

SALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held at Great Saling Village Hall on Thursday, 11th May 2023 commencing at 6:00pm.

Present: Cllr P Martin (Chairman)
Cllr C Bennett
Cllr A Hooks (Parish and District)
Cllr J Macleod

In Attendance: Members of the Public: 5

01-23/24 Election of a Chairman

RESOLVED Cllr P Martin was elected Chairman and the declaration of acceptance of office was signed. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconded Cllr Macleod.

02-23/24 Election of a Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED A Vice-Chairman was not elected.

03-23/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr O'Connell.

04-23/24 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None

05-23/24 Declaration of Interest and Acceptance of Office Forms

RESOLVED Forms were received from all members except Cllr Bennet. It was agreed to accept Cllr Bennets forms at the next meeting, Proposer Cllr Macleod, Seconded Cllr Hooks.

06-23/24 General Power of Competence

The Salings Parish Council resolved that they met the criteria according to the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, are eligible to use the General Power of Competence. Proposer Cllr Bennett, Seconded Cllr Hooks.

07-23/24 Meeting Date Schedule

RESOLVED The following date was decided 27th July 2023. Future dates will be decided at each meeting going forward. Proposer Martin, Seconded Colin.

08-23/24 Policies

RESOLVED The following policies were reviewed and approved.

- i. The Standing Orders. Proposer Cllr Bennett, Seconded Cllr Hooks.
- ii. The Financial Regulations. Proposer Cllr Bennett, Seconded Cllr Macleod.

- i. **RESOLVED** It was agreed to pay salaries and associated costs on the 28th of every month. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconded Cllr Macleod.
- ii. **RESOLVED** It was agreed to use BHIB Councils Team as the insurance provider for June 2022- May 2023 at a cost of £701.32. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconded Cllr Macleod.
- iii. **RESOLVED** It was agreed to pay for the Clerks membership to SLCC at a cost of £149. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconded Cllr Macleod.
- iv. **RESOLVED** The finance report was received and the payments approved. Proposer Cllr Macleod, Seconded Cllr Hooks.

Salings Parish Council Finance			
3rd May 2023			
	Cash Book Balance From 28/03/2023	£	28,274.20
Payments Made			
Date	Payee	Description	Amount
03/04/2023	A&J Lighting	Streetlighting	£ 96.00
17/04/2023	A&J Lighting	Street Light Maintenance	£ 27.36
19/04/2023	Drax	Streetlighting	£ 49.26
31/03/2023	Unity Bank	Service Charge	£ 16.60
18/04/2023	M Baker	Laptop and Accessories	£ 304.00
28/04/2023	Salaries	Salaries & PAYE	£ 1,155.45
27/04/2023	Salings Hall	Coronation Grant	£ 750.00
Payments Received			
Date	Payee	Description	Amount
27/04/2023	BDC	Precept	£ 8,210.00
27/03/2023	BDC	Councillor Grant	£ 601.13
31/03/2023	Unity Bank	Interest	£ 11.53
Cash Book Balance on 03/05/2023			
			£ 34,698.19
Bank Balances on 03/05/2023			
	Barclays Community Account	£ 10,435.59	
	Barclays Premium Account	£ -	
	Unity Trust Bank	£ 10,415.07	
	Unity Trust Reserve Account	£ 15,011.53	
			£ 35,862.19
Less Unpresented Cheques/Direct Debits			
	Earth Anchors	-£ 1,164.00	
			-£ 1,164.00
	Adjustment		-£ 1,164.00
	Reconciled Total		£ 34,698.19
Payments to be made			
Date	Payee	Description	Amount
11/05/2023	SLCC	Clerks Membership	£ 149.00
11/05/2023	EALC	Affiliation Fees	£ 175.21
11/05/2023	BHIB	Insurance	£ 701.32
	Cash Book Balance After Payments	£	33,672.66

- v. **RESOLVED** The year end budget report was received and budget reallocations approved for 2023/24. Proposer Cllr Martin, Seconder Cllr Macleod.

The Salings Parish Council										
Year End Budget Report 2022/23										
INCOME										
			Actual 31st March 2020	Actual 31st March 2021	Actual 31st March 2022	Actual 31st March 2023	Budget 31st March 2023	Variance	Budget 31st March 2024	Amended Budget Proposal
Precept			9775	16265	16264	16275	16275	0	16420	16240
Distribution of Surplus Funds from BDC					228					
BDC Street Cleaning			800.13	1272	1285.5	1324	800	524		
ECC verges and paths					1776.44	57.17		57.17		
Clerks Bursary										
Investment Income			26.07	7.36	2.11	42.3		42.3		
VAT Repayment			745	1247	1529					
Village Hall Income from Grass Cutting			427			854	427	427		
Playing Field Hire			230			70		70		
Parish Support Grant										
Grants			8735	300		601		601.13		
Ranger Hire						1350		1350	1800	1800
Misc Income			78	149						
		TOTAL	20816	19240	21085	20574	17502	3072	18220	18040
EXPENDITURE										
										Difference
Street Lighting			1879	1240	1031	5549	2742	-2807	750	750
Parks and Open Spaces			140	143	158	472	145	-327	145	500
Grass Cutting			1143	1645	2484	2267	2000	-267	2500	2500
Trees							1000	1000	500	1000
Audit Fees			50	275	315	340	100	-240	100	100
Hall Hire			280	0			200	200	250	250
Insurances			563.2	578.6	601.43	666	750	84	1000	1000
Salaries			2390	2506	3436	6325	6126	-199	10200	12500
Village Handyman			88	213	174					
Clerks Expenses			390	278	260	470	240	-230	360	360
Stationery, Postage & Printing			893	41	81	121		-121	100	100
Subscriptions			284.29	315.59	202.75	286	437	151	450	450
Street Cleansing							500	500	500	500
Website				282	212	320	250	-70	250	250
Defibrillator			135	1004		60	300	240	300	300
Equipment					330	297	1670	1373		
Election Costs			515	65					1000	0
Training			0	640	150		1000	1000	1000	1000
Legal Fees										
Grants			1204	1247		110	600	490	750	750
VAS Sign									825	825
Parish Magazine					150	250	120	-130	250	250
West of Braintree			500							
Neighbourhood Plan			7919.05							
WASC						500		-500		500
Village Gates				1776.44						
Chairmans Allowance							100	100	250	250
Village Improvements						376	5200	4824	2500	6500
										4000
Misc			50	1248						
		TOTAL	18424	13496	9585	18409	23480	5071	23980	30635
										6655
Surplus /Deficit			2392	5744	11500	2165	-5978	8143	-5760	-12595
Balance in Accounts			12295	18039	29539	31704	23561		25944	19109
Earmarked Reserves										
General Reserves	8000									
Play Equipment	4000									
Election	500									
Professional Services	5000									
Total	17500									

- vi. **RESOLVED** It was agreed to certify the Parish Council as exempt from a limited assurance review as neither income nor expenditure for 2022/23 exceeded £25,000. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconder Cllr Bennett.
- vii. **RESOLVED** The Annual Internal auditors report 22/23 was received and approved. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconder Cllr Macleod.
- viii. **RESOLVED** The Annual Governance Statement 22/23 was received and approved. Proposer Cllr Bennett, Seconder Cllr Hooks.
- ix. **RESOLVED** The Accounting Statements 22/23 were received and approved. Proposer Cllr Macleod, Seconder Cllr Bennett.
- x. **RESOLVED** The notice of the period for the exercise of public rights was received and approved. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconder Cllr Macleod.
- xi. **RESOLVED** The variances explanations and bank reconciliation 22/23 were received and approved. Proposer Cllr Bennett, Seconder Cllr Hooks.

10-23/24 Acceptance of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th of March 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Hooks, Seconder Cllr Bennett.

- Overgrown verges were discussed.
- Speeding in Little Saling was highlighted as an issue.
- The Byway at Gentlemans farm is having issues with antisocial driving behaviour.
- The Larchwood sign has been removed but concrete posts have been left.
- Defib pads will be replaced.

12-23/24 Cllr O'Connell entered the meeting at 18:15

13-23/24 Co-Option

RESOLVED One candidate was present. Terry McCarty was co-opted onto The Salings Parish Council. Proposer Cllr O'Connell, Seconder Cllr Macleod.

14-23/24 Report from the Clerk

The following update on matters arising was approved:

Training

The clerk has booked onto 9 courses so far this year to help gain the knowledge for the role. 1 has been completed so far.

S106

The bins for the playing field have been delivered and installed by the ranger. An email has been sent to Braintree Council to reclaim the monies back.

Memorial Land

The clerk has chased up Eastlight via email to get an update.

Netting for Playing Field

The clerk has corresponded with a member of the public regarding the footballs causing damage to the property, Larchwood House. The area behind the goal has

been measured by the Ranger, proposing a 60ft net would suffice in protecting the property. Research has been done into the cost of this equipment.

Annual Parish Assembly

The clerk has arranged for the following organisations to attend:

- PC Draper
- Richard Aggiss
- SWAP
- Community Agents
- Community 360
- Teresa Sparks - social prescriber
- Carers First

Cakes ordered from Mrs B Bakes.

Update on Planning Applications Listed in the Minutes Previously:

23/00663/FUL - Land South Of Woolpits Road Bardfield Saling

Formation of a vehicular access.

PENDING CONSIDERATION

22/03099/FUL - Walnut Tree Cottage Piccotts Lane Great Saling

Erection of a 3 bedroomed dwellinghouse with access, landscaping and associated development.

PENDING DECISION

22/03363/HH - Rose Cottage New Green Bardfield Saling

Construction of second access to the highway including erection of entrance gate.

PENDING CONSIDERATION

15-23/24 District and/or County Councillor

Cllr Butland was not present, Cllr Hooks introduced herself as the new district Councillor. She is currently undergoing training and will soon have an official BDC email address.

16-23/24 Planning

The following applications were considered, and a response approved:

23/00732/HH | Erection of single-storey rear extension and two-storey side extension. Erection of front porch. | 7 Woolpits Road Great Saling Essex

No Objection although it is felt the size is excessive.

23/00777/HH | Erection of detached double garage. | 4 Woolpits Road Great Saling Essex

Objection – A better design and location would be more appropriate to the environment and setting.

17-23/24

Litter Pick

RESOLVED It was agreed that the Council thank the litter pickers who have already completed a pick this year. Plans were discussed for a fun litter pick day including refreshments.

Two dates were agreed, 1st October 2023 and 3rd of March 2024.

18-23/24

Protective Netting on the Playing Field

DEFER The Council agreed to seek legal advice and encourage peripheral hedge growth in the area.

19-23/24

Items from Councillors for the Next Agenda

- The Hundred Parishes Grant
- Football Net
- WASC Representatives
- Height Restriction Barrier
- Village Gates
- Application for Planter on the Village Gates
- Speeding

Councillors are asked to inform the clerk of any items by 3rd of July 2023

20-23/24

Next Meeting of the Parish Council: The next meeting of The Salings Parish Council will take place on Thursday, 27th of July 2023 at Saling Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and declared the meeting closed at 7:13pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: