

SALT & ENSON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 7.30pm at Salt Village Hall

Minutes

Public open forum

4 members of the public attended raising issues as follows:

- One member of the public had spoken to the Clerk that morning about ongoing rights of way issues and thanked her for her help.
- Potential cutting of hedges outside the allowed season (1.10-28.02). It was noted however that no-one was sure whether this cutting on Willowmore Bank had occurred in March or at the very end of Feb. It was noted that if residents observed anything to take pictures with a date/time stamp for evidence.
- Footpath 13 has been cleared by the County Council. This was previously overgrown.

1. Attendees and Apologies

Attendees: Chairman: Cllr J Taft
Cllr I Wimshurst
County Councillor John Francis
4 members of the public were present

Cllr B Clancy
Cllr R Walls

Cllr D Clancy
Clerk Mrs L Horritt

The meeting was quorate

Apologies: Cllr P Scott, Borough Cllr F Beatty

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

None required.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2019

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

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

Tree Protection Order – Bungalow in Salt. This is now in force.

5. To receive SPCA Exec update by Cllr B Clancy

- There will be no increase in the annual subs rates charged to Parishes
- Following the government report on Standards in Public Life there is a recommendation of a new code of conduct. The clerk recommended Councillors read the report and noted that a new model code of conduct would either be created by the Local Government Association or Stafford Borough Council and that she would advise when the Council is required to adopt this.

6. To discuss the phone box refurbishment

Work will recommence once the weather improves as the type of paint used needs several hours of warm weather to dry.

7. To discuss village map lectern position on village green and approve installation and slab cost

The Chairman and Clerk met with Shane Latham in Feb to discuss a potential site. The Village Green has some issues due to keeping sight lines clear from all angles. Several of the village hall committee were in attendance and it was discussed positioning in one of the flower beds. This will be discussed at the Village Hall Committee meeting to see if permission can be obtained.

Cllr Taft noted that the names can be added to the map over the next month or so. In relation to fitting, a site visit can be carried out once more is known. Insurance was discussed, as anyone carrying out the work will be required to cover under their insurance.

8. To discuss speed sign, potential funding, positioning and actions required

The Clerk had prepared a report to Councillors about a potential location following discussions with Shane Latham. The landowner – Mr Stubbs has been consulted and is happy for the sign to be placed on his land.

It was agreed to move forward with a sign from Elan City and that the Clerk would apply to the Safer Roads Grant Fund for grant funding. The full cost is approx. £3000.

9. To discuss Highways and NHT issues and note any requiring reporting

Grips in Salt and potential clearing of the by the Parish Council

This has been assessed by Colwich Parish Council lengthsman has needing work to clear the ditches behind. They felt clearing the grips alone wouldn't allow the water to flow. The Parish Council will consider this further at another meeting.

Cllr Francis updated the meeting about his funds – he has a Highways Fund for the next year from April and can allocate up to £1500 to Salt and Enson for Highways projects as long as they are match funded.

10. To receive Financial Statement and Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that the allocated amenity visit dates clash with the Art group at the Village Hall. It was noted that these dates are out of the control of the Parish Council and that it had been requested to obtain dates that suited when the gardeners of the village needed them.

It had been suggested that cones are used to leave space for the refuse freighter. A member of the public offered to assist.

- (i) To approve financial payments, receipts and transfers

To be paid:

Paid To	Details	Amt	VAT	Total to pay
Salaries	Q4	372.94		372.94
HMRC	Q4	11.40		11.40
SPCA	Annual subs (1.4.19)	128.00		128.00
Salt Village Hall	Hire	24.00		24.00
L Horritt	Office Expenses	33.77		33.77
TOTAL				570.11

Approved by all present

- (ii) To agree grants to local organisations

The grants were agreed as follows:

Paid To	Details	Amt	VAT	Total to pay
Burial Ground Maintenance	Budget (400)	400.00		400.00
Salt Friendship Club	Last year (150)	150.00		150.00
Compass	Last year (50)	50.00		50.00

- (iii) To accept the financial statement and bank reconciliation

This was accepted by the Council and the bank reconciliation was signed by the Chairman.

- (iv) To confirm internal auditor

It was agreed that Christine Heelis would act as the internal auditor for 2018/19.

- (v) To discuss the Clerks hours and level of work required

Due to the increasing level of work and the projects currently underway it was agreed to increase the clerks monthly hours from 12 to 14 from 1st March 2019.

11. To discuss upcoming elections, vacancies and actions

Nomination papers had been made available. The clerk issued instructions about submission dates – to Stafford Borough Council by hand between Weds 27th March and 4pm on Wed 3rd April.

12. To discuss planning applications received

None received

13. To review correspondence received

Clerk to distribute.

14. To inform attendees of dates of future meetings

Next meeting Wednesday May 15th 2019 at 7.00pm. Annual public meeting start at 8.00pm.

15. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:
Chairman
Date:

Clerk: