

SALCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of held in the Library of Cliff House, Salcombe at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 26th May 2021

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

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

Also in attendance:

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

1. ELECTION OF THE TOWN MAYOR AND SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Mrs Turton was proposed and seconded by Cllr Moore as Town Mayor and duly elected by all present and the Town Clerk received the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Mayor.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR AND SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Mrs Bricknell was proposed as Deputy Town Mayor by Cllr Hainey and duly elected and the Town Clerk received the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy Mayor.

- Town Council own the title to the land used as parking and a garden amenity space.
- Valuation for market rental of the Council Hall was carried out February 2009 a review provided by email. Council Hall electrical check and updating works had been completed. A contractor had been appointed to carry out repainting and outside maintenance during 2021 but works were delayed until October due to Covid restrictions and then usage of adjacent properties during the holiday period.
- Berry Lease held by peppercorn rent between Town Council and District Council had been lodged at the Land Registry. Further fencing around land adjacent to the Berry had been proposed to adjoining properties to ensure security of the perimeter boundary. However, no agreement had been reached with the neighbours and on 12th February 2019 town council's objection to the Possessory Title had been withdrawn and Minutes dated 13th February detailed why no further action would be taken.
- Ember Road Diamond 'Jubilee Gardens' – Transferred to Town Council in October 2012 and Section 106 landscaping works carried out during 2013 with play equipment installed during September 2014. Play Inspection continued to carry out the regular Health and Safety checks and such insurance was within the town council policy. The sandpit was finally removed during 2019 and new fencing installed.
- Welcome Gardens (bedding area at top of Onslow Road on the Main Road) had been planted out following a Licence for use of the land with Devon County Council being provided in 2015. The highway verge from Jubilee Gardens towards Welcome Gardens had been cleared and planted with daffodils and going forward included in the maintenance programme. In 2021 an adjacent property owner had questioned fencing between this area and their property and following consultation with County Highways it was felt that the property owner proposals to renew the fencing were acceptable and its ongoing maintenance their responsibility.
- An agreement had been entered into October 2014 for Devon County Council to carry out meter emptying and parking enforcement at Bonfire Hill car park. The Service Level Agreement had been amended to include the provision of payment by phone and credit card. Disabled parking bays were tarmacked and lined out along with works to the barriers.
- Tally Ho had historically provided the bus service on a seasonal basis with fees agreed annually. Due to the Covid restrictions and requirements on public transport the bus did not run in 2020. Consideration of this provision for 2021 felt that at present the system worked better with no bus running and this complied with Covid safety measures.
- The Harbour Hotel continued to pay quarterly for and utilise 13 spaces within the Bonfire Hill land under Licence letter. Management at the Harbour Group had requested a formal document for such usage and a draft had been awaited from them but had never been forthcoming so matters remained the same.
- Town Council placed a defibrillator at the Spar Shop in Loring Road from May 2013 and this Agreement was that it would be maintained by Southwest Ambulance for a term of seven years until April/May 2020. Update training had taken place and Cllr Mrs Bricknell now regularly checked the defibrillator and reported once a month to the authority. Cllr Mrs Bricknell had negotiated a new replacement defibrillator and a new agreement had been entered into.
- Ongoing SLCC, NALC and ICCM membership paid annually as agreed in the precept.

- The parish council website continued to be updated by Rich Whitfield as webmaster and a Town Council Facebook account was operated by Cllrs Mrs Turton, Mrs Sinnott and the Project Officer, Pete Robinson.

Tree Reports:

Hi Line had been commissioned to provide an overall assessment of all trees in the ownership of Town Council during January 2015 which was repeated in January 2019. This had now been taken over by Devon Tree Service for ongoing reports. The areas covered by Town Council as below:

- The Berry – Luscombe Maye 100 year memorial oak was placed on the Berry 2014 and a further memorial tree had been planted in June 2016 in memorial to someone's relative. Woodland Trust pack trees had been planted in Primrose Wood and surrounding area during 2020/21.
- Redfern Woods – Works scheduled 2021.
- Bonaventure Woods – Tree Preservation Order application approval received and works carried out. Replacements trees failed and Ashridge Nurseries refunded the cost. New trees to be obtained in the planting season and further works to be done.
- Shadycombe Cemetery – Works carried out in 2019 and further works approved for 2021
- Bonfire Hill Cemetery Trees assessed as trees of limited height or risk.
- Allotment boundary hedge and trees at far end. Works carried out and hedge planting installed.
- Town Council car parking raised garden area now included within the Town Council maintenance contract and works to the Cherry tree completed 2021.

Policy Documents

- Standing Orders and Financial Regulations updated 25th November 2014. New National Association of Local Councils templates including new regulations to be reviewed.
- Town Council Risk Assessment document reviewed 12th May 2010. Ongoing consideration had taken place but was interrupted by 2020 Covid pandemic.
- Cemetery fees reviewed January 2019 and the fees and charging structure along with a usage policy document remained as stated.
- Allotment Rents review carried out in 2019 ascertained that the rates continued to be in line with other providers.
- Grass cutting contract renewed 2021 – 2023 with South Hams District Council to cover General Grass Cutting maintenance contract together with contract for Jubilee Gardens and Welcome Gardens. The War Memorial planters contract continued to be undertaken by Fiona Cranford-Smith. Tender review due January/February 2023.
- Weed spraying arrangements had failed with District Council due to their inability to provide follow up street sweeping. This was still under review and hoped that District could provide the service with their contractor FCC to do the sweeping.
- Kyocera Photocopier – Maintenance agreement terminated as company was no longer able to honour due to the age of the machine. Machine not used during the whole of 2020 and it was as yet unknown whether it still worked and noted that spares were no longer available.
- New photocopier purchased November 2020 HP Officejet 7740 A3 to replace the office Brother copier that had failed.

- Annual Agreement with District for business collection of refuse at Bonfire Hill Cemetery updated to District with contract resigned 2021.
- All Town Council insurance cover reviewed with agents WPS annually in July. Following insurance agent advice this policy was extended for another year until July 2019 and with Covid continued through 2020. Any review was awaited during June 2021.
- Outstanding were matters being dealt with by town council on various land issues.

6. OPEN FORUM

No member of the public present this was dispensed with.

Police Report – None received.

District Councillors Report

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce noted the Salcombe Neighbourhood Plan consultation requesting a change to the condition on Principal Residency. District officers were against this proposal, but she was trying to investigate why. There would be a report going to the Executive in July, but she could not vote at it because she was the ward member but was actively pushing for it to be approved. On the Motorhome strategy she could not prejudge the outcome, but a report was published for consideration and North Sands car park had been removed from overnight camping. The consultation had received over 700 responses and officers had been through them all in detail. She was anxious to get the decision circulated before half term so everybody knew what was happening and District would be determining this matter the following day at 9.30a.m. Thereafter locality officers would be sent out immediately to place notices in car parks stating what was allowed.

Cllr Hainey had supported the use by motorhomes and enquired if North Sands car park would be policed by locality officers to ensure there were no problems. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce agreed that officers would be going around the trouble spots so they would be monitored. He questioned who to send photographs of ill use to and Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised she would obtain a response on that. The recommendation had been arrived at purely on responses received although Cllr Hainey was concerned that some people wrote in from other countries! Of note was that there was flooding in North Sands car park, but this was tidal, and it was more the concern regarding access down Sandhills Road. Whilst larger vehicles such as supermarket deliveries were 7.2m long it was the fact that these were driven by regular drivers whereas leisure motorhome drivers were often novices or infrequent users.

Dist Cllr Long noted for clarity that Slapton Tank car park and memorial car park were also removed along with Kingsbridge Quay.

Some parking on Whitestrand had reopened, roughly two thirds of the area following a District Risk Assessment with Kings Arms installing tasteful barriers along their section. On the weekend every table was used, and the car park was also used and full. The Mayor enquired why Town Council were not told before this occurred. The response was that the Kings Arms had a licence for the whole summer and wanted that to run. However, the Victoria Inn advised they were not using their space until high season and following

complaints from town District decided they would open two thirds. The car park would remain as is until a date near the end of June and then seating would open. Signs on entering town still said limited parking in town centre but Dist Cllr Long agreed that localities should remove some signs and put them up again when circumstances changed.

Cllr Whitfield noted that being businesses working off Whitestrand many of them had been bombarded every minute with people asking if the car park was open or not. He felt they should have been told ahead of this change because they were throwing people out of the area and even the District operative cleaning public toilets did not know. There were barriers around outside and now around Kings Arms and he felt the barriers should not be there as they were more a danger with people milling round. It was obvious that those who had requested along with Dist Cllr Long had not seen the state Risk Assessment. Cllr Hainey could not believe that a Risk Assessment was possible for a car park that now had dual use. Cllr Whitfield requested that the message be taken back that District needed to report and communicate more often with those on the ground using the area. A concern was raised that someone, whether an operative or District or FCC, had been outside the public toilets counting people in and out, and many were uneasy with this and questioned why.

Cllr Lafferty-Holt supported the comment and felt that much he was going to say had been covered but advised that twice since Saturday the railings had been placed back in front of the car park entrance so for safety these needed to be removed. Again, as previously, he was a local business in this area, and it was a shame that they had not been told what was happening because he did send someone back to his car as he had been unaware of the change!

Cllr Miss Ward noted that staff at the Salcombe Information Centre were also unaware. From their point of view a lot of people had been saying that the car park was closed because so many builders' lorries and vans were everywhere, and nobody could park to go to the chemist and local businesses. There were a lot of elderly people in town who needed to park to get prescriptions.

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce continued advising that grants being paid out to businesses across South Hams and West Devon were around £100million. Of that well over £70million (£71.3mill) was paid out in South Hams. The pandemic had been terrible, but the support had been there to the best of Government's ability. District were ploughing ahead with their Corporate Strategy, which included a new Housing Strategy with action Plan although what District could do was not what they would like to do so it was in turn frustrating. Government was not concerned at this level because it was not a huge problem, so the local problems were not registering high on Government's list of things to do. She had been working with Anthony Mangnall MP on the new Planning Bill coming out. The Freeport plan was progressing and for Climate Change there was a £100,000 fund available to parish and town councils and community groups. There would be a further £3,000, not to be match funded, from District Councillors for small group projects.

Dist Cllr Long highlighted Tor Wood and local fear of a land grab. He assured all it was was not one but that District Council took action and put up a gate to stop materials being

stored in this area and would be removing the soil to reinstate the woodland so that it was not a builders yard.

Cllr Fice brought up issues regarding the new recycling and advised there was accumulation of up to 6 weeks rubbish with no collections. He understood a lot of the problems but the thing that really concerned him and in turn had annoyed him was the total lack of communication from officers at District. In the end the officer in question had directed him to the District website which did not assist the problem. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce acknowledged that officers had not known what to say due to no feedback from contractors. She was upset as each refuse truck was supposed to include technology that mapped what was being done but the information was not being passed back so no one knew. Following a gritty meeting FCC had thrown a lot more resource at it this problem and hopefully by the end of next week they would be able to clear the backlog. One problem they found was that because of the pandemic there had been an increased amount of packaging recycling, so trucks were filling up too quickly and not getting round rounds. District were trying to get through this and understood the residents' frustration but for most it worked although there remained a small amount of people with problems.

Cllr Fice noted the changeover was delayed being introduced for 6 months so he did not understand how this happened. It was delayed during Covid as trucks were not being built during lockdown. Then when they wanted to roll out, FCC contractors said instead of a big bang they wanted to roll out sector by sector, week by week to put things right. At the root of the problem were the new rounds that they invented without consulting with District and they had since found they are too big to get around with some roads too narrow. With two systems at once problems were occurring but everyone should see an improvement this Friday or beginning of next week.

Cllr Fice advised of the amount of rubbish beside the roadside as these vehicles were driving around with flaps open and all the stuff being loaded in was blowing everywhere so it was disgusting. District had been told a lot of agency people were working as there was a national shortage of people and drivers added to the recent with high winds, so rubbish was coming out of receptacles before it was loaded. Cllr Hainey said this was discussed months ago and District assured him wind and rain was not a problem anywhere else so would not be here in Salcombe. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce acknowledged that the weather circumstances last week were pretty exceptional, but Cllr Hainey disagreed and said not for Salcombe. Collection bags were heading off down the road and the service before was a lot better, but Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised those materials collected were contaminated. Cllr Fice agreed this would be a better recycling system so long as it worked properly.

Dist Cllr Long assured Cllr Fice he was not the only one not getting proper responses as they as District Councillors were not either. It had been a mess with card and plastic being blown around, some operatives were great, and others did not give a damn. It was acknowledged that this was due to a lack of proper supervision of the crews. Dist Cllr Long felt that the earlier promises of assessments had not been carried out, so they had created the problems themselves. The Mayor noted that Salcombe was now dealing with physical problems such as rats so this because an Environmental Health problem.

Cllr Lafferty-Holt added that at the bottom of Beadon the crew filling were up the van but it blew out and to their credit they did pick it up. What he questioned was why the plastic was collected in a bag when all the rest was in a box. Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce advised that she did not know but surmised it was due to the collection chamber on the vehicle being much higher so perhaps a bag was lighter to get up to the van. Further discussion took place with regard to the amount of time spent restacking the boxes for each property, recycling responsibility being pushed further down the line and the need to target suppliers, space in people's properties, ability to carry recycling containers and provision of information. Much needed to be addressed before this service was fit for purpose.

Cllr Fice had previously asked about signs in Courtenay Park advising of dogs on leads and Dist Cllr Long noted that there were supposed to be metal signs generated and put up. He would chase. Town Council had decided at a previous meeting there were not going to contribute to keeping public toilets free of charge and Dist Cllr Long was to discuss this move with the Harbour Board. He responded he had a conversation with Julian Brazil and was meeting him the following day, but he was understanding of this reason but firstly they were going to square some things away so Dist Cllr Long would advise in due course.

7. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting dated 28th April 2021 were amended to show the correct date and note the comment from Cllr Fice at the bottom of page 2 whilst referring to Malborough, Totnes and Dartmouth had mainly been speaking on Salcombe and that Cllr Mrs Bricknell was such and not Miss before being approved by council and then duly signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce left the meeting.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The following applications were considered and such observations from town council submitted to District.

- 0547/21/FUL READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received and amended development description) Refurbishment of building to restaurant and tap room , change of use from Class E to mixed use Sui Generis use of restaurant and drinking establishment including provision of extraction and air conditioning system and associated operational development The Original Factory Shop, Island Street, Salcombe TQ8 8QE – Response 20th May Objection as this was a conservation area, part of the AONB and also adjacent to residential properties. The proposed extraction chimney was overly large and very intrusive to the surroundings. The proposal was contrary to the following NDP policies
ENV1 paras (a) and (b) – this chimney did serious harm to the AONB
ENV 5 para (d) – this proposal would have an adverse impact on the health and quality of the estuary by virtue of increased noise
ENV 6 – the chimney would impact locally important views V5, V6 and V7
B1 para 2 – this proposal therefore did not preserve or enhance the conservation area
There was a concern over the tap room bar which would need to be addressed at licencing stage.

- 0780/21/FUL Single storey outbuilding attached to existing pool house following removal of 3 No. existing outbuildings Shaws Corner, Devon Road, Salcombe – Response 10th June – No comment.
- 1094/21/HHO Householder application for alterations and extension 12 Shadycombe Road, Salcombe TQ8 8DX - 17th June – No comment.
- 1153/21/HHO Householder application for installation of rooflights to side elevation, with associated works The Firs, Kingsale Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8AS -Response 10th June – No comment.
- 1277/21/HHO Householder application for two-storey rear extension Avocet, Kingsale Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8AS – Response 17th June. Objection as this appeared to be a separate dwelling to be constructed on site with its own entrance and full facilities so if approval was given, a planning condition would be required that this extension remained ancillary to the main dwelling in perpetuity. The extension appeared to add two bedrooms (the plans were not clear on this and there was no design & access statement) which would add to the parking requirements of the property. However, no change to parking arrangements had been stated which meant that this proposal was contrary to NDP policies B1 para 4 and T1 para (b).
- 1285/21/HHO Householder application for proposed double garage side extension High House, Frobisher Lane, Salcombe, TQ8 8AQ – Response 10th June – Objection as the rear wall of the garage was to be made of full height glass panels which would create an extensive wall of glass (including the existing house frontage) in a very prominent position in the town being detrimental to the AONB. If approval was considered then there should be a condition that the garage must be used as such in perpetuity and not be permitted to be converted to residential space
- 1415/21/HHO Householder application for single storey rear/ side extension to dwelling 75 Island Street, Salcombe, TQ8 8DP – Response 3rd June – No comment.
- 1417/21/HHO Householder application for roof extension to create additional floor and side alterations 1 Tamarisk, Drake Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8EG – Response 10th June – No comment on the proposal but there needed to be a Construction Management Plan to avoid any obstruction to Bonfire Hill, a very busy and relatively narrow road.
- 1458/21/HHO Householder application for alteration of existing garden store to form garden room (Renewal of planning consent 1260/18/HHO) 6 Jot Cottage, Shadycombe Road, Salcombe TQ8 8DX – Response 17th June –No objection but there should be a condition that this garden room remained ancillary to the main dwelling.
- 1481/21/HHO Householder application for changes to fenestration on side elevation and erection of garden structures Rocna Grenville Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8BJ – Response 10th June – No comment.
- 1473/21/FUL Installation of 3.no extract grilles in the soffit of the fascia bulkhead to front of store Co-op Supermarket, Gould Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8DU – Response 10th June – No comment.
- 1642/21/HHO Householder application for extension and alterations Hawks Ridge, Moulton Hill, Salcombe TQ8 8LF – Response 17th June – No comment.
- 1662/21/FUL Application for roof reconstruction including dormers 14a Fore Street, Salcombe, Devon TQ8 8BU – Response 17th June – Objection as the raising of the ridge height and the addition of dormers would adversely impact on the street scene and the Conservation Area, thereby being contrary to Salcombe Neighbourhood Plan policy para 2 in general and in particular para 2a. If approval was considered then there needed to be a

Construction Management Plan that avoided any work being carried out between 1 May and 30 September in any year.

WORKS TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA

- 0150/21/TCA T1: Sycamore - Crown lift to 6m from ground level on all sides, dead wood and ivy removal (exempt). T2: Indian Bean Tree - Crown height reduction by 1m, lateral reduction by 1m on all sides. T3: Robina Frisia - Reduction of lowest branch on West side by 2m. T4: Atlas Cedar - Crown raise to 2m from ground level. T5: Eucalyptus - Crown height reduction by 5m, lateral reduction on all sides by 2m and crown thin by 20%. T6: Magnolia - Crown height reduction by 2m & lateral reduction by 2m on all sides, crown thin by 20%. T7: Magnolia – Crown thin by 20%. G8: Lime x2 - Crown raise to 3m from ground level and sever ivy. T9: Eucalyptus - Crown height reduction by 3m. Vine House, Lower Batson, Salcombe, TQ8 8NR – Response 25th May – No comment as it was recognised these were works in a garden setting within a Conservation Area.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

- 1560/21/CLE Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of rear outbuilding as ancillary holiday lodge St Nicholas, Coronation Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8EA. The application had been submitted to the Council for determination. Evidence was required to either support or refute the claim that the building had used for the purpose as detailed in the information submitted. This application was to be dealt with on the basis of factual evidence only. The planning merits of the building did not fall to be considered. If, on the balance of probability, the careful appraisal of the factual evidence supported the claim, the Council would be obliged to issue a certificate recognising the lawful use of the building. Response 10th June – Objection as the application form referred to attached statement for reasons for certificate but there was no such statement. This building was constructed without any planning permission supposedly under permitted development as a garden shed/summerhouse. However, it was then used as an Airbnb location and was subject to enforcement by District Council. This enforcement advised the owner that the building was not to be used for such a purpose, but this was continuing. This application sought to certify the existing unpermitted use so could not be seen as lawful. The plans clearly showed that the building was completely separate from the main dwelling with a boundary all the way around along with its own entrance. There was also a problem with the access to this structure off Bonfire Hill as this was situated between two blind bends and one of the gates, notably opened out (and appeared to be left open at all times) beyond the property boundary limits and into the road.

- Brewery Quay – It was advised that Marchand and Petit now marketing all four flats but made no mention of the requirement for Principal Residence. The agents had been approached who said they were fully aware of this but had historic instances when marketing that people from outside the area felt they could not purchase so they were telling them when they enquired. Dist Cllr Long noted that this reinforced the need for a requirement for a Section 106 to be in place on the Land Registry deeds advising of a property under Principal Residence.

- It was noted that details for the application regarding the land adjacent to the garage on main road had been received. Comments were required by 24th June and it was felt that a ZOOM working party should be held to allow the developer architects to present in order that consideration could be given for the meeting on 21st June.

9. INTERNAL AUDIT AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

It was AGREED;

- (a) to accept the annual internal audit report as there were no recommendations or findings thereon
- (b) following, going through each section of the audit form, town council approved the Annual Governance Statement and therefore that it should be signed accordingly.

10. ACCOUNTS AUDIT STATEMENT

It was AGREED by full council to;

- (a) adopt these Accounting Statements for 2020/21 as duly completed and presented, signed, and dated, by the Responsible Financial Officer
- (b) approve such signed Accounting Statements and for the Mayor to sign and date confirming such proposal within the meeting.

11. HOCKEY CLUB BUILDING- RENTAL

Cllr Hainey raised concern that who in the town would want the burden to maintain the Cliff House Gardens wall and having had sight of an email from District grouping all the Trust land together did people really want it back. He questioned how District could lump Trust land together as this was not the way they had been given to the town. The Mayor agreed income was needed going forward for taking everything on but this agenda item was purely about whether to lease the Hockey Club. She agreed there was no guarantee of town getting back the Berry due to District lumping all trusts together. Cllr Moore noted that this proposal was purely to open discussion for terms as an exploratory project. Cllr Fice stated that leasing the Hockey building was a separate issue from any transfer of The Berry because even if transferred Town Council would still have to lease the hockey building so this was separate. Cllr Hainey was however justifiably concerned and foresaw lots of problems and the Mayor agreed that District appeared to continually move the goalposts, the three separate charities should not be lumped together.

It was AGREED that town council wished to request to lease the Hockey Club building from the Charitable Trust held at District Council for use by town council ahead of further negotiations regarding future transfer of all land and buildings at The Berry.

12. PARKING BAYS – GOULD ROAD

A proposal by County Council to install five white lined bays along Gould Road adjacent to the Shadycombe Car Park wall had been notified. Cllr Moore was in favour of this as he felt he provided a bit of extra parking for 30mins to 1hour which could be transitional parking. Cllr Whitfield believed it would be abused like the other section where drivers now park all day. Cllr Fice would have agreed if no pavement had been installed on that section of road. If introduced, it was a concern because Salcombe was lucky if an enforcement officer was in attendance in that area for 2 hours a week.

It was noted that the area was once used for coach parking but was now narrower due to the installation of the pavement and concern was raised for the size of the lorries that accessed down to the fish quay. This along with the boats and trailers, fire engine, fish lorry and other movement this was highway planning not done properly which had impact on parking. It was AGREED that town council was not in favour of this proposal and these concerns should be raised at the forthcoming site meeting with the Highway Officer and Cty Cllr Gilbert and a response given through them to Highway Planning Officer Richard Jackson.

13. JUNE FULL COUNCIL

The Main Hall, Cliff House was not available to use for a socially distanced face to face meeting on the fourth Wednesday in June and therefore it was AGREED to rescheduled for Monday 21st June still within the main hall, Cliff House.

14. MAYOR'S REPORT

The mayor reported that on 14th May there was a Town Fund Teams meeting with SHDC Members and Officer and Town Mayors and Clerks. The District Council explained that the Additional Restrictions Grant, which they were administering on behalf of Government, was designed to provide direct support to businesses not previously covered by other grant schemes. The £50,000 match-funded money available to each Town Council had to abide by the ARG criteria. The deadline for applications was 30th June.

Then on 19th May it was the Kingsbridge and Salcombe Chamber of Commerce Zoom meeting. Business Clubs, Breakfast Clubs would hopefully re-start from July, and the AGM might be combined with a Business Club in September or October. They had over 100 declarations of interest for their £250 grant funded Signage Project, with 58 successful applications. The total value of the grants awarded was £14,000 and this was being funded from Chamber monies not spent last year supporting events due to Covid lockdowns, and four District Councillors providing from their allowances. But they fell short by around £4,000. Both the Kingsbridge Town Council representative and the Mayor explained that Town Councils were not able to give money directly to businesses, and that they should speak to the District Council directly to find a way of getting the Additional Restrictions Grant that District was administering for Government directed through the Chamber, which would be a much more efficient and timely way to support the businesses, and would also mean that businesses could apply afresh or reapply if previously unsuccessful.

On 21st May it was the Mayors and Clerks Teams meeting with District. As a follow-up to both the last Mayors and Clerks meeting and the lack of communication directly from District, Steve Mullineaux would be chasing the team regarding Salcombe's lack of weed spraying and clearing service. District advised that the issues regarding the roll out of the new recycling system were being addressed, and they had an extremely robust discussion with their contractor, FCC, who had let them and the South Hams down extremely badly, and who would be producing a plan to solve the problems that had plagued this area. There had been unforeseen issues regarding:

1. an increase in volume - large quantities of cardboard being recycled which filled the truck, so they were needing to go back to the depot 2 or 3 times per round to empty.

2. driver shortages – there was a national shortage of HGV/LGV licenced drivers. Even an increased salary package had not helped due to the competitive market at the moment and drivers were going to the best payers.
3. increased tipping
4. despite assurance that FCC had tested and could cope with the narrow streets in South Hams' towns and villages, this had proven not to be the case hence the purchase of smaller vehicles
5. the appalling lack of communication coming from FCC to District
FCC had parachuted staff and vehicles in from other areas they covered, and District was assisting with additional resources regarding individual issues. Ward Councillors had been updated and the public would be next to be informed of the plans to solve the problems. Quality issues would be addressed with regard to the operatives' attitude to the work, ie lids being separated from boxes, not putting boxes back where they came from, not clearing up the mess that they created during the round, and so on and on. District said that they would be prioritising the areas where there was now over 5 weeks of uncollected rubbish waiting, especially the food waste, as this was now an environmental health issue.

The 7-day a week Localities service was in now place for the summer season. Those present, were reminded of the deadline of the 30th June for applications to the Improving the Business Environment Fund and the Additional Restrictions Grant which SHDC were administering on behalf of Government. The Improving the Business Environment Fund was the 50/50 match funded pot of money previously mentioned by Cllr Mrs Pearce and was to be spent on ARG compliant projects. All Towns present mentioned projects they wished to undertake were to improve and update the public realm, but these did not fit the criteria of the ARG fund. The ARG fund was to provide support to businesses as they re-opened, for example to redo shop signage, staff uniforms and suchlike, but as Town Councils did not have the power to give money to businesses, we are not the correct conduit. It was suggested by town council that perhaps District should approach the Kingsbridge and Salcombe Chamber of Commerce and work with them directly to distribute the money.

They were informed that Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon were considering whether to jointly move forward with the Freeport project. The areas covered were Sherford, Langage and Ocean's Gate. The aim of a Freeport was to deliver net new employment, with an expected positive ripple effect out to the surrounding areas of the Freeport itself, through encouraging high calibre people and businesses to transfer, and ensuring the ongoing skillset was available through academies and training. Under the new Freeport status, the proposed sites would enjoy specific tax and relief benefits with companies based there able to access special allowances encouraging firms to invest. The question was asked whether this would encourage existing businesses to relocate to the Freeport area. There was a 'Gateway Policy' to adhere to, with strict criteria, so a mass exodus was not envisaged.

The district corporate strategy aimed to improve their reputation with residents and Town Councils. They had aspirations to be outward facing, 'place based', and achieving short- and medium-term tangible 'deliverables' over 2 to 5 years within a 20 year long term ambition for the South Hams. The Housing Strategy consultation had been done, they wished to support and align with the towns' priorities. They put out 'good news' messages about

projects but felt that they were either not getting to the intended recipients or were not being received how they thought they would be. They wished to help everyone all understand what District were doing to make people's lives better. This strategy was expected to go before the Executive in July. Main points of interest from the Towns were Dartmouth's CCTV was coming online imminently, and the Tour of Britain was coming to Ivybridge.

15. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- Cllr Fice – Advised that the amendment to the Salcombe Neighbourhood Plan consultation had received 14 responses and he had now produced another report which had been sent to the Neighbourhood Plan officer at District. However, officers were recommending a rejection to these proposals. This had been discussed during District Councillors reports and no matter what the report it would still go to the Examiner who would decide.
- Cllr Miss Ward – Noted that the size and increase in weeds along paths and roadways were making the town look awful. She also advised that a person District or County was driving around in an unmarked authority vehicle which had a blue cage on the back picking up rubbish bins. Her concern was that the operative was using expletives and not acting in a public way whilst driving along the street. Dist Cllr Long said he would pick this concern up. She then spoke as manager of the Salcombe Information Centre noting that there would be no provision for campervans in North Sands overnight. It was her personal belief that the area was 'missing a trick' in not providing a car park of some description for such. The Mayor agreed that such provision would not doubt accommodate some but challenged that she find the land or owner within Salcombe that could accommodate such. It was acknowledged that provision in outlying land would stop some driving around town clogging up the roads. Her further question was with regard to land adjacent to Devon Road above Courtenay Park which was advised as District Council land. Apparently Mike Hodder rented and used this garden but she advised that recently a lot of work had been undergone and this needed to be watched.
- Cllr Hatch – Advised that any contract regarding spraying was a waste of time at this point in the year as the weeds were too tall. There was a need to get a group together to attack this problem. It was advised that discussions and negotiations with District were still in hand to get this done and Dist Cllr Long was chasing this matter up.
- Cllr Whitfield – As web master asked for clarification as to when Minutes could now be posted. As meetings were now once a month he wanted some clarification on when he should post them. He was advised that this could be done as soon as he received them in draft.
- Cllr Mrs Brickwell – She was going gardening at 11am. Saturday and she advised the areas she would be covering. The Mayor thanked her for this and others offered to help and a message would be put out on Facebook to call for help. Dist Cllr Long agreed to obtain beige District collection bags and get them collected following this community initiative.
- Cllr Mrs Sinnott – Raised a concern that she would have put to Cty Cllr Gilbert. There used to be bollards at the end of the Bennett Road and Cliff Road junction and also at the other end. These were taken down circa 2011 and never reinstated, this was raised March 2020 and to be pursued by County Highways. She was concerned that vehicles were accessing this and it needed some sort of restriction. Others noted the need for the

Salcombe Minibus and bin lorry to get down but if ambulances could get through these should get in. This was another matter to raise with Cty Cllr Gilbert and the Highway Officer on their visit to Salcombe.

CLERK'S REPORT

- County Highways had advised that the area of pavement outside of Crew had been confirmed as public highway. An application from a café to use this for seating had been received but as this area did not sit adjacent to the café it would not be permitted.
- District car parks had advised that following the consultation on Motorhomes being allowed to park overnight it had been proposed to remove North Sands car park from this project. This was to be ratified at the next District Executive meeting on 27th May.
- A den in the woods at Bonfire Hill had been highlighted by residents who were concerned for the usage. Sgt Timmis had indicated that this was a 'kids den' that had been removed but the police had noted a further den had been constructed and appeared more concerned about those using it. The police had asked for Town Council to contact the owner to ask them to remove the structure. It seemed that the age group was teenagers and if removal took place then better in the morning than later in the day. It was not known who owned this land and there were still concerns locally that this was not just teenagers. An update from Dan Field, District Engineer, regarding the Batson Creek project had been circulated to all town council. Various items such as where to re-site the recycling/oil disposal area were yet to be finalised and he had offered the chance for Town Council to meet and walk around the week commencing 7th June (not 8th) and this was to be arranged by the town clerk and advised to that those available could attend.
- District quotation for cuts to the Definitive Paths had been above the amount provided for by County. Malborough were also considering how to get these cuts carried out and suggested putting Salcombe cuts together with Malborough to put out for further quotes in the hope that this would achieve a better price. It was approved that Town Council would join with Malborough if this enabled cuts to go ahead.
- A resident made an enquiry about the parking around the green in Lower Batson. As a resident there she had spoken to all her fellow residents about how the parking situation was now unbearable. Full time residents could no longer park their cars, around the green due to Co-op workers/cleaning companies /people renting in Salcombe and other tourists taking up spaces. Those who bought spaces next to Vine House were also not using their spaces and were parking around the green instead. Her email had been sent on to the District Councillors as this was District owned land and parking permits.
- A report of an accident on 16th April outside The Grange, Cliff Road was raised with Cty Cllr Gilbert. A request for consideration of traffic management had been put forward by those involved and a meeting with Cty Cllr Gilbert, Adam Keay and Town Council was to take place. At this meeting other highway issues were also to be raised.
- A report wherein a resident asserted that there were various 'botched' road repairs around Salcombe had been received. This had already been sent to Cty Cllr Gilbert who had forwarded it to the Highway Officer. The author, Malcolm Mackley, had offered to speak to this report if Town Council wished.
- An email was received from Save Our Hospital Services who wished to raise awareness of a concern they had about restructuring the NHS. The group raised concerns about the timing and provision of this proposal and consultation and sought to urge town and parish councillors to write both collectively, i.e. as a town or parish council, and

individually, to their MP to demand a pause on the White Paper and to voice concerns about the impact on healthcare of the Integrated Care System. The information had been emailed to all town council.

- Amelias Flower Farm had made an enquiry as to locations, events, pop-ups etc for them to bring their flower truck and sell their produce from within Salcombe. This had been forwarded to town council for comment.
- Pete Robinson had raised concern following the recent play equipment inspection that consideration needed to be given to replacement equipment within Jubilee Play Area. As he suggested that Town Council may wish to set up a working party to consider maintenance the Open Spaces Sport and Recreation Group would review this concern.
- Letter received advising of Kingsbridge, West Alvington and Churchstow Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 consultation which would run from 20th May to 19th July 2021. This could be accessed at kingsbridge.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplan/ and there was an online Smart Survey link to responses. Noted.
- Jim Martins had forwarded his correspondence with Devon County Footpaths and others with regard to Bakers Well steps. At present there was a Schedule 14 notice on this route but until a further Definitive Footpath Review was carried out in this area this path would remain under such Schedule. Jim Martins wished to raise this matter again so that the historical records noted claims had been made on it.
- District solicitor Fiona Shira had advised that District Council, as trustee of Salcombe Charities, would not consider a transfer to the Town Council of the land at the Berry in isolation. Any discussions would be on the premise that Town Council took transfer of all of the Charities' land to include The Berry, The Hockey/Rugby Club site, the Fortescue Road plot, Cliff House Gardens and Courtenay Park.
- An application from Sands Reach Ltd for a variation to the premises licence of Harbour Beach Club, South Sands, Salcombe, TQ8 8LJ (previously known as Tides Reach Hotel) was forwarded. The application was for:
 - Sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises: Monday to Sunday from 7am to 11.30pm (April to October); Monday to Sunday from 7am to 11pm (November to March); New Year's Eve from 7am to 2am.
 - Supply of alcohol to residents and their guests 24hrs.
 - Supply of late night refreshment (hot food and drinks) to residents and their guests 24hrs.
 - Live music on New Year's Eve until midnight.
 - Recorded music on New Year's Eve until 2am.
 - Amendments to the premises licence plan.
 - Additional conditions to address the licensing objectives.

Response to Licencing by no later than 16th June. On and off the premises could go onto the beach!?!?!?

16. FINANCE

Bank Balances

Current Account £501.00

Deposit Account £509,252.67 (to include £412059.44 for projects in Reserves) Balance
£97193.23

Receipts:

Bonfire Hill – Thomas Memorial £100
St. Pier – Hawk Project £200

Councillors APPROVED Internet payments to:

Hawthorns Accounting Sers Ltd. – Internal Audit and April Payroll £243.50
Chris Wood – May Hawk program £660
SHDC – Rates Council Office £910.68
SHDC – Bonfire Hill Burial Ground Rates £536.43
SHDC – Shadycombe Cemetery and Premises Rates £1035.43
Hi Line – Redfern Woods fell 3 Ash £2412.00
Play Inspection – Jubilee Gardens £60.00
NEST – Pension May £181.91
HMRC – NI and Tax May £795.51
Wages – May £1854.21

17. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held earlier, as agreed above, on MONDAY 21st June
Wednesday 23rd June 2021 in the Main Hall at Cliff House, Cliff Road, Salcombe at 6.30p.m.

Meeting Closed: 8.30p.m.

..... 21st June 2021.
Town Mayor.