

SALT & ENSON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting

Meeting Held on Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 8.00pm at Salt Village Hall

Present: Chair Councillor - Barbara Clancy,
Councillors R Walls, J Starr, I Wimshurst, C Beardmore, JD Scott

Clerk DW Croxford

3 members of the public.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2019

This was agreed as a true and correct record by all present.

2. Matters arising from those minutes (for information only)

None.

3. Chairman's Annual Report

Cllr Clancy's delivered her report. It appears as Appendix 1.

4. Report from Community Speedwatch

No report received.

5. Report from Salt Village Hall Management Committee

A report was e mailed from the Chair of the SVHMC. It appears as Appendix 2.

6. Report from Salt Friendship Club

Stella Milman updated the meeting. Her report appears as Appendix 3.

7. Report from Salt Neighbourhood Watch

Chris Gammon updated the meeting. Her report appears as Appendix 4.

8. Reports for County and Borough Councillors if present

No none present but Councillor Frances Beatty's e mailed report for May was circulated prior to the meeting.

9. Report from Salt Parochial Church Council

Margaret Walls updated the meeting. Thanks were offered for the donation made towards the upkeep of the cemetery. The Church has been a focus during lockdown for parishioners offering bread collections, donations of food for HoB, an outside cake and produce sale. At Christmas the tree and crib attracted much attention. The Compass magazine has been missed during lockdown and it is hoped to begin again soon.

10. Questions from the floor

None raised

11. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020/2021

Well where to start what a year it has been for all of us and a busy one for the Parish Council. In January 2020 Mrs Lisa Horritt informed us that much as she had enjoyed her time at Salt & Enson Parish Council it was time for a change. We wish her well in her new career as a Training Officer at the SPCA.

After many years of service Mrs Gill Taft decided that she would like to stand down as a Parish Councillor I would like to thank Mrs Gill Taft for all her contributions and wish her all the best for the future. Also Mr Desmond Clancy decided to step down so we were barely quorate but fortunately for us Mr Fred Scott offered his services and we were very pleased to co-op him in on 6th January 2021.

In June 2020 Councillor R Walls and myself interviewed 4 candidates via the Zoom App for the position of Parish Clerk and were very pleased to offer the position to Mr David Croxford which he accepted and has proven to be an excellent choice.

The Parish Council meeting of 1st July 2020 was again held via Zoom and all subsequent meetings have been held in this medium until today. This was David's inaugural meeting and proved to be a baptism of fire. A planning application for land off Salt Lane proved to be quite contentious and there were considerable objections but the powers to be decided not to listen to the concerns of the community and planning permission was granted in December 2020.

Other planning applications have been submitted and the Parish Council has done its very best to address concerns. One such application was the building of a garage at the very front of the property known as Almonda but renamed Brooklands by the present owners which would not have been in keeping with the other properties so the plans were modified and I believe residents were pleased with the outcome.

Concerns over the fate of the Hollybush and an empty bungalow have been raised and the Parish Council is constantly reviewing the situation.

Another speed sign has been erected just past the Casey.

We tried to get the Tree Officer to look at two trees either side of the entrance to the Hollybush car park but because they were not of a specific variety they were not considered important enough so to hopefully prevent any damage to them should any

work commence at the Hollybush we had a couple of plaques made to let people know that the trees were donated by Mr David Scott and Mr Cyril Fawdrey and were the property of the community and not the Hollybush and enhanced the look of the village.

I would like to thank Rose & Edward Harrison for sorting out all the house names etc on the map for the lectern on the green. Also thank you to all the volunteers that have kept the flower tower watered and looking splendid.

We are aware that drains and ditches need attention as there is a permanent problem with flooding again. We have this on our agenda and are planning to have the ditches cleaned out during the drier weather.

Donations have been made to the 100 Club, the upkeep of the Burial Ground and towards the replacement of the Village Hall floor.

In conclusion I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support and advice and last but by no means least I would like to thank our Clerk David without whose help we would not be able to manage.

Salt Clerk

Appendix 2.

From: Angela Richards [angela@alexrosefbs.co.uk]
Sent: 12 May 2021 13:05
To: clerk@saltandensonparishcouncil.co.uk
Cc: bill mitchell; 'Barbara Clancy'; 'Edward Harrison'
Subject: AGM

Dear David,

Thank you for the invitation to join Salt & Enson Parish Council AGM next week. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend as I will be in Covid isolation from 17th-20th May due to a minor medical procedure at the hospital.

I would be grateful if you would convey thanks from the Village Hall Committee to the Parish Council for their continued support during this difficult year. Your grant of £2,500 towards the replacement of the Hall floor has been gratefully received and is ring fenced within our accounts for that purpose.

Despite lockdown we have remained positive and continued to work with the National Lottery team towards submitting a full application for a grant in the region of £50,000. This has involved a lot of research into possible solutions which has proved to be testing and drawn out in the circumstances. We are fortunate in that we now have a fully experienced team of professionals, drawn from the village community, to guide the project through the next steps. In the near future we plan to appoint an architect to give us a comprehensive specification to enable us to tender for the work, possibly to be undertaken in summer 2022 at the earliest, given availability within construction industry and completing the grant application.

We also feel that it is important to allow the Hall to open and support the community again. Regular hire groups will be welcomed back from May 18th and we hope to be able to offer some village events after the revision of national guidance in June 2021.

We look forward to welcoming back the Parish Council for face to face meetings in the coming year and will continue to ensure that Salt Village Hall is managed safely in the context of the Corona Virus recommendations. Thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Angela

Angela Richards (Chair Salt Village Hall Management Committee)

19/5/21

Most of you will be aware that Salt & District Friendship Club members meet here in the village hall fortnightly and, lock downs permitting, have done so for over 30 years.

At present we have ten members, all female. There have been male members in the past but none currently.

We play Bingo, have tea and biscuits or perhaps cake, particularly on birthdays and enjoy each others company, especially those of us who live alone.

Each Christmas time we organise a festive meal outing and for this we are indebted to the Parish Council for their generous donation which has gone towards the cost over the years. Obviously we were not able to celebrate Christmas 2020 in the same way but are looking forward to a meal out when restrictions are lifted making it possible for us all to sit and eat together.

In September 2019 we joined a Leon's coach outing to Bakewell and Whaley Bridge which included a canal cruise. We hope we may be able to organise a similar outing later this year.

During the lockdowns from March 2020 we kept in touch as much as possible mainly by telephone and then, thanks to the hard work of the Village Hall committee and the stringent arrangements they were able to put in place, we were able to have five meetings starting in September and the last one on Nov. 4th the day before the November lockdown.

This afternoon we were very happy to meet again – the first time for over six months.

Our members wish me to express their thanks to the Parish Council for their generosity and their acknowledgement of and interest in our Friendship Club.

1 a/s/21

Neighbourhood Watch ..2021.

During the last year there have been 2 incidents which have been reported to the police. One was a burglary at Jenny Bell's house and the second incident occurred during March when 2 men were attempting to sell garden furniture door to door. Villagers were quite rightly concerned. The van had no MOT or tax so the police were involved and came to Salt the next day assuring me that there would be extra patrols.

Many villagers are on Staffordshire Police Smart Alert which emails details of scams and incidents in the area. *The village WhatsApp also helps to keep people aware.* However, just before Christmas I found that after so many years of Salt being a member of Neighbourhood Watch, we were no longer registered. In fact, the only Parish Council to be on the list was Tixall and Ingestre. The others on the list are the new housing estates. ~~Hixon~~, Stowe by Chartley and Weston are not listed. I contacted Lisa Horritt who explained that she had had the same problem with Doxey last year, so with help of David, we are going to address this problem.

Chris Gammon.

19/5/21