

SILVER END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 9th March 2022 in the Small Hall of Silver End Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Bugg (Chair,) Cllr Waine, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Ashford, Cllr McDonald, Cllr Galley, Cllr Bailey, Mrs Temple (Clerk,) Cllr Wright (BDC – left after 0322/FC1734) and Cllr Playle (ECC – left after his report, during 0322/FC1731.)

0322/FC1727 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Hopkins and Cllr Wright (BDC.)
Absent without apologies: None.

0322/FC1728 **Declarations of Interest** by Members in respect of any items on the agenda.
Cllr Galley declared an interest in item 0322/FC1736.

0322/FC1729 **Members of the public** are given an opportunity to speak at this point (10-minute allocation.)
None were present.

0322/FC1730 **Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting** were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting
Matters arising from those minutes/Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that:

- There has been no progress as yet with the BDC recycling initiative, but the **Clerk** will continue to monitor.
- She has found a Lest we Forget bench from a company that could also make a Jubilee bench in a matching design. 6ft benches will cost approx. £1k each. Agreed to take up Cllr Playle's offer of £2k spread over the current and next year's grant budget. The **Clerk** will send pictures to members for their approval. Cllr Playle is happy to proceed.
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy is now on the website. Adopted on 9th February 2022 with **review by 9th February 2025.**
- Window on Silver End has just been approved for printing.
- She has received a reminder from Cllr Wright regarding the money still available in their grants pot. Agreed that the **Clerk** should establish costs and then apply for 2 dog waste bins – one at the Redrow site and the other on the lamppost where Abraham Drive and Daniel Way meet.
- BDC would like the location of the whips and bulbs provided to be plotted on a map to be included within the Queen's Canopy initiative. **Cllr Bailey** stated that he would be planting them on Saturday morning. Agreed that he should fill in the holes in the hedging around the village hall field. Cllrs Bugg and Hughes will assist. The **Clerk** asked for locations once done and photos to be sent to BDC.
- Gate and pathway to pavilion – the **Clerk** has chased Rick Sargent at BDC, to see if they have made a decision, but he is away until 15/3.
- A new Manager has been employed at the doctor's surgery, Paula Walsh, and it is believed that she is keen to restart the patient liaison group.
- Leila Hobart has volunteered for the Community Speedwatch and has offered to find others if required. She has also offered assistance to distribute WoSE and again has offered to see if she can find others. All agreed that the **Clerk** should respond as a yes to her kind offer.
- Cllrs Bugg and McDonald have individually completed the Bus Network Review Public Strategy on behalf of Silver End PC.
- Rick Sargeant, BDC, has been chased to ensure that we have been added to the notifications list of when to fly the Union Jack – awaiting his response on 15/3.
- Matthew Lawday has taken over Mark Garnham's position at Eastlight. He has stated that knee rails at Broadway, by the bungalows, will be considered in the new financial year. He suggested that the badly parked horsebox should be raised with the NEPP as Eastlight have no jurisdiction over the highway.
- The next 3 Parishes meeting is to be hosted by Cressing on 30th March at 7pm. Cllrs McDonald, Bugg and Hughes to attend. **Clerk** to ask for 2 agenda items to be added: Downgrading of local land and Indaver's access routes to site.

0322/FC1731 **Report from County/District Councillors**

Cllr Playle (ECC) reported:

- Any outstanding issues following the heavy winds should be brought to his attention so that he can ensure that they are dealt with. Residents that lost power should claim compensation and will be contacted by their provider.
- ECC Bus survey – he encourages as many people to complete this as possible.
- Police Commissioner – workshop being held, he will share the details of the one being held online.
- Update on A120 – Highways have been surveying to ensure that Route D is the best option. Submission in the summer.
- A12 – ECC met with Highways last week. Not much to report at this point but hope to submit development order in the summer.
- ECC – met re condition 66. Indaver tried to put amendments through but were told that they need to re submit a new planning application. Unsure what Indaver will do at this point. He feels that ECC are more in control now, rather than Indaver. Request made to ECC suggests that some of the traffic will come through Silver End which he is sure will be opposed.

- Trees – 3 new trees requested in Grooms Lane, he is awaiting agreement, but hopefully ECC will have no objection.

The Chair opened the floor to questions:

Cllr Ashford:

- Cables are still down outside the church. **Cllr Playle** replied that this is a safety issue so this will be remedied as soon as possible.
- The village is unable to take any additional traffic, particularly heavy traffic for the incinerator.
- Drains along Boars Tye Road have lifted on the road surface, causing drivers to avoid them by driving near to the middle of the road. **Cllr Playle** will look into this.

Cllr Wane asked if he could chase outstanding street light repairs as many are not working, despite reporting. **Cllr Playle** will report, plus any others that are not working.

Cllr Playle was thanked for his report and his attendance. He left the meeting at this point.

Cllr Abbott then made his report:

- What can we do to support Ukraine.? BDC has messaged support networks and established that financial contributions are currently most needed, especially to the Red Cross or DEC.
- Local Plan – still waiting for Inspector’s letter. Planning Comm are now refusing speculative development. BDC have set aside significant sums of money to fight applications.
- BDC budget 2022/23 is now set.
- Councillor Community Grant has been dropped to £1250. He is happy to help SEPC with an application for dog bins. **Clerk** to send application.
- Waste site meetings – ECC have said that Indaver must build what they have consent for, however it seems possible that they may now apply to the government to bypass ECC. This would stand as a new application. Thoughts are that they want to increase the size. Comments can still be made regarding the proposed second access.
- Local Highways Panel - bus stop markings to be renewed. Grooms Lane scheme to be completed. School Lane has finally been completed.
- BDC Corporate Director discussions where he is stating that Silver End is not getting a full service from ECC. He has asked for a detailed report of why this is.
- Tree planting – whips to be planted in Rivenhall.

The floor was opened to questions:

- Cllr McDonald - pathway from Lyons Court still unclear why this has been closed. **Cllr Abbott** believed this is because the land is private but will liaise with Cllr Wright and report back to Cllr McDonald.
- Laburnum tree to rear of village hall has been taken down by BDC. They have now replaced it
- Cllr Ashford - assumes Indaver will do what they want regardless but wonders what ECC will do if they are ignored. Indaver could approach government, and it would act as a new application. An inspection could be requested. If this doesn’t happen and Indaver simply build regardless, then it is high risk for ECC as it could potentially be very expensive and very complicated to stop them.

There were no more questions at this point. The Chair thanked Cllr Abbott for his report and attendance.

0322/FC1732 Planning Applications – agreed via email communication since the last meeting. Only objections/comments noted:

No objections/comments made.

0322/FC1733 Correspondence – not already covered in the Clerk’s Report

Report from Leila Hobart re Witham/Silver End Community Hub:

- Has been in touch with Cllr Hughes following his offer to help.
- The Witham Hub has moved locations.
- Leila is visiting bi-weekly.
- Happily, one of the families she was working with in the village has found their feet and no longer needs their support.

Keep Britain Tidy Campaign – runs from 25th March until 10th April 2022. **Clerk** asked to notify BDC about graffiti throughout the village but particularly on street furniture and side door of the village hall.

Silver End Library – have 5 ‘litter picker kits’ which they are happy to provide to anyone interested in volunteering. They can access more if needed.

Andy Wright, Chief Exec. Of BDC is stepping down in August, allowing time to find his replacement.

Silver End Luncheon Club – dates for 22/23 to be agreed with Helen Thomson, based on a maximum of 20 lunches pa. Once finalised the **Clerk** will notify the caterers, transport and Hire a Hall.

Member of the Public – notification of blocked drain and broken streetlight by St Francis church. The **Clerk** confirmed that these had been reported to ECC.

0322/FC1734 Reports

Reports from Silver End Parish Councillors – Meeting/Activities

Cllr McDonald reported that Window on Silver End has gone to print following a meeting with Sam Redmond. Note on bottom of front page to say that this is the penultimate full print. Due to decrease in print run Cllr McDonald expressed concern that budgeted money will not be used. Cllr Hughes pointed out that we are still needing to print although amounts will be reduced, and this next print run is much bigger. Added to this is the inevitable increase in printing costs. **Clerk** to contact Leila Hobart re her offer of help with distribution. Cllr Hughes will help with dropping deliveries to volunteers’ homes.

Reports for ECC/BDC

Cllr Ashford has sent suggested sites, to the Clerk, for Speedwatch, using what3words. Suggestion of 5 new locations with photos for the **Clerk** to send to Fire service.

Cllr Abbott left the meeting at this point.

0322/FC1735 Finance

Payments made since the last meeting:

Office service charge	40.00	Essex Pension Fund	507.01
M/Gardens Contract	252.00	Petty cash	18.21
Eon	155.21	Tiptree Meals (11 th & 25 th Feb)	284.00
Printer ink (monthly plan)	9.99	S Hopkins (website hosting Wordpress)	75.51
Eon	224.20	Microsoft subscription	74.99

Payments to be made:

Office Service charge	40.00	Essex Pension Fund	507.01
M/Gardens Contract	462.00	Petty cash	16.76
Eon	664.32	Tiptree Meals (11th March)	162.00
Printer ink (monthly plan)	9.99	BDC Transport	30.00
BDC (Refuse truck)	230.52	CSS (Toilet rolls)	64.66
BDC Transport	30.00	Tiptree Meals (25 th March)	162.00

Agreed.

Bank Balances

Current Account	£ 4,563.92
Deposit Account	£15,000.00

0322/FC1736 Consideration to be given to increase in the cost of electricity for the floodlights

Having declared an interest at the beginning of the meeting, Cllr Galley left the room and was absent for the entire item.

It was mentioned at the last meeting that since the floodlight wiring was transferred to the pavilion (due to safety reasons) bills have almost doubled in the last year.

The Chair stated that we can't increase this cost with the use of public money for the benefit of only one group as no one else uses the lights. Cllr Ashford added that perhaps the increase is not as horrific as it initially sounds as all costs have gone up, particularly power. He remembers discussing it with the electrician at the time but thought that the increase of adding the pavilion onto the floodlights meter would be minimal. Although he understood the reasons of how this has happened, he does not see how we can justify such a huge increase. Cllr Bugg pointed out that since the wiring has changed, the pavilion has had heating, a new kitchen etc. He suggested that they either install their own meter at their own cost, they take everything on in their name, removing SEPC from the equation or SEPC pay an agreed monthly cost for a set period of time. **Clerk** asked to write to the football club to highlight the problem, explaining that due to a significant increase in use, the current cost is untenable and SEPC welcome their input as to how to resolve the issue. Ultimately, we will have to remove ourselves from the electricity contract. SEPC are happy to support a compromise, but it would be as a token gesture and for a fixed amount of time. Cllr Bailey added that we can't be seen to be favouring them. Although Cllr Ashford agreed he explained that SEPC put the lights in initially. Cllr Hughes argued that originally other clubs used them, however the situation has now changed and SEUFC have sole use of them now. Cllr Ashford agreed but believes there is a compromise to be made. Cllr Waine suggested that SEPC do not pay for electricity, but that SEUFC apply for grants to assist with the cost. Cllr Waine asked what the cost would be to add an additional meter for the football club – **Cllr Ashford** will ask Kev Lay for a quote. The general thought was that SEUFC need to take on the contract as the costs are entirely theirs at this point. **Clerk** asked to write to them initially and if they would like to hold a meeting then Cllrs Bugg and Bailey would like to attend. Mention in letter that anything discussed will need to go back to the next SEPC meeting for discussion and agreement. Ask them to reply initially via email.

0322/FC1737 Body cams for the Street Crossing Patrol Wardens

The Clerk contacted Richard Watson at ECC. The intention is to shortly go live with a new project to purchase and support the use of 5/8 cameras for use. Despite raising issues over SEPC's concern that every warden should be equally protected the Clerk was advised that they currently do not have the manpower to support additional cameras at this time. As no further progress can be made Cllr Playle is now taking this forward.

Cllr Hughes stated that there is no point proceeding until we have a response from Cllr Playle. Cllr Ashford stated that it goes against the grain for him. All agreed that they are 100% behind the concept of buying the cameras, however ECC are the employers and can't afford to support more than 8. Cllr Hughes asked the question as to whether or not the Crossing Patrol Wardens actually want the cameras? Cllr Ashford will approach them both to see if they want SEPC to pursue the issue. Cllr Bailey raised concerns with GDPR, and children being photographed. Cllr McDonald agrees with the principle but is concerned about the legal issues for SEPC as they are not our employees, he suggested that the **Clerk** put this on the Project Plan, with a copy on the noticeboard. Agreed.

0322/FC1738 Consideration to be given to the installation of an additional defibrillator in the village

Cllr McDonald believes it is still relevant to have one installed at the Western Arms. Cllr Galley confirmed that it is not the right time to approach Redrow to ask for their site unit to be donated to SEPC, as they are so far from finishing building works.

Clerk asked to write to Redrow, Croudace and Sanctuary asking for a £500 donation each on the basis that SEPC arrange the electrical supply and installation.

0322/FC1739 **Celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Cllrs Bugg and Ashford attended an event meeting last week to discuss the planned event on 4th June, 1-6pm.

Cllr Bugg offered apologies for those that heard about this event via social media, rather than at this FC meeting.

A large programme has been discussed to be sited at the top end of the Memorial Gardens and at the Congregational Church.

The following was suggested with proposed pricing where appropriate:

- Donkey rides – £395
- Fish and Chip van
- Bouncy castles x 4 £400
- Candy floss £300
- Generators – £150
- First Aid Cover
- Music licence
- Meridian Roadshow – £600 (confirmed with SEPC via email)
- Classic cars
- WI - tearoom in the Congregational Church
- Fete stalls
- Heritage trail around the village (SEHS to agree.)

Cllr Bailey was shocked that some companies are making a charge. He is happy to look into this to see if he can reduce costs and plans to attend the next meeting. He will liaise with Cllrs Bugg and Ashford in advance.

All companies need to be asked to provide proof of their own insurance.

Volunteers are needed to man the event – **Clerk** asked to invite Leila Hobart to the event on 5th April to see if she can help with volunteer numbers.

0322/FC1740 **Silver End's 100th anniversary**

Cllr McDonald reminded everyone that this will take place in 4 years' time, in 2026. The 90th anniversary was thoroughly enjoyable, but people may want to do things differently. **Clerk** asked to make this an agenda item after the Jubilee to use the feedback from that to put towards ideas for the 100th.

It was suggested SEHS should be involved as they did the 90th., although Cllr Bugg stated that he is unsure where SEHS will be in 4 years' time. It will be difficult for them to commit to something so far away.

0322/FC1741 **Agenda items for next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on 13th April. Cllr Waine proposed that it be held in the office, rather than the Small Hall. Cllr Bailey acted as second.

Vote: For – 3 Against: 3. Therefore the casting vote went to the Chair who was against. **Clerk** to book the Small Hall for April and then review at each meeting.

Agenda items to include:

Commemorative benches

Defibrillator

Platinum Jubilee event

There being no further matters to discuss the Chair called the meeting to a close at 22.02pm.