**SALT & ENSON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday 2nd July 2025**

**at Salt Village Hall, Salt at 7.30 pm**

The meeting began at 7.30 p.m.

**Public Open Forum** – No members of the public were present.

1. **Attendees and Apologies**

Attendees: Vice Chair – J Starr

Councillors R Walls, C Beardmore, JD Scott, N Tonks

Stafford Borough Councillor Karine Aspin

Clerk DW Croxford

Apologies – Councillors Barbara Clancy and I Wimshurst

The meeting was quorate.

1. **Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests relating to items on the agenda**

None declared.

1. **Minutes of the meetings held on 7th May 2025**

These were agreed as a true and correct record by all present.

**4. Matters arising from those minutes**

None arisen, albeit is noted that a decision from Stafford Borough Council Planning Office still remains to be made on the application 24/38837/LDC Brick Kiln Lane. An extension of time to 31 January 2025 was previously granted. *Stafford Borough Councillor Karine Aspin monitoring the situation.*

**5 .Planning**

No applications received at date of publication of Agenda

**6. Reports**

* Report from County Councillor – No report received.

It was agreed that the Clerk should invite the new incumbent, County Councillor Andrew Mynors to our next meeting via his e mail address andrew.mynors@staffordshire.gov.uk

* Report from Borough Councillor Karine Aspin

Councillor Aspin advised that, in response to a notable increased workload in SBC Planning department, a number of temporary staff have been employed in the Application and Enforcement sections, for a six month period, in an effort to deal with the backlog and to help process new applications.

Councillor Aspin further advised that in respect of planning application 22/36919/OUT Land off Sandon Road and MOD 4 Site Beaconside for 420 new dwellings (within Hopton and Coton Parish) that Sandon and Burston Parish Council were concerned about the likely increased traffic along the B5066, especially across the Sandon Bridges.

14/25

She advised that Sandon and Burston Parish Council are seeking some mitigating measures from the

developer via SBC under the s106 agreement, which she advises is being negotiated. *Salt Clerk to seek more information from Clerk at Sandon and Burston Parish Council.*

Finally Councillor Aspin advised that the Borough Councillors are attending an update briefing on the SBC Local Plan on the 14th July 2025.

* Report from Village Hall Management Committee

Prior to the meeting, and in her absence, Councillor Clancy had advised the Clerk that the VHMC would be grateful to receive the Parish Council’s offer of a donation of £600 towards the cost of essential roof / ceiling repairs at the VH costing £2,388.

Previous Parish Council Minutes 7th May 2025 refers and see minute 7.iii) below.

**7. To receive Financial Statement and Clerks report**

i) To approve financial payments, receipts and transfers.

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| **Paid prior to the meeting** | |  |  |  |  |
| **Paid To** | **Details** | **Amt** | **VAT** | **Total to pay** |  |
| Clerk | Net Pay 1 April to 30 June | £758.36 |  | 758.36 |  |
| HMRC | PAYE Re Clerk Pay 1 April to 30 June | £189.40 |  | 189.40 |  |
| Clerk | Clerks Expenses 1 April to 30 June | £125.80 |  | 125.80 |  |
| Rose Harrison | Compost and plants village planter | £106.50 |  | 106.50 |  |
|  |  |  |  | 0.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** | |  |  | 1,180.06 |  |
| **To be Paid** | |  |  |  |  |
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|  | **TOTAL** |  |  | 1,180.06 |  |

These were approved by all present.

ii) The clerk had circulated the **financial statement** and **bank reconciliation** reports and both were approved by all present.

iii) To consider a **donation to Salt Village Hall** – it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to make an immediate donation of £600 towards the cost of essential roof / ceiling repairs at the VH costing £2,388*. Clerk to issue cheque.*

15/25

iv) To Consider NALC advice to move to **a .gov.uk** domain

The Clerk had circulated an explanatory article about the rationale for this switch and the potential risks for Parish Councillors if the change does not take place. The Clerk outlined the costs for arranging the change from the Parish Council’s current website and e mail providers.

Noting this advice is not a compulsory action at present, that the risks to Salt Parish Councillors are considered extremely low, together with the financial cost of achieving it, it was decided not to make the switch at this time.

The Clerk will monitor the ongoing advice and discuss matters with the Internal Auditor at the mid term Audit in the autumn.

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**8. To discuss Highways issues and note any requiring reporting**

A large pothole has appeared in the middle of the carriage way on Willowmore Banks junction with Weston Bank, opposite Weston Hall. The Clerk has reported the matter to SCC Highways with photos, via their reporting portal. It has been acknowledged with the reference 4445998.

The two new street name signs for Trentfield Lane and The Meadows are on order at SBC and will be replaced.

**9. To review correspondence received and consider items of business for the next meeting.**

* **Civic Amenity Skip date scheduled 5th July** 10.30-12.30 at Village Hall Car Park.
* All other items of note had been circulated to all prior to the meeting.

**10. To inform attendees of dates of future meetings**

Dates of future meetings at Salt Village Hall during **2025** as follows: Wednesdays at 7.30pm.

3 Sept, 5 Nov

**11. Meeting closed at 20.15 hrs**

Signed .......................................... .........................................

Vice Chair Cncllr J Starr Clerk DWCroxford

Date...................................

16/25