

SALCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the online meeting of On Wednesday 24th March 2021

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT * - Attendance; A- Absent; N - No Apologies Received

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| Cllr Mrs N. Turton – Mayor (in the Chair) | * |
| Cllr. M. Fice | * |
| Cllr Mrs Bricknell | * |
| Cllr R. Moore | * |
| Cllr Mrs L. Sinnott | A |
| Cllr I. Hatch | * |
| Cllr A. Hainey | * |
| Cllr M. Payne | * |
| Cllr Miss D. Ward | A |
| Cllr P. Lafferty-Holt | * |
| Cllr R. Whitfield | * |

Also in attendance:

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| Dist. Cllr Mrs J. Pearce | * |
| Dist Cllr M. Long | * |
| Cty. Cllr. R Gilbert | * |
| Gill Claydon (Clerk) | * |
| Pete Robinson (Cemetery Manager and Project Officer) | * |
| Tom Ladds Kingsbridge Gazette | A |
| WPC Jo Pengilly | N |

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to acknowledge any declarable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests that they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. Cllr Lafferty-Holt declared an interest in application 1004/21/HHO as he resides in this property.

2. OPEN FORUM

Mark Lawrence was present as he was standing on behalf of the Liberal Democrats in the forthcoming County election. He lived in Modbury and had been a parish councillor there for 10 years. He had also been a District Councillor for 4 years and he reviewed his local connections and that his sister in law had worked in Salcombe library. In the past he had worked for Somerset County Council and now here was an active Member of the South Hams Society as he cared very much about the South Hams environment. He looked forward to meeting everyone at future meetings and noted he would be leaving during the meeting to attend Bigbury Parish Council.

Sara Walker was a second home owner who wished to listen to discussions about Whitestrand Car Park being closed in summer as she owned the property Cooks Boathouse next door to the car park. For them the closure was bad news and she noted she had sent an email explaining these concerns. She was worried that the heart and soul of the town would disappear if people could not come down and park in the centre of town as it would drive people away if they could not park and unload, or pop in for supplies.

Helen Preston attended because she had heard that there was opportunity for a stall on Whitestrand car park and regarding this she was concerned along with her interest as a resident. Businesses depended on that car park during the day for people to come to the centre of town. Island Street had extended car parking and footfall from there stayed that side so they needed to look after the town centre. Town centres across the country were dying so everyone needed to look after them as they were unique and all equally as important as each other. She was sad to hear that Salcombe would be losing the town car park to allow other traders to come in who were not paying the annual rates and outgoings that the shops were paying but would benefit from the summer business.

Tony Croke had come to listen to discussions on Motorhomes at North Sands car park. He had emailed concerns but noted this usage would bring gas bottles amongst petrol and diesel cars and there was a complete lack of provision for any fire fighting proposals as would be in place in a campsite.

Matthew Colman thanked town council that he was invited to the meeting as that was appreciated. He attended due to Whitestrand car park and it being closed as he was not happy with this. It had closed on 12th April when Government was just setting steps out of lockdown. Businesses had a hard time of it and then the parking was taken away for people arriving down. It still looked a mess which was not a good impression and he felt the change for seating was not used properly. With just a scattering of chairs across the car park nobody could access the area to pop to Boots, use the coffee shop, their butchers and other outlets. District Council officers had also been down issuing parking tickets and he had spoken to the person, who came ticketing, and he could not find anywhere to park and was not aware it was closed. From 17th May people should be allowed to go inside businesses to eat so he felt this closure should not happen in the town.

Mark Goodey was at the meeting just to observe.

Andy Fowler also thanked all for the invite and explained his concern was with Whitestrand car park due to the listed agenda item relating to a temporary chalet on the car park. The town had 20 shop outlets already selling a diverse range of things and bringing in a temporary chalet selling food was not helpful.

James Allen had raised questions via an email but apologised as he was unable to attend due to childcare. The matters raised had been circulated to all town council and would be addressed by email.

District and County Councilor Reports

Cty Cllr Gilbert sent the following report ahead of the earlier meeting in April that in turn was cancelled.

- 1) Tourism. Devon were more than likely to have a very busy summer season, with many of the issues experienced last year being with us gain this year. Devon County would do all it could to mitigate these issues whenever possible. Cty Cllr Gilbert provided a slide pack regarding the hospitality industry,
- 2) Made in Devon. He asked that councillors took a moment to read the attachment and whenever possible, please help to promote this.
- 3) Edmeston A379. He had ensured regular updates regarding night closures.

- 4) Vaccinations & Covid. Weekly bulletin updates were available.
- 5) Highways. 17700tons of salt had been so far this year compared to a total of 9600 last year. Traffic flows: M5, A30 and A38 reduction of 40% traffic at the beginning of April as against the same week last year. A 25% reduction on Devon's Highway network overall for the same week last year.
- 6) Bennett Road. He had been made aware of excavating work being carried out. Highways were aware and monitoring.

At the meeting he advised on going round Salcombe, during election campaigning, the car parks had been brought up during conversation many times but this was a District not County matter. He had forwarded the email regarding the Court of Appeal result in relation to online meetings for parish councils, and it looked as if parish councils should meet after 7th May. He acknowledged it had been great fun serving Salcombe for the last 7 years and he looked forward to a further 4 years.

Cty Cllr Gilbert left the meeting as Dist Cllr Long arrived from another meeting.

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce referred to a budget offered to towns for any projects to help businesses to reopen. She explained that District had been instructed by Government to make any seating available which was what District had done at Whitestrand but they were talking about this. District felt seating usage would be needed in July and August as no doubt the town would be so full. She assured everyone District was listening. The food stall was discussed and District asked all businesses around Whitestrand if they wanted it. The intention was for it to be only ice creams, tea and coffee and she advised it was a local business in Salcombe.

District had heard from County Council that the electric charging points program would be starting up. The installation had been sub contracted to an electricity supplier and these charging points would be installed on Creek Car Park. The Motorhome policy consultation, she advised, would be open next Monday and District would listen to comments. This was a one year pilot so everything would be reviewed at the end. Their localities service was now operational 7 days a week with someone emptying the litter bins to ensure the area was clear. She noted there had been a few anomalies on the introduction of recycling boxes but District was sorting this. It was inconvenient that Government would not allow any more remote meetings and it seemed County might have to hire the rugby ground to hold meetings within which members could be distanced.

Cllr Hainey advised he was fully behind Whitestrand being closed but agreed with Matthew Coleman that the area looked a mess. He asked if District could provide planters rather than having barriers across the entrance, something more attractive. Cllr Fice noted Andrew Fowler's comments regarding Whitestrand car park being closed but it was also full of builders vans, surely this should not happen if it was closed. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce was not aware of this and would send an email that night and get that sorted.

Cllr Fice continued on another matter regarding recycling problems around Malborough, Totnes and Dartmouth where people were not having recycling collected. When reporting people were getting a terse response that due to access issues the contractor was unable to collect. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce was trying to get to the bottom of this and sympathised and advised smaller lorries had been ordered, arrived and should be going out shortly. Those properties affected should have still had blue and clear bags and continued with those until the smaller

lorries could collect. Cllr Fice advised he had received recycling boxes but these were not collected so it seemed to be there was no feedback as to what was going to happen. He now had three weeks recycling outside his house. He had asked raised a question at an earlier meeting regarding where boxes delivered were left outside holiday homes and not taken in. He was told the locality officer would come around 3 or 4 days later to remove any not claimed. Now there were some that had been left lying for over 10 days along Victoria Quay, Buckley Street, Church Street and others. Previously he questioned what was happening with old brown caddies, and Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised people could do what they wanted with them and even put them in recycling to go.

Matthew Coleman had a question for Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce regarding putting chalets on Whitestrand car park, selling ice cream and coffee and why was it necessary when other businesses who had been struggling could furnish this need. Originally Whitestrand was allocated as social distancing and a safe space. District officers were keen for this chalet for a trial for this year and it was a local business who had the outlet.

Cllr Payne noted the Motorhome business at North Sands was also a pilot scheme but it sounded as though District had already decided. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce replied that it was not set in stone but she would await the consultation. The matter had to go to the Executive to approve before being put out for consultation.

Andy Fowler continued that he found it difficult to understand an ice cream chalet on Whitestrand and why there was a necessity to place it there. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce said it was not her choice but that District had offered to businesses if you want a pitch on Whitestrand apply and they would see what could be done. At the moment District was still talking to the trader and she was not sure when would be in situ but presumably when placement was organised. Andy noted that the South Sands ferry arriving in with tourists they would see ice cream so it had a direct business impact on the shops and this could be devastating for this town.

Dist Cllr Long noted he was not in favour of chalet but the trader had made a pitch for a space. It was a business from town but what was proposed, he felt, was a structure that would change the Whitestrand view and outlook. He had questioned where such structure would be positioned and was told near electricity, probably nearer the Harbour Office. Dist Cllr Long believed from his involvement in the regatta that there was a power point for the Christmas tree near to the police parking. He had responded that it was not appropriate near the Harbour Office acknowledging the covenant with the Kings Arms. Cllr Miss Bricknell acknowledged an email from Steph Clark expressing she was completely against the chalet for which she sympathised as local businesses needed the income to keep them going without an additional pop up.

Mark Goodey wished to acknowledge that Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce referred to the fact that Salcombe would be extremely busy with everywhere crammed so was it right to run a pilot for camper vans. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce noted that there had been wild camping last year and this was a way for District to try to regulate it on their land. As far as their car parks were concerned they would rather regulate as the police did not. These vehicles would come so this was better and safer with fire spacing regulations between vehicles that the users would have to adhere to. She was asked who would police the on street parking spaces adjacent to the car park and was advised that was County Council. District Council had offered to implement

enforcement for on street parking for Devon County this year but to date they had not yet accepted their offer.

Helen Preston wanted to make a point that she appreciated businesses were invited to apply for the car park but they were not informed they could erect a structure. The business who was taking advantage of this chalet in Whitestrand car park had the luxury of hundreds of cars parked in the vicinity of their business. She also questioned any noise from generators and would they be plugging into free electricity. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce noted this. Andy Fowler advised he was never offered a facility or pitch with electricity and if he had known this he could have come up with a plan to provide his coffee shop on Whitestrand. He believed it was just table and chairs and he was not aware about electricity provision. Cllr Lafferty-Holt acknowledged his business would not qualify to be offered a pitch but as a local business on the car park he was not advised when the car park would close and yet he did need access so it seemed the communication had been poor.

Dist Cllr Long felt Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce had covered most District matters but noted the comments on the new recycling large/medium sized trucks and felt there had supposed to be an assessment of access and problems before roll out. The medium size went out but could not access so small would now be provided. There were constant complaints coming in and a District response that stated this was due to access problems was not a good enough response.

He noted that the Creek toilets had been closed for partial refurbishment and the Gents would have stainless steel troughs installed. It was a partial refurbishment with painting and more extensive panelling of walls being done during winter. This was being addressed and they would be open for the Bank Holiday weekend and if anything was not completed before that weekend it would be finished the following week. In relation to planning the Lealholme application in Allenhayes Road was refused by Development Committee that day and the Mayor thanked both Dist Cllr Long and Cllr Fice for speaking on this matter.

Cllr Fice noted the planning portal was becoming frustrating as applicants were naming their plans with no indication as to what the plans were either proposed or current. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce acknowledged that sadly there was nothing that could be done because the applicant uploaded plans themselves. Dist Cllr Long noted this matter had come up in discussion at Development Management along with the issue of photographs not always being shown. He had asked what could be done as personally he felt an application should be bounced back as not valid. But it was difficult as the Government advice and guidance for correct explanation would need District legal to look into whether an application could be refused for this. Cllr Fice noted that the bin on Victoria Quay, which was moved from Whitestrand, had 4 flaps and one did not work properly so maintenance came to repair and installed a strip of hard plastic. People now did not push the rubbish in properly so it sat on the lip and gulls getting it. Dist Cllr Long agreed that the actual flap by the waste emptying door needed a longer flap element and this flap was too stiff and must be changed.

Cllr Lafferty-Holt noted points on the new recycling in that with smaller trucks so doing more trips effectively to collect everything how were carbon emissions being reduced or was this exercise just to be cheaper. Dist Cllr Long felt that environmentally it was better as they were collecting more recycled waste to go to recycling where previously some was being transported quite some distance. Now garden waste was being composted locally so that was less miles. The vehicles were smaller but as they were collecting every week so there was less

build up and at some point the vehicles were moving to electric or hydrogen so carbon emissions would be less.

3. MINUTES

It was noted that the meeting of the 14th April was cancelled, due to Mourning Period for Prince Philip, and the Minutes of the online meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday 24th March 2021 were approved to be duly signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

4. CO-OPTION

No applications having been received this was dispensed with.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The following application responses were duly RATIFIED having already been sent to the District as Planning Authority following consideration under Delegated Authority;

- 0421/21/HHO Householder application for new timber steps bolted to South East boundary wall to provide estuary access The Ferry Cottage, Fore Street, Salcombe, TQ8 8JE – Response 6th May – No comment.
- 0422/21/LBC Listed Building Consent for new timber steps bolted to South East boundary wall to provide estuary access The Ferry Cottage, Fore Street, Salcombe, TQ8 8JE – Response 6th May – No comment.
- 0525/21/HHO Retrospective householder application for alterations and rear extension to dwelling 2 The Quay, Lower Batson, TQ8 8NN – Response 6th May – No comment.
- 0526/21/LBC Retrospective listed building consent for alterations and rear extension to dwelling 2 The Quay, Lower Batson, TQ8 8NN – Response 6th May – No comment.
- 0690/21/HHO Householder application for replacement of existing white timber frame windows with new white PVCu flush casement glazing 10 Island Street, Salcombe TQ8 8DP – Response 22nd April – No comment.
- 0697/21/VAR Application for variation of conditions 2 (drawings) and 15 (external finishes) of planning consent 0087/18/FUL Site of Former Workshop, Gould Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8DU – Response 29th April – No comment.
- 0815/21/HHO Storage / home office (resubmission of 4296/20/HHO) 16 Camperdown Road, Salcombe TQ8 8AX – Response 22nd April – No objection but it was requested that a condition be made that the building was used in perpetuity as a storage area/work from home unit. Further a condition was required relating to the type of work to be carried out (low noise level) as this was in a residential area.
- 0820/21/FUL Single storey rear extensions to two dwellings 2 and 3 Buckley Cottages, Lower Batson, TQ8 8NW – Response 29th April – Objection as the roof materials to be used on the extensions did not compliment the local and traditional palette of materials used in the area and as such were contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan policy B1 para 2c. Due to the narrow approach to the properties, if approval was given then there would need to be a Construction Management Plan.
- 0863/21/HHO Householder application for side extension, resurfacing including kerbs, retaining wall, drainage of driveway, rebuilding of car turning space including excavation, reforming levels and fencing (retrospective), Swallows Lodge, Sandhills Road, Salcombe TQ8 8JP – Response 29th April – No comment.
- 0870/21/HHO Householder application for ground and first floor extension Overdale, Main Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JW – Response 29th April – No comment.

- **The following applications were duly considered, and such observations sent to the District as Planning Authority;**
- 0565/21/HHO Householder application for single storey ground floor extension, new main entranceway and internal reconfiguration of existing ground floor layout Beadon Park A, Main Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8AE – Response 13th May – No comment.
- 0904/21/ADV Advertisement Consent for Hotel name sign to gable end of property South Sands Hotel, Bolthead, Salcombe, TQ8 8LL – Response 13th May – No comment.
Cllr Lafferty-Holt was placed in a breakout room while the following application was considered.
- 1004/21/HHO Householder application for ground floor extension to existing dwelling 17 Longfield Drive, Salcombe, TQ8 8NT – Response 27th May – No comment.
- 1066/21/HHO Householder application for extension to existing garage Castle Point, Sandhills Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JP – Response 20th May – No comment but a condition that it be kept as a garage in perpetuity was requested.
- 1076/21/FUL Erection of balcony and associated alterations to existing dormer Charborough House, Devon Road, Salcombe, Devon TQ8 8HB – Response 13th May – Objection. There was no objection to the balcony but the style of the new double doors and full height glazing was not complimentary to the rest of this heritage asset and as such was contrary to paragraph 2b Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy B1.
- 1127/21/FUL Erection of single storey extension, internal alterations and replacement of plastic roof to rear with slate Woodbourne, Lower Woodbourne, Devon Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8HJ – Response 20th May – No comment.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further to add.

6. BONFIRE HILL CEMETERY

A request was made, by parents, to place a memorial bench adjacent to the children's burial section and it was AGREED that such bench could be placed where requested. The terms of such placement were that a plinth was required and town council would make this installation to ensure its location. If the seat deteriorated there would be a provision that if the owners did not remedy this in good time the bench could be removed for safety purposes.

7. MOTORHOMES CONSULTATION

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised that the consultation was to commence the following Monday. District had advised that to control wild camping and be able to enforce what happened this year they had proposed this pilot and provided enforcement officers who would be self generating their pay through income. Everyone who had emailed town council had been advised they needed to also send their response into the District consultation.

The Mayor commenced by noting the District charges proposed were too low as this would be competing with neighbouring campsites who provided facilities and all the correspondence submitted by objectors had been read and contained valid points with regard to access, rubbish, control etc.

Cllr Fice raised a slight concern that the enforcement officers only worked till 8p.m which he felt was not late enough. Once users found out the cut off time was 8p.m. they would arrive at 9p.m and use the area untracked. He also had a concern of how users would get rid of grey water from within these camper vans and referred to the points in Mike O'Briens email. There would be increased waste but against that he could understand District Council trying to control what happened on their own car park but if this usage was publicised it would quickly get out of hand with too many camper vans arriving to use it. Cllr Moore felt the proposal was a ridiculous idea and District Council was looking at this as a business venture when other camp sites around were registered and duly equipped as such licensed facilities. This proposal could block up parking spaces for days on end and North Sands was a crowded parking area already. Cllr Payne was against this proposal acknowledging the camp sites around already provided enough facilities and £15 per night was unrealistic. He had read every single email objection and each email contained 7 or 8 justified reasons not to pilot this. Cllr Lafferty-Holt agreed with everyone as this appeared that the minority, who broke the rules, would be allowed to now park with the majority ending up paying for such usage. He suggested that if District feared people would park camper vans overnight then the locality officers should work later and stop the minority doing what they wanted.

Cllr Hailey had read all the objections but noted nobody objected in any form to a Waitrose, John Lewis or concrete lorry travelling down these roads and as all paid road tax camper vans were allowed such use. He felt the proposal needed a little more thought with regard to grey water as there were lots of solutions and places who already did this provided portaloos and portatanks and District could increase the charge to camper vans to cover these services. Aires had been talked about and the area needed to encourage people to come to the town, so they felt welcomed. The few objections did not reflect the larger amount of resident population, so they were either not worried or did not know it was going on. Cllr Hailey was fully for this use and could not think of any good reason for it not to happen. He had contacted, by email, both local campsites and asked if they could accommodate him and a campervan for 2 nights. One was full and the other did not offer one-night stops in August but could put him up in a field with no electricity. From this he felt that locally they were not supplying demand for one nighters. Cllr Hatch noted he followed a campervan from Malborough, and it only just got round some of the corners and on Tuesday the North Sands car park was flooded with water. The Mayor agreed District had a lot to think about and asked for a vote from town council as to whether this proposal by District should be supported - 2 for 6 against 1 abstention.

The District Council proposals to provide motorhome overnight provision within District car parks were considered as above and it was AGREED following the vote that the town response to this consultation would be against the proposal and pilot within North Sands Car Park.

8. WHITESTRAND CAR PARK

Following discussion the below decisions were AGREED;

- a) proposal for a temporary chalet selling food to be allowed by District on the car park – Unanimous objection.
- b) the request from District Council to contribute towards their expected shortfall in income of circa £3000 due to business usage of the parking area for Covid measures – A proposal that Town Council would not contribute was carried.

9. COVID TRAFFIC ORDER

It was advised that a new Traffic Order for Covid distancing would need to be applied for as the current one held could not now be reimplemented. It was AGREED as follows;

- a) wish to reinstate parking and access restrictions in town to comply with social distancing measures and reopening of high streets – Social distancing could end on 20th June and it was felt that removing all parking spaces in town and restricting access along Fore Street had no impact last year. It was agreed that no the Traffic Order would not be resumed but clearer signage for driving through Fore Street and Cliff Road would be needed.
- b) need to order any further signage to assist Covid compliance – a working party would look at signage and this would be Cllrs Fice and Payne along with Pete Robinson and the Clerk

10. NIGHT SECURITY

A letter had been sent to Alison Hernandez PCC and Chief Insp Shaun Sawyer and to date only a response had been received from Alison Hernandez who was unable to assist due to the forthcoming elections.

It was AGREED to DEFER consideration of additional security till the May meeting to await further details from Government.

11. PUBLIC TOILETS

The working party had met to discuss the draft Agreement received from District setting out terms for town council to make a financial contribution towards keeping the toilets 'free to use'. The initial discussions on this matter, three years ago, were with a view to getting support from local businesses who did not have toilet facilities and used the public ones to support town council in this venture, but this never materialised. It was now questioned how often would local people, who paid council tax, use them and as it was not a great number, with the perception of this town having people with money visiting, it was asked should town be subsidising this.

Matt Coleman left the meeting.

Cllr Fice felt that morally Town Council would be obliged to pay for the period from April 2020 when the contract should have commenced but there would be an element not to be paid as all public toilets had been free of charge due to Covid. Aware of Covid and surface contact it was highlighted that all public toilets should be cashless payment. This reconsideration regarding the agreement needed to involve the Harbour Board so they were aware. A question was raised about the approach to local businesses contributing and it was advised that the Mayor and Julian Brazil, as representative of the harbour authority, went round every single business when this was first muted but whilst many had no toilets and said they would contribute they had not come forward.

It was AGREED that going forward town council no longer wished to contribute for the public toilets to remain free to use.

12. PUBLIC REALM

Comments and suggestions from town council regarding bringing all town furniture into an overall matching town design such as public bins, bollards, railings, and fingerposts noted the following ideas;

- Bins – Needed to add Courtenay Park, Cross Park Gardens and Jubilee Gardens play area along with one at the Over 60s on the edge by Island Street. All Salcombe bins would match the ones on Whitestrand but the black square ones would not fit on pavements so be black but a neater size.
- Fingerpost and bollard fence rail - quotes being obtained. These could be placed at Colemans corner, at the gap on Gould Road, sign at Over 60s by lamppost, bottom of Market Street, Devon Road entrance to Courtenay Park stating to park, town and museum. End of Courtenay Street pointing back up to park.
- Replace/repair bollards outside Colemans butchers
- Town Map
- Town Welcome sign
- Tidy up some of the signs road and direction signs by cleaning, repairing damaged and/or painting.
- Road services – potholes on Bennett Road and Batson Hill although this might be County.
- Cross Gardens telegraph poles that had planning notices staples, screws and pins all of which needed to be removed.
- More planters in places around town.

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised that the date for the £50,000 fund application was 20th June for receipt and they were drafting forms as they were still awaiting regulations from Government as to how this money could be spent. She noted the approach from the Chamber of Commerce and suggested they could be approached to if they had ideas for the town.

13. WORKS TO TREES

The quotes for works to trees at Bonaventure and Redfern Woods, as per the expert report, to include the need for a Road Closure application on Onslow Road were received and it was AGREED as follows:

- Devon Tree Services – For works at Bonaventure Woods at a cost of £1940 plus VAT
- Hi-Line – For works at Redfern Woods at a cost of £2010 plus VAT

14. MAINTENANCE

The matters below were AGREED as follows;

- a) Repairs to Shadycombe cemetery wall up to – Works to be carried out by Harry Thomas £3970 (No VAT)
Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce left the meeting.
- b) Maintenance of all town noticeboards and Shadycombe cemetery gates up to – Works to be carried out by Green Bee £562.50 (No VAT)
- c) Provision of a community noticeboard at Beadon Cross – Notice It noticeboard, installation and header stating Salcombe Community Noticeboard £1095 (No VAT).
- d) Works to clean and sanitise the council office ready for reopening up to – Works to be carried out by Clean Bee £80.00.

15. TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

In the light of the lifting of lockdown and Government no longer permitting Zoom meetings to be held it was AGREED to move to one meeting a month, face to face, in the large hall at Cliff House with members of the public asked to notify of attendance in order to allow arrangements to be made to keep contact to a minimum.

It was also AGREED to continue delegated authority to the Town Clerk to respond to planning matters unable to be carried to the next monthly meeting and make necessary payments, following input from town council.

16. SHADYCOMBE CEMETERY

A request from a property owner in Coronation Road had been received for access from the cemetery to the rear of their property for maintenance works by their contractors. It was AGREED that there was no natural access from the cemetery to this garden and concern for the wall, hedging and graves. Builders travelling back and forth over this area would be taking a disrespectful route.

17. BONFIRE HILL CEMETERY

An ongoing request to reinstate fencing along the perimeter between the cemetery and the park and ride field where town council had left the area to become hedge was again noted. It was AGREED more Hawthorn or Buckthorn could be planted to bulk this out to provide a natural boundary but not fence.

18. REPORTS

MAYORS'S REPORT

On the 9th April the Legal Working Group met to discuss items within this agenda, at which time town council heard the sad news that His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh had passed away. Town Council then followed all the protocols previously set by Government and the Royal Family, putting an appropriate memorial on the website and Facebook page, and cancelled the council meeting set for the 14th April as this fell within the official mourning period. Due to Covid regulations, all Books of Condolence were online, and links were provided for members of the public to access.

Town Council sent deepest condolences to Her Majesty, The Queen at this sad time, and we share in her sorrow at losing a much-loved member of the Royal Family.

On the 29th March the Clerk and Mayor met with a play and outdoor sports equipment provider regarding the possible extension to St Dunstons Play Park and a possible trim trail on The Berry. These are possible projects to spend Section 106 monies on and will be worked up with the District Council ahead of public consultation.

On the 31st March the Mayor attended the online workshop hosted by the Devon Association of Local Councils on 'Decision Making from the 7th May'.

Both the Clerk and Mayor had recently received communications from the District Council and Kingsbridge & Salcombe Chamber of Commerce (KSCC) in relation to the KSCC project to support local businesses with a £250 individual grant from their funds in order that each recipient could invest in their physical presentation to the public. They were asking that town

council contribute between £1,000 and £5,000 from the government funding made available to Town Councils. Unfortunately, the monies made available to Salcombe had either been allocated (the Covid Recovery Grant) or the criteria of the South Hams Economic Recovery fund specified match funded projects to improve the public realm. This fund was not designed to be applied for by a Town Council and then given out as cash to another group to pass on to independent businesses to upgrade their signage or van livery, purchase branded clothing and suchlike, which is what the KSCC grant was aimed at. The Mayor felt the Clerk could write and explain this to the Chamber.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- Cllr Hatch – At North Sands the pavement towards South Sands on the corner was being broken up by lorries going through the road to North Sands. It would be better to try to reduce lorries but a repair was required. Dist Cllr Long was still in touch with Tides Reach about their Construction Management Plan. This would be picked up as the pre existing state of the highway was filmed before works by both the contractors and Devon County and he noted elements of concrete were breaking away but this could be picked up. It was not just Tides Reach but other contractors who should contribute to repairs.
- Cllr Mrs Bricknell – Dogs were being let out in Courtenay Park with people not picking up after them. She asked if some of the matched funding grant be used to put a fence round. Dist Cllr Long said signs never stopped people but metal permanent signs would be going up and this route was on locality officers route to ask people to pay attention. The cost of fencing would basically fence in around the whole perimeter pathway with little clear space and if fenced people would still take dogs in. Cllr Mrs Bricknell had been offered a contribution to match fund a fence. On the matter of weeds Dist Cllr Long replied that he was getting confirmation of areas that District could or could not do and he had agreement for sweeping off treated areas 3 weeks after kill which would be available. He was expecting to hear with a positive response before this meeting for costing but would press for this and timing for such works.
- Cllr Payne – Noted that road maintenance condition was in a state and required works
- Cllr Fice – Consultation on an amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan finished this coming Friday evening and he only had 12 responses so if anyone wanted to still do so then they had to by 6p.m Friday. He attended the Minibus AGM as council trustee and there was not much to report as the bus had not run last year and thus made a loss. They were hopeful to recommence beginning of July. He had spoke at Development Management and Lealholme was refused by 9 to 2votes.
- Cllr Hainey – Noted, on driving through Thurlestone, he observed a street sweeper scraping up all the weeds and asked why was this happening there but not Salcombe. Dist Cllr Long advised it was what street sweepers should have been doing across the whole area and he had forwarded this matter to the team and stated it would be a rare sight in Salcombe. The team responded it was street sweepers judgement whether work was needed and Dist Cllr Long therefore had a walk around booked with locality officers to pick up on matters including scraping up of weeds if they see excessive growth.
- Cllr Lafferty-Holt – Noted the door to the cupboard by the old water fountain at Victoria Inn was open on Sunday and asked if this was the Regatta cupboard. Dist Cllr Long had sorted out a bracket that would hold and was going down with the brass bracket to fit that weekend.

CLERK'S REPORT

- The vast amount of emails received from people expressing concern with regard to the District Council proposal to allow motorhomes at North Sands car park had been responded to and their comments forwarded to all town council.
- County Footpaths had made an approach to ask if Town Council would be able to arrange for their maintenance contractor, or another, to carry out the footpath cuts this year. Apparently they were short of contractors so would not be able to carry out the works at the usual times unless an alternative local contractor could be found. They had an amount of money for these works which could be paid to the Town Council under the P3 scheme. Ten paths needed cuts in the last week in May and first week in July whilst another eleven required one cut around 15th June. It was agreed an approach could be made to the District Council contract team to ask if they could quote and carry out these works.
- Documentation for a licence application at Gerston Point, Kingsbridge had been forwarded to all town council for a response no later than 21st May. Town Council was worried about people arriving in boats to obtain cocktails and perhaps this concern should be passed to the Harbour Master. Town Council would also provide a response to this application consultation.
- Letter received from Kingsbridge and Salcombe Chamber of Commerce requesting Town Council contribute £1000 - £5000 towards their 'Dress to Impress' business grant of up to £250 per business plus free membership for a year to the Chamber. To respond as suggested in Mayor's report.
- Email received from James Allen presenting questions on availability of draft Minutes, amount of town council funds held, support for activities for 16 – 21 yrs and pubs having an ID program, CCTV and holiday tax to name a few. He requested responses which would be considered and sent. Draft Minutes would also now be posted along with the bank balance showing allocated projects.
- Pete Robinson had met with the locality officer, Tony Frogmore, who had reported that he had concerns regarding the Bonfire Hill car park surface and on reviewing the state of the surfacing it was felt that some maintenance works were required. The ground was chewed up at the far corner by the gate onto the footpath as this was a weakness point. The area was expected to be reviewed on an annual basis to look at corners to see if works needed to be done and therefore quotes would be sought.

19. FINANCE

Bank Balances

Current Account £501.00

Deposit Account £518,256.55 (to include £362,044.97 held for projects in reserves) Balance £156,211.58

Receipts:

Devon County Council – Park and Ride £225.76

Harbour Board – Hawk Project contribution £1650.00

Adrian Mundy Funeral Director – Honey, Distin and Lovatt Memorials £380.00

APPROVED Internet payments to:

Cliff House Trust Ltd – Annual rent for offices £3898.68

Devon Association of Local Councils – Annual subscription £373.77
HMRC – Tax & NI April £795.11
Wages – April £1854.62
NEST – Pensions April £181.91
Salcombe PCC: Three-in-One Magazine – Annual subscription £10.00
Knowle Tree Services Ltd – Tree works at Shadycombe Cemetery and Market Street garden
£1320.00
Chris Wood – Hawk Project £660.00
Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management – Annual subscription £95.00

20. NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council Meeting would be held as agreed above – 26th May.

..... 2021.
Town Mayor