

THE SALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held at Salings Village Hall, Great Saling on Thursday, 21st March 2024 commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr P Martin (Chairman)
Cllr C Bennett
Cllr A Hooks (Parish and District)
Cllr T McCarty
Cllr J Macleod
Cllr J O'Connell

In Attendance:
Members of the Public: 3

97-23/24 **Apologies for Absence**
None

98-23/24 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
None

99-23/24 **Acceptance of Minutes**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 25th of January 2024 and Wednesday 21st of February 2024 were accepted as a true record of the meetings.
Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconder Cllr J Macleod.

100-23/24 **Public Participation Session**

- Litter picks events to be earlier than 24th March next year and not on a Church event. **The council noted.**
- The new defibrillator will be up and running by May 30th. **The council noted.**
- There will be an event at Andrewsfield Airfield to commemorate the RAF on 29th September. **The council noted.**
- Muchmores Farm: the planning application was spoken about, including contact to the enforcement team over the entrance road, and how the completion of the site will bring in business. **The council noted.**

Cllr J O'Connell arrived.

101-23/24 **District and/or County Councillor**
District Councillor Ann Hooks:

- Potholes- The second patching of the potholes was done on The Street. Cllr Cunningham has plans for a workforce to return to do more patching. The drain on the S bend which was filled in was questioned – and Cllr Hooks was told this was a normal repair, however will come to repair properly.

- Flooding - An inspection officer viewed the flooding at Plums Lane end on 22nd January this year but it was viewed as not a priority. Cllr Hooks has gone back with more questioning regarding this. Gentlemans Road is going to be looked at now the farmers have dug out the ditches as there is still a problem.
- Essex Minerals Plan – 50 people turned up to the walk between Salings and Rayne. Cllr Hooks would like to thank the people of Salings who turned up.

102-23/24 **Planning:**

1. **RESOLVED** 24/00393/FUL | Change of use and extensions of agricultural buildings/home office to 1x 3 bed and 2 x 4 bed residential dwellings (3 units) and proposed cartlodge. | Gentlemans Farm The Street Bardfield Saling Essex CM7 5ED. The council agreed they have no planning objections to this application. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconder J O'Connell.

103-23/24 **Report from the Clerk**

The following update on matters arising and other correspondence was approved:

Memorial Land

The transfer will proceed once the council has paid Eastlight's legal fees.

Village Gateways

The village gateways are now in.

Asset of Community Value (ACV) for the Clubhouse, Millibar Café, ancillary buildings and car park at Andrewsfield Airfield

Looking at the minutes of Stebbing Parish Councils last meeting, they are suggesting renewing the Millie Bar ACV and look at bringing the 2 ACV's either into 1 or aligning the dates at the next meeting.

Planning

23/03060/FUL | Conversion of existing barn to form a single residential dwelling, alongside associated development | Land At Taborsfield House Woolpits Road The Salings Essex – APPLICATION REFUSED

104-23/24 **The Village Hall**

RESOLVED The council agreed the village hall should be included on the Asset Register. The clerk will check documents. Proposer Cllr J O'Connell, Seconder Cllr A Hooks.

105-23/24 **Speeding**

1. The Essex Highways meeting to discuss the speeding signs will not be until April. It did sound positive about having a 40mph buffer coming in north of the village. The application for speeding signs had vanished but Essex Highways found them October 2023. Discussions were had about self funding a VAS sign. It was **RESOLVED** the council agreed to await the outcome of April's meeting and to action an email to Butland requesting 30mph signs in Bardfield Saling as none of the roads have any speed restrictions. Proposer Cllr J O'Connell, Seconder Cllr J Macleod.

2. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to get more quotes for the painting of the fences. Proposer Cllr J O'Connell, Seconded Cllr J Macleod.

106-23/24 Parking blocking pavement at Vicarage Close

RESOLVED the council agreed for Cllr J O'Connell along with the clerk to look into sizes that would fit the area then apply for a license. Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconded J Macleod.

107-23/24 The Annual Parish Meeting and Council Meeting

RESOLVED Agreed to move the meeting to 16th May. Gigaclear would like to attend. Agree to use the opportunity to recruit volunteers for the community garden. Proposer Cllr J O'Connell, Seconded Cllr J Macleod.

108-23/24 Finger posts

RESOLVED the council agreed to fix any broken finger posts and cover the costs. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconded Cllr C Bennett.

109-23/24 Grass-cutting and ground maintenance

RESOLVED the council agreed to look into including work to Page & Sons on an ad-hoc basis. To look at an agreement/contracts at a future meeting. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconded Cllr T McCarty.

The chairman agreed to suspend Standing Orders 3x to allow the meeting to go beyond 2 hours.

110-23/24 Planters by bus shelter

RESOLVED the council agreed to defer the discussion on where to locate the planters offered by Eastlight Community Homes and the agreement on the ongoing maintenance of the planters after Cllr J O'Connell speaks to them. Proposer Cllr J O'Connell, Seconded Cllr J Macleod.

111-23/24 Standing orders

1. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to increase the length of a meeting to 2.5 hours (3.x.) Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconded Cllr C Bennett.
2. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to add "At the chairman's discretion and with the agreement of the meeting, a member of the public may be invited to answer questions on matters of fact relating to the item under consideration by the council at that point on the agenda where the matter is being discussed." (3.f.) Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconded J Macleod.

112-23/24 Finance

- i. **RESOLVED** the council noted the finance reports for February 2024 and March 2024 and approved payments. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconded Cllr C Bennett.

Salings Parish Council Finance

26/02/2024

Cash Book Balance From 23/01/2024 £ 32,172.18

Payments Made

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
31/01/2024	Lisa Harris	Storage boxes	£ 20.00
31/01/2024	Salings Magazine	Grant towards publication expenses	£ 169.74
31/01/2024	Mr R Drann	Tree works	£ 380.00
13/02/2024	Drax Energy Solutions	Street Lights	£ 48.04
13/02/2024	Lisa Harris	Laptop Charger	£ 15.95
13/02/2024	A&J Lighting	Street Light works	£ 150.00

Payments Received

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
25/01/2024	BDC	Community Garden Funding	£ 3,500.00
13/02/2024	Panfield Parish Council	Payment for Rangers services	£ 150.00

Cash Book Balance on 26/02/2024

£ 35,038.45

Bank Balances on 26/02/2024

Barclays Community Account Closed - PLEASE NOTE ANY OUTSTANDING BALANCE WAS
Barclays Premium Account TRANSFERRED TO UNITY BANK ACCOUNT ON 14/12/2023
Unity Trust Bank £ 19,734.50
Unity Trust Reserve Account £ 15,303.95

£ 35,038.45

Less Unpresented Cheques/Direct Debits

£ -

Adjustment

£ -

Reconciled Total

£ 35,038.45

Payments to be made

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
28/02/2024	Lisa Harris	Postage	£ 5.50
28/02/2024	EALC	Training	£ 90.00
28/02/2024	Salaries	Salaries	£ 1,104.62

Cash Book Balance After Payments £ 33,838.33

- ii. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to leave the budget as is. Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconder Cllr T McCarty.
- iii. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to the movement of £5296.05 to the Instant Access account to align with the earmarked reserves. Proposer T McCarty, Seconder Cllr A Hooks.
- iv. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to renew the SLCC membership as £144. Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconder Cllr C Bennett.
- v. **RESOLVED** the council noted the direct debit mandate to SSE (the new energy contract). Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconder Cllr C Bennett.
- vi. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to renew Microsoft 365 Personal at £59.99 and to turn on recurrent billing. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconder Cllr A Hooks.
- vii. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to pay EALC for the clerk to attend two courses at £95 + VAT, each. Proposer Cllr J Macleod, Seconder T McCarty.
- viii. **RESOLVED** the council agreed to pay Eastlight Community Homes legal fees for the transfer of land to Ellisons Solicitors at £1500 + VAT and £20 disbursements. Proposer Cllr A Hooks, Seconder Cllr C Bennett.

113-23/24 Items from Councillors to be added to the next agenda

- Biodiversity Policy
- Grass Cutting and Ground Maintenance
- Annual Parish Meeting

114-23/24 Confidential Topics

There were no confidential subjects to be discussed.

115-23/24 Next meeting of the Parish Council

The next meeting of the Salings Parish Council will take place on Thursday 16th May.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and declared the meeting closed at 21.30pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: