

SILVER END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 13th April 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 0422/FC1746) and 4 members of the public (left after 0422/FC1744.)

0422/FC1742 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Hopkins and Cllr Abbott (BDC.)
 Absent without apologies: None.

0422/FC1743 **Declarations of Interest** by Members in respect of any items on the agenda.
Cllr Galley declared an interest in item 0422/FC1751.

0422/FC1744 **Members of the public** are given an opportunity to speak at this point (10-minute allocation.)
4 Members of the public were present, and all are residents of Green Mews.
Points that they would like raised with the parish council:

- Anti-social behaviour going on outside their homes. Main issue is the access road where footballs are damaging properties etc. Sometimes fires are lit, and bottles smashed. Many of the Green Mews residents try to speak to the young people and find that for a few days the problems die down but then it starts again. Some residents have been abused. They understand that kids will be kids but there is currently a group that causes repetitive noise such as kicking a football against the wall. Invited the kids into their homes in an attempt to make them understand by listening to the noise nuisance. They believe that one of the groups has moved onto Witham currently. Due to the continued issue they feel they need to work together to improve matters. They appreciate that it is a fleeting issue for this current age group. They don't want this to be the meeting point and don't want to stop them as they need to explore life. Huddle around the access light that is to the side of the shops. They suggested use of the multi sports court to move the problem away.

The Chair thanked them for their attendance and for raising the matter for discussion.

Cllr Ashford stated that this has been an ongoing problem even before Green Mews was built. SEPC objected to the build as knew there would be problems, based on past experience with the site. Years ago, the shelter and skatepark were built in the hope of keeping the younger members of the community entertained. SEPC installed CCTV in the car park that was there originally but the developers removed them once building started. He also pointed out that sadly this is the only public wall in the village so youngsters will be drawn there to kick a ball.

Cllr Bailey pointed out that the multi sports court become the exact same problem for the residents of Silver Street, hence why it is now locked.

The Chair pointed out that there has been a problem since Green Mews was built and that SEPC had arranged with BDC to install the gate there to stop vehicles/motorbikes accessing the field by the end property.

It was suggested that all residents report every single incident to the Police to ensure that there is a greater Police presence in the area. In addition, they were advised to keep a joint diary.

The Clerk pointed out the SEPC's role is to sign post residents to the right people. She has already been in touch with BDC regarding their properties, the surgery and the village hall. She suggested that they contact her, and she can give them contact details, including Joscelyne Chase.

The residents expressed their gratitude for listening, as felt that this wasn't the case on a previous visit.

The Chair thanked them for their attendance and the left the meeting at this point.

0422/FC1745 **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:

- BDC Planning have issued an indicative timetable to work towards an update of the Conservation Area Guidelines, starting with a team meeting in late April, followed by a meeting in May with SEHS and SEPC. The aim is to report to the planning Committee by the end of the year, for approval. **Clerk** to diarise.
- The refuse truck has been booked for 22/23 – 23rd July and 21st January. **Notices** will go in the boards.
- She is awaiting a cost for 2 dog bins and their installation to enable to the application for a **Community Grant**.
- She understands that the whips and bulbs have been planted and asked **Cllr Bailey** if he had taken a photo for her to forward to BDC.
- The gate should by now have been replaced at the entrance to the Silver Street pavilion. Now that this has been done BDC will get a quote for the pathway. **Clerk** to diarise.
- A report has been made to BDC about the graffiti on the side of the village hall entrance. They have asked for specific locations of graffiti throughout the village and they will then remove. It was agreed that the **Clerk** should order wipes, a brush and spray for our staff to clean as they see graffiti around the village.
- Dates for Luncheon Club for 22/23 have been sent to and agreed by Hire a Hall, BDC Transport and Tiptree Meals. A request has been made for the **Clerk** to advertise for a volunteer for the Club as they are getting busier and need more help.

- She reported the inconveniently parked horse box on Francis Way, to the NEPP. They have asked the owner to park further down the road to make it easier to pass. The Clerk witnessed that it had moved over the weekend. As long as the truck is parked on the road and is passable it is thereby parked legally.
- The **Clerk** has contacted Eastlight to discuss the possibility of knee rails outside their properties on Broadway. Awaiting response as Matthew Lawday is on holiday for 2 weeks.
- Leila Hobart has given her names of volunteers for Speedwatch. The **Clerk** asked for names from SEPC so that she can send these, along with proposed new locations, to the Fire Service. She was asked to include Cllrs Ashford, Hughes and Hopkins.

0422/FC1746 **Report from County/District Councillors**

Cllr Wright reported:

- No news as yet from Local Plan Inspector. Unlikely to happen before June.
- Planning Committee – 3 major applications have been refused in anticipation of the Local Plan being adopted, although these are likely to go to appeal.
- Grants – make applications as soon as possible.
- ECC officers are recommending approval for the access application by Indaver – despite objections from SEPC and Rivenhall PC. Bailey bridges cannot take the weight. He and Cllr Abbott are pushing still for A120 access.
- Indaver – announced today that there is a planned site meeting in May to include Belgian Royalty, using it as a positive trade deal between UK and Belgium. They continue to push for DCO application to bypass ECC.
- Chief Exec of BDC recruitment – new appointee by end August.
- Conservation Area Guidelines – meetings are being set up – completion end 2022.
- SEPC – re wilding of land – he and James will help if needed.
- Pond in Memorial Gardens – suggested cleaning it. Cllr Bailey stated that while we have such a huge number of ducks in residence that there is no point in cleaning it. All agreed, however further agreed that the ducks don't cause the litter. **Clerk** asked to remind Rick Sargeant that he agreed to put a lid on the bin nearest the pond. There is a squirrel that is currently emptying it around the village and leaving a mess that is being blown into the pond.

The Chair opened the floor to questions:

Cllr McDonald - 20mph speed limit notifications do not include Walter Way. **Clerk** has raised this with BDC.

Cllr Wright was thanked for his attendance and his report and he left meeting at this point.

0422/FC1747 **Planning Applications – agreed via email communication since the last meeting. Only objections/comments noted:**

No objections made.

0422/FC1748 **Correspondence – not already covered in the Clerk's Report**

ECC – Public notices for the 20mph limits in the village have been issued. Cllr McDonald has raised the issue that Walter Way is being shown as 30mph.

Member of the Public – she has a horse chestnut in a pot that she would love to see planted in the village somewhere. Can anyone collect/plant it? Healthy and 6 feet tall. All agreed that this should be included with tree planting but that we need to wait until Oct. **Clerk** to diarise with other tree planting.

ECC – new travel app being launched. Details sent for WoSE, if there is room in the next edition.

Member of the Public – mum of one of the many children in the village with a rare genetic or chromosomal condition. Aiming to set up a monthly support evening. Initially the Clerk has signposted her to Hire a Hall and the Children's Centre.

Essex Highways – new monthly newsletter emailed to all re A120 and A12. Printed for the Chair.

Member of the Public – complaint initially from resident believing that the magazine will no longer be printed. The Clerk responded that this was not the case and explained the planned changes. There then followed a complaint about the content itself and the way that articles are written. The Clerk suggested that as WoSE is volunteer led perhaps she would like to be involved.

The **Clerk** will send her details to Cllr McDonald in time for the next edition.

Members of the Public – the Clerk has received 2 complaints about vandalism to the village hall and also the noise being created around the doctor's surgery. The Clerk has notified BDC, Asset Management and liaised with the complainants.

0422/FC1749 **Reports**

Reports from Silver End Parish Councillors – Meeting/Activities

3 Parishes Meeting – attended by Cllrs Bugg, McDonald and Hughes. Cllr Hughes reported that it was well attended. Items covered - tree planting, NHS/S106 monies, Jubilee, grading of land. SEPC will host the next meeting, early July. **Clerk** to liaise with the parishes.

Cllrs Hughes and Bugg spent time in the Memorial Gardens over the weekend having a general tidy. Mulch has been laid with the help of local children which was happily accepted. **Clerk** asked to liaise with BDC to cut back the bamboo and the fallen conifer in the pond area.

Cllr Ashford reported another RTA on Boars Tye Road yesterday.

Cllr Bugg reported on the Events Meeting – thank you to councillors in attendance. Risk assessments and paperwork to be organised. The Clerk has sent details of SEPC's insurance liability to Cllr Ashford (£10m.)

Picnic bench to be replaced at the woodland end of the gardens, along with the one already missing there are 2 to be replaced in that area, by the footprints. **Clerk** to notify BDC.

Reports for ECC/BDC

Eastlight garage leaking. **Clerk** to report.

0422/FC1750 **Finance**

Payments made since the last meeting:

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
Hire a Hall (meeting 13/4)	39.38		

Payments to be made:

Office Service charge	40.00	Essex Pension Fund	507.01
M/Gdns contract	462.00	Petty cash	18.14
Printer ink	9.99	Tiptree Meals	162.00
BDC Transport	30.00	EALC affiliation	694.18
HMRC	1543.14	Eastlight (garage rental 22/23)	52.56pm
Hire A Hall (Annual meeting)	43.31	Firstserv domain renewal (2 yrs)	122.40
Speedprint	549.00	Riffhams Donkeys (Jubilee event – deposit)	50.00
Graffiti cleaner	57.37	BALC subscription	40.00
Agreed.			

Bank Balances

Current Account	£ 4,074.29
Deposit Account	£13,000.00

Audit 2021/22

The Clerk has prepared the Audit for 21/22.

She went through the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement, and it was agreed that both be signed under minute 0422/FC1750(i) & (ii) respectively. Clerk and Chair to sign.

Annual audit to be held around 17/6 when Greta Tew is back in the UK.

To be back with the auditor by 1st July.

0422/FC1751 **Consideration to be given to increase in the cost of electricity for the floodlights**

The Clerk reported that discussions have taken place with Silver End United FC and there seems to be little understanding of where the increase comes from particularly, other than the general unit increase and the change in VAT.

It has been pointed out that there is no heating as suggested at the last meeting, there has always been a kitchen and it has just been updated and should therefore be more efficient.

They are unable to attend the meeting this evening, but the Clerk has requested a get together asap.

0422/FC1752 **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Already discussed during reports.

Cllr Ashford added that events will include – inflatables, classic cars at front of the Manors, DJ, arena events, donkey rides, face painting, sweet cart, disability scooters, ladies choir, school events in the arena, fancy dress, bake off, village walk, WI tea room, food vans. Thanks to be minuted to the Girl Guides, Scouts and the WI.

0422/FC1753 **Consideration to be given to the installation of an additional defibrillator in the village**

The Clerk has contacted Redrow, Croudace and Sanctuary requesting donations for an additional defib in the village. All have acknowledged receipt but have had to put it to their head offices for consideration. Clerk to diarise and place on the agenda again once decisions have been made.

0422/FC1754 **Commemorative benches**

Design agreed by SEPC Members, awaiting the end of purdah for Cllr Playle to move these on in May.

0422/FC1755 **Clerk's availability in the SEPC office**

Cllr Waine asked the Clerk to put this on the agenda requesting that the Clerk be present in the office a morning each week.

The Clerk stated that she does not have an issue with this in theory, but she is not confident that it is the best use of her time. In addition, she is contracted to work from home. She agreed to come in one morning a week, using a pre-booking system, and will keep a log of how many people come in and for how long to ensure that her time is maximised.

Cllr Waine believes that we might lose the office if we don't use it. Cllr Ashford replied that he thinks it is unlikely that BDC will do this. He believes that it is an old-fashioned way of working to be in an office, the pandemic has shown that remote working is the way forward. He added that £40pm is well worth the cost for retaining an office for meetings, staffing issues etc. Cllr Bugg thinks we should have a presence. Cllr Waine asked why other parishes are present to which Cllr Ashford replied that this could be for numerous reasons, including the Clerk not being able to work from home or needing to be available to make hall bookings etc. Cllr McDonald added that it is nice to meet in person and thinks that the Clerk should be present in the office, however Cllr Galley stated that he does not believe this to be an efficient way of working. Cllr Hughes agreed that it is nice for the elderly to have face to face contact and better to come in once a week than more to accommodate appointments.

Cllr Bailey can see both sides and believes that the Clerk should attend one morning a week and monitor appointments and calls and keep evidence, Review in 3 months. Cllr Hughes acted as second.

Cllr Ashford further proposed that the Clerk should work efficiently in line with modern principles and only come into the office when needed. Cllr Galley acted as second.

Vote in favour of 1st proposal: 5 for, 2 against and therefore carried. **Clerk** to diarise review for discussion at July's meeting. In addition, the Clerk will note calls/messages to the office to discuss the need for potential call divert.

0422/FC1756 **Parish Assembly – date and format**

The **Clerk** advised that a date for the annual PC meeting needs to be organised by the end of June.

The 18th May was suggested by Cllr Galley with a message to organisations to ask if they would be interested to attend.

Depending on the response it can be held in the office, unless there are lots of replies in which case the main hall will be booked as the small hall is no longer available on a Wednesday evening.

0422/FC1757 **Agenda items for next meeting**

The next meeting (APCM) will take place on 11th May. All agreed that meetings will start again in the office.

- Increase in the cost of electricity of the floodlights and how best to proceed.
- Jubilee.
- Commemorative benches.
- Annual Parish Meeting.

There being no further matters to discuss the Chair called the meeting to a close at 21.42pm.