangements of the fitting of the gates.

No reply from our official complaint on the Essex County Council applications process the application has not been heard at any Official meetings. These issues are outstanding and will be chased for a reply. To be a rolling agenda item monthly.

The Village hall hedge to be cut back, then write to the houses that hedgerows are overhanging the pavements near the village hall entrance if they haven't been done by the next meeting.

21/163 Current Planning Applications.

21/02412/HH Retention of driveway and boundary gates/fence. Elms Farm, Bardfield Road, Bardfield Saling. No objection.

21/164 Discussion on plans for the Queens Jubilee and Planting a Tree.

No responses received from anyone in the village there has been two articles in the Parish Magazine. Unless it could be tied in with the Plant sale or the village fete. The organiser's of these events to be contacted.

21/165 Discussion on the possibility of changing the start time of the P C meetings.

It was suggested to change the meeting start time to 7pm as an interim, if a new Councillor can't make that time consider changing to 7.30pm.

Proposed Cllr Jiggins Seconded Cllr O'Connell Vote Unanimous

21/166 Street Cleaning Agreement.

This year a contribution of £822 was given to support bin emptying and litter picking from Braintree District Council.

21/167 Trees near the village hall building.

Cllr Martin is looking into this with a lady from Braintree District Council Landscape Department. Cllr Jiggins to speak to the Chairman of the Village Hall committee about drawings of the building.

21/168 Resignation of the Parish Clerk.

The Clerk of Shalford Parish Council may consider this post, but the meeting day clashes with her Weathersfield Parish Council meetings. The Council to consider changing the day of the week they meet, if she is interested in the vacancy. Cllr O'Connell to contact her. The Council to consider increasing the hours per month. Cllrs O'Connell and Bennett are prepared to take the interviews, the new personnel committee that is going to be created to will set the rate of pay and terms of reference.

21/169 3 Queries raised by the External Auditor on the year end accounts.

These queries remain outstanding the Council to consider contacting the previous clerk to resolve these outstanding questions.

21/170 Date of the next meeting planned is 13th October 2021 7pm / this could change.

21/171 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda.

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 section 12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore, the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE