

SALCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of
held in the Main Hall of Cliff House, Salcombe
at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 28th July 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 R. Moore	*
Cllr Mrs L. Sinnott	*
Cllr I. Hatch	A
Cllr M. Payne	A
Cllr Miss D. Ward	A
Cllr P. Lafferty-Holt	A
Cllr R. Whitfield	A

Also in attendance:

Dist Cllr Mrs J. Pearce	A
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. None.

2. OPEN FORUM

No members of the public being present this was dispensed with.

District and County Councillor Reports

Cty Cllr Gilbert apologised for not being able to attend since April due to other engagements. Regarding the Park and Ride cash machines it seemed the complainant may have been using wrong out of date software so this was a customer problem more than system. Cllr Fice had advised of a car parked continuously in Market Street but there had been nothing County could do. The A379 from Plymouth to Totnes had been repaired and there were now no traffic lights. Harbertonford to Totnes had been patched properly and they were sealing edges by laying more tarmac.

Cllr Fice had many communications with Cty Cllr Gilbert relating to residents parking areas. A response from an officer stated some were virtual applied daily trade permits so they did not have to display but Cllr Fice was not satisfied and sent an email for more information but to

date had received no response from the officer. Daily trade permits were used for contractors or agents to park near a building if they required access to their vehicle to get tools but this car was parked for a week day and night so was being used by the property as a parking space. Moving to actual residents parking according to regulations it was one permit per household but he knew of at least two properties that had 2 permits per household and one only occupied the property during October last year. Cllr Fice was asked to pass these details to Cllr Gilbert. Cllr Fice remained concerned that Salcombe was not receiving enough enforcement visits as he had seen numerous cars parked in residents parking spaces with no permits along with builders parked on double yellow lines. Enforcement from Devon County were supposed to be covering the park & ride and received a 20% remuneration for this work. Cllr Gilbert requested town council to write and ask for a log of enforcement carried out. He noted that there was a huge shortage of enforcement officers and they were leaving faster than they could be employed, nobody wanted to be an enforcement officer. There was so much work out there and if it was not that well paid applicants were going to find easier jobs with no 'agro'. Cllr Gilbert had received far less emails about bad parking this year than the same period last year which had surprised him. Cllr Fice however felt nothing may have changed merely people had just given up trying to change things and yet every time he was in Kingsbridge there was an enforcement officer there.

Cllr Mrs Bricknell advised that along Camperdown Road someone had parked over her parking bay to which Cllr Gilbert responded that nobody had the right to block someone's drive, to such an extent the owner could call the police. Discussion took place as to the difference between being blocked in or kept from parking and the belief that police were too busy and did not react to calls. Something also needed to be done about holiday lettings agents and Air BnB telling visitors to go up to the top of town to park as people were leaving vehicles in these places for a week. Down Coronation Road parking overhanging the pavements meant that people could not walk down unless on the road. Cllr Gilbert noted that a £30 parking fee was cheap parking for some so people parked on a double yellow line. Government was considering a point system for more than a certain number of tickets issued in a quarter and for these points to go on users driving licence. Cllr Mrs Sinnott questioned why County did not issue tickets daily as the reality was that people thought one fine in 10 days meant £3 per day. A level of fine must be level across Society so fairness must be for points on licences. Residents parking bays in Camperdown Road was questioned and Cllr Gilbert said County did not promote it any more as all it did was move the problem to another area and people still parked illegally. Residents parking also came with an annual fee and did not guarantee a resident a space. Cllr Moore highlighted that there were a number of studies around Torquay and a northern city whereby they did colour code zoned areas for residents which did work. Cllr Fice suggested that the holiday homes/agencies obtained a parking permit for 6 months and told all users to pay them £3 per day.

On an outgoing note the Mayor congratulated Devon County on the newly created roundabout at Flete junction. Cllr Gilbert thanked her and advised that Kitterford Cross was also coming up.

Cllr Gilbert left the meeting.

Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce was unable to attend the meeting but emailed the following report.

1 District Council had re-opened in a sensible and pragmatic way from Monday 19th July. Formal meetings had still been held in person and were socially distanced but without the perspex screens which had made communications difficult, mainly because of the problems of

seeing who was behind them. They were still unable to use the Council Chamber because it had no direct source of fresh air but alternatives were being looked at. Informal meetings would continue to be held on-line and officers and councillors would continue to work from home as far as possible.

2 District Council had received a further tranche of ARG funding, so would have about £1m for supporting local businesses in accordance with their policies and BEIS rules. She encouraged businesses to keep an eye on the District web site and social media and apply as appropriate. This should make noticeable difference to the local economy. They had so far distributed over £80m in government grants to businesses in the South Hams.

3 Waste collections: Whilst the great majority of recycling problems had now been ironed out, there were still some residual problems, notably with assisted collections. She asked that if knew of someone having problems, please notify Cllr Mark Long or herself as well as reporting it online. Frustratingly there were now problems with the 'street scene' side of things such as emptying litter bins, dog bins, bottle banks etc. She asked for these to also be reported online and at the same time let herself and Cllr Long know so they could chase. Due to the 'pingdemic' there was now a significant shortage of drivers and operatives. They had decided to suspend brown bin collections first. At present 2/3 of these were affected daily.

4 Localities: The team had been out monitoring things on an extended timetable seven days a week during the high season, but should Covid cases or isolation really become a problem, they may have to put some of them on alternative duties, according to any critical shortages of staff. Already some were helping with litter bin emptying at peak times as FCC simply could not get enough staff. She asked for everyone to please bear with them in difficult times and let Cllr Long or her know if any hotspots or other problems were seen.

5 Environmental Health were working closely with the Public Health officials and they still had Covid compliance officers out on the ground to help businesses operate safely. It was now up to business owners to do their own risk assessments and so things may vary from one business to another according to the risks involved.

6 District Council offered £50k to town councils for match funded projects to help opening-up projects until the end of this financial year. These had to comply with the ARG regulations. Three towns, Totnes, Dartmouth and Kingsbridge 'buddied up' with the local Chambers of Commerce to put forward bids. All the projects from Dartmouth and Totnes were compliant and those from Kingsbridge partially so, and so £130k in all had been awarded to these towns. Although officers offered help to all towns to 'get them over the line', Salcombe and Ivybridge did not submit bids.

7 The council was in the process of a total revision of its constitution, with the aim of making it far more accessible and on-line friendly. The first three sections were voted through at their Council meeting recently. These now ran alongside the rest of the old constitution until that too could be revised. There was extensive consultation with all the political groups of the council to achieve this and it was consequently unanimously approved.

8 The new Corporate Strategy called 'Better Lives for All' was out for consultation. District Council welcomed views. The draft version was also approved by an overwhelming majority at Council.

Dist Cllr Long noted Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce's report with regard to Localities who had added some additional support so that at weekends 12 – 8p.m. there was a crew for the coastal area which started the opposite end to the FCC route to ensure bins were emptied and everything picked up. Over summer a truck and driver, at weekends, was based in Salcombe to respond to requests from Localities and they would litter pick and be bagging any rubbish. He had been monitoring road sweeping and this week there had been none as Bill with his barrow had

retired the previous Friday and there had been no confirmation that anyone was replacing Dave who drove the small mechanical was on holiday for two weeks and District had no one else to drive it. The larger mechanical sweeper had not been out for 2 months as again there were no drivers. Due to track and trace operatives were getting pinged but at the moment the municipal council employees could come round but brown bin collections were being stopped in certain areas due to lack of drivers. So far this had not happened in Salcombe but he was worried although the number of drivers being pinged had dropped. Lots of inhouse District resource was being thrown at waste and once this was pulled it could be a problem. At Development Management committee the garage at 2 Devon Villas was passed contrary to officers recommendation and the Appeal for Cross Garden Cottage had been dismissed.

Cllr Fice had noted that the street sweeper retired but was concerned that the South Hams advert for a replacement street sweeper was being hosted through ALS a company from Wales for employment in Salcombe, Devon. The street sweeper had been planning on retiring for months but District was recruiting after he had gone. Cllr Fice also noted Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce's report referred to the ARG grants where a comment was pointedly made that Salcombe did not apply. Town Council was advised that this funding was to be business orientated but in Kingsbridge the grant was used for street furniture. Also legal advice was requested on 2nd June from David Fairbairn on the advice of Andy Bates no response was ever received. Dist Cllr Long asked for this email to be sent to him and he would look into this. He felt it was wrong what Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce said about Salcombe and Ivybridge who both had the same reasons of lack of clear guidance from officers and he felt things could have been done differently.

Cllr Fice continued that with regard to the Neighbourhood Plan amendment it was two weeks since District Council voted to approve, a yet a week went by before he received an email from Duncan Smith stating 'you may know this was approved and that he would now start to search for examiner'. This should have been done before and now all other surrounding parishes with emerging Neighbourhood Plans were asking for the same.

The Mayor noted a District leaflet advising what tax was spent on and this was verges and weeds. The weeds were bad so this should be solvable by District. Were all operatives going out on waste collection and was District maintenance helping FCC. Dist Cllr Long agreed that spraying would knock the weeds back and thereafter the mechanical sweeper could be used.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2021 were to be amended to note on page 50 that the item regarding lorries up Newton Road should state there was in fact a Construction Management Plan before being 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 applications were duly considered, and such observations sent to the District as Planning Authority;

- 0468/21/HHO READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) Householder application for loft conversion and alterations to existing dwelling 1, Carbery, Newton Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8HH – Response 8th July – No comment.
- 1285/21/HHO READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) Householder application for proposed double garage side extension High House, Frobisher Lane, Salcombe, TQ8 8AQ – Response 12th August – Objection as although the garage had been moved back and the glass had been frosted and partially obscured by external louvres this was still an excessive wall of glass including the house frontage. The site was in a very prominent position in the town and the proposal would have a significant impact on 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.
- 1704/21/HHO Householder application for roof extension and alterations to front, side and rear
Summerleaze, Drake Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8EG – Response 29th July - Objection. This was overdevelopment of the site and would be over dominant and the application did not address the size of construction and large removal of earth, nor whether the site was geologically sound for such construction (there had been problems lower down Drake Road which had left a scar on the landscape) and the lack of a geological survey was disturbing. The design was not in keeping with other Drake Road properties and the street scene. A major concern was the loss of light to Myrana (the revised daylight assessment appeared to have the same data but drew a different conclusion) and the proposal was felt to be unneighbourly to neighbouring properties as both would visually have a distinct large expanse of wall with windows in them. Construction works in that locality, were questioned due to the rocky, instability of the area and access to site was difficult with large vehicles unable to turn around within the road and town council was not sure how the road would cope with such activity. The design was not felt to blend in, nor even use the local vernacular of slate and with its pitches was grossly out of keeping. Housing within that type of area and street scene should evolve and not be a revolution with its completely overbearing mass when viewed from Coronation Road and Drake Road. It would also be contrary to SALC B1 3(b) relating to design as it did not respect the scale and design of surrounding buildings and on the other side the south elevation was unneighbourly, and contrary to SALC B1 3(a) as it did not maintain the building setback. Should approval be given then there would need to be a geological survey prior to commencement and also a Construction Management Plan due to the difficult access to the site and the busy roads at either end of Drake Road.
- 1868/21/FUL Demolition and replacement of garage block, including bin stores and roof terrace Tides, Bennett Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JJ – Response 19th August – No comment.
- 1907/21/HHO Householder application for new parking space with soakaway 14 Grenville Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8BJ – Response 12th August – No comment.
- 1915/21/HHO (Neighbouring Parish Consultation) Householder application for larger new garage
Seaways, Combe, Malborough, TQ7 3DN – Response 26th July – No comment.
- 1927/21/VAR Variation of condition 2 (drawings) of planning consent 0955/20/HHO Braeside Cottage, Bennett Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JJ – Response 22nd July – No comment
- 1942/21/HHO Householder application for alterations and extension to dwelling, including demolition of outbuilding (resubmission of application 0137/21/HHO) Genesis, Loring Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8AT – Response 22nd July Objection as the first-floor balcony accessed off the living area would cause overlooking of the neighbouring

gardens and the properties set below in Grenville Road. This could also increase noise pollution for these adjacent properties. The design of the large window on the east elevation would cause significant light pollution to these same properties. The size of the proposed extension would significantly reduce the light to the garden of Loring Cottage thereby reducing their light amenity. Due to the sloping topography of the site, the proposed extension would be over dominant and unneighbourly. The additional bathrooms proposed would place further strain on the already overloaded sewerage system. Although one parking space would be created at the front of the property there was currently parking in the garage and to the front of it so no additional parking had in fact been created. Add to this the addition of two further bedrooms would lead to more vehicles using the property placing increased strain on the on-street parking, contrary to Salcombe NDP policies B1 (para 4) and T1 (b).

- 1957/21/FUL Remove existing roof and side cladding, replace with new, extend 1no. unit by 3no. bays to increase undercover storage area Lincombe, Lincombe Boat Yard, Salcombe, TQ8 8NQ – Response 5th August – No comment.
- 2000/21/HHO Householder application for proposed off-street parking area, storage shed, associated landscaping works and replacement of garage door with window Wedgwood, Allenhayes Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8HT – Response 12th August – Objection as it was very difficult to see from the plans (as there was no block plan) exactly where the new parking would be nor how the existing garage would be used. The site was adjacent to a crossroads and on a bus route, and it would appear that this proposal would also mean the removal of two on road parking spaces, which was contrary to NDP policy T1. The reduction of the available garden space would reduce the outside amenity space considerably. However to make a true assessment much clearer and detailed plans were required.
- 2051/21/VAR Application for variation of condition 12 (surface water drainage) of planning consent 4057/17/FUL Outset, Main Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JW – Response 29th July – No comment.
- 2125/21/HHO Householder application for proposed conversion of loft space with dormer windows and internal alterations 29 Church Street, Salcombe, TQ8 8DH – Response 29th July – Objection as the use of zinc was not conducive to the Conservation Area and was contrary to neighbourhood Plan policy B1 2(c) in that it did not compliment the local and traditional palette of materials in the area.
- 2128/21/FUL Alteration works and extension to first floor apartment, West Fairhaven, Sandhills Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JP – Response 22nd July – Objection this was a proposed development of part of an historic house that would leave the house unbalanced and detract from the rest of the property. The amount of glazing to be incorporated would cause significant light pollution in a dark area of the town. The proposal was contrary to Neighbourhood Plan policy B1 3(b) in that the design did not respect the character of existing buildings and also policy B1 3(c) in that the amount of zinc to be used did not complement the area.
- 2369/21/FUL Proposed residential development of two detached dwellings on vacant land. (Revised scheme of application 3262/18/FUL) Land Opposite Lyndale, Onslow Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8AH – Response 5th August – No comment on the proposal but due to the position of the site on a main access route into Salcombe there needed to be a Construction Management Plan prior to work commencing. Neighbourhood Plan policy H3 re Principal Residence would also apply to this proposal and in the light of the recent unanimous decision of the full South Hams District Council to support the

proposed amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan Town Council would request a S106 agreement in respect of this policy.

- 2380/21/FUL Extension of upper roof terrace with modified window and door formation and replacement of existing balcony 40 Court House, Buckley Street, Salcombe, TQ8 8DD – Response 26th July Objection. Condition 3 of approved application 41/2460/13/F stated that the obscure glazed privacy panel and glass and steel balustrade as shown in those plans must be completed and thereafter maintained and retained in perpetuity. This condition was to minimise any impact on the neighbouring property. This application would override that condition which will mean a major loss of amenity to the neighbouring property. The roof terrace in question was adjacent to the bedroom window of 39 Buckley Street which would mean a loss of privacy and a loss of amenity due to the potential noise impact from the use of this terrace. The overall design of the application was not in keeping with the Conservation Area and would also impact on locally important view V14 as set out in Neighbourhood Plan policy ENV6.
- 2381/21/HHO Householder application for roof extension to create additional floor and side alterations including garage 2 Tamarisk, Drake Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8EG – Response 29th July – Objection as number 2 Tamarisk was set higher than number 1 and was also closer to the properties below in Knowle Road. This proposed extension would be overbearing to and dominate those properties in Knowle Road (numbers 11 - 14). If approval was granted then there needed to be a Construction Management Plan to ensure that access along Bonfire Hill was not impeded.
- 2385/21/FUL Full planning application for proposed demolition of existing house and erection of new replacement dwelling, carport and single garage. Brookside, Lower Batson, TQ8 8NJ – Response 29th July – No comment.
- 2457/21/FUL Change of use of lower ground floor space into short-term holiday let and (retrospective) retention of small side window 5 Walton Leigh, Devon Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8HQ – Response 12th August – Objection as this was an additional self-contained property with no parking facility so was contrary to NDP B1 (4) and T1 (b) as it would place an increase in demand for on street parking. If approval was given there should be a condition that this self-contained space remained ancillary to the main house in perpetuity.
- 2514/21/FUL Slope Stabilisation works due to recurring landslips, Flying Swans, Lower Batson, TQ8 8NP – Response 26th August – Support as this work was necessary to maintain the boundary of the estuary.
- 2555/21/VAR Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 1505/19/FUL Car Park Creek, Gould Road, Salcombe, Devon – Response 29th July – No comment.
- 2631/21/HHO Householder application for rear extension comprising dining room, gym, utility and 2 No additional rooms, replacement and relocation of existing windows, relocation of front door and extension of entrance canopy to form loggis (Resubmission of 3809/20/HHO) Swallows Lodge, Sandhills Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JP – Response 26th August – No comment.
- 2746/21/VAR Variation of condition 2 (approved plans), and removal of conditions 3 (roof samples) and 11 (details of privacy screen) of planning consent 2006/18/FUL Herwood, Bennett Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JJ – Response 19th August – No comment.

APPEAL

- 3966/20/HHO Appeal reference: APP/K1128/D/21/3273376 Proposal: Householder application for reinstatement of historic vehicular access, with associated works and landscaping Cross Garden Cottage, Market Street, Salcombe TQ7 8DE Appellants Name: Mrs Alex Perkins Appeal start date: 21st June 2021
Noted Inspector dismissed Appeal.

APPLICATION FOR WORKS TO TREE PRESERVATION TREES

- 1771/21/TPO G007: Ash x 7 - Fell, trees dead or dying; G008: Sycamore, Holm Oak, Beech and Ash - Crown lift boundary trees to 5.3m from ground level on North side to clear Onslow Road carriageway Land At Sx 737 390 Bonaventure Road, Salcombe – Response 29th July. No Objection as this was removal of Ash on safety grounds, crown lifting to reduce highway impacts. Replant requirements due to density of woodland and canopy restrictions to be met by the planting of whips of suitable replacement trees at a ratio of three per tree felled. In addition, allow natural regeneration of self-seeded trees. Additional smaller tree and shrub species were to be introduced to woodland area as mitigation. ***This was a Tree Warden comment as Town Council would not comment on their own application.***
- 2465/21/TPO G1: Sweet Chestnut x 1 - Lateral reduction by 2.5m on West side & HolmOak x1 - Lateral reduction by 1.5m on to provide clearance from building. T1: Sycamore within G1 - Crown height reduction by 3m for safety reasons. G2: Monterey Pine, English Oak, Sweet Chestnut - Crown height reduction by 2m to maintain trees at managed height. Sandhills, Sandhills Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JP – Response 12th August. Objection. The information provided in the accompanying tree report was not the same as that outlined in the application. In the report there was no reference to works to a Sweet Chestnut and a Holm Oak in G1, no evidence was provided to justify works proposed in the application. No evidence was available in the report to justify the proposed 2.5m reduction to the Sweet Chestnut, or lateral reduction of the Holm Oak in G1, no photographs were accessible in the report. Without evidence any works to one side of any tree could, given the exposed position and prevailing winds, impact the stability of the trees. In the report the only tree referenced for works in G1 was Sycamore T1. If this had been previously pollarded, then works to reduce to previous pollard points could be acceptable. The other works proposed to the trees in G2 given the position may be justified with reduction back to previous pollard points, as long as this did not impact the growth vitality of the trees as they did provide stability to the bank area. As the Pine in the application was covered in ivy it was difficult to assess, so inspection could not confirm whether reduction to 6m would compromise the life of the Pine and what height reduction would be acceptable or appropriate.
- 2574/21/TPO T1: Beech - lateral reduction by 2metres on south east side due to impeding construction of new dwelling Topwood, Sandhills Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JP – Response 26th July Objection. The plans provided in this application were inaccurate, showing the position of the tree closer to the boundary than it was. When viewing the position and extent of the branches, the size of branches and number that crossed the boundary were small and light. Planning permission had been allowed for the trees in the neighbouring land present and no comments were made at the time of the various planning applications and the fact that the building would be built to the boundary should have been considered then. The tree was in a neighbouring property. A reduction of branches by 2 metres as proposed would be excessive. Any potential impact of light branches on the new building should be assessed on completion. Some

light pruning of branches may be allowed should the building be touched by the tree but no works beyond the boundary of the property, given that the tree was known about when the new building was being proposed.

- 2609/21/TPO T103: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise to 2.5m from ground level to allow light. T104: Fagus Sylvania - Remove to favour Scots Pine. T711: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove to favour Beech. T109: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise to 2.5m from ground for safety reasons. T110: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove to favour adjacent trees. T114: Quercus Cerris- Crown raise to 3m from ground level to provide clearance. T115: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Crown raise to 3m from ground level to provide clearance. T116: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove for safety reasons. T145: Acer Pseudoplatanus - Remove Western limb from base due to decay. T146: Quercus Ilex - Crown raise on West, North & East sides to Bridleway House, Moulton Hill, Salcombe, TQ8 8LF – Response 30th July. Objection. The map details in the accompanying tree report were unclear as to the exact site ownership boundaries and TPO975 boundary W1 and as such made assessment of the application difficult. These needed to be clear and defined exactly to be able to give due consideration to this application.

Notwithstanding the lack of clarity on the plans the works proposed in this application and those outlined in the accompanying tree report were contrary to the reasons for a woodland Tree Preservation Order. The proposed removal of trees had no arboricultural justification when looking at a woodland setting. The development of the woodland should be natural and allow trees to develop as they were. The woodland Order was established in 2019 with the area as now and should be allowed to develop naturally. The tree report accompanying the application did not provide details of an established and prolonged woodland management plan that would see any increase of tree numbers or species over a prolonged period of time. What was outlined was a basic three year plan which was insufficient and the actions proposed were detrimental to the existing Woodland and did not allow natural regeneration. All that was proposed was thinning and crown lifting that could be seen as ‘gardening’ the site. The report also proposed introducing paths to the woodland and these should not be allowed as they were contrary to the protection requirements of a Woodland TPO, changing the nature of the woodland permanently by introducing material such as sand on to the woodland floor. This application proposed changes to the woodland TPO that had no justification and would be contrary to the regulations.

- 2731/21/TPO T1: Monterey Cypress - Crown lift to 7 metres from ground level, Hipplefield, Bennett Road, Salcombe, TQ8 8JJ – Response 10th August. Objection. The works proposed of crown lifting to 7 metres was excessive and not required or justified on arboricultural or safety grounds. The applicant did not own the tree, so requesting to crown lift over the garden area was irrelevant as there was no knowledge of what the owner would wish to do. The only works that would be justified was the removal of three small branches growing across the main trunk on the lower eastern side of the tree that extended to the south/SWest to an adjacent utility pole and wires. These lesser works would be acceptable.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

- 2685/21/ARC Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 of Planning Permission 0820/21/FUL 2 and 3 Buckley Batson To Snapes Manor Lower Batson Devon TQ8 8NW - Objection as this is a very busy area in the summer months and with two major developments in this area (Westcombe and Flying Swans) it was not feasible for

this work to commence in August. The comment about the use of the two parking spaces on the other side of the estuary for parking, waiting deliveries and materials storage did not ring true as there would be insufficient space. There was no indication of the route that delivery vehicles would be taking. The concrete deliveries were intended to be from a lorry parked adjacent to Batson green but there were never any spaces there in busy times so how would this be achieved?

6. CONSULTATIONS

It was AGREED that the links for the following consultations would be forwarded to all councillors for them to respond individually:

- South Hams District, Better Lives for All – 6 weeks from 21st July
- Rewilding: Managing District spaces for biodiversity – Response 5th August
- National Bus Strategy Stakeholder consultation – Response 15th August
- Peninsula Transport Vision and consultation – Response 17th September
- Community Led Electric Car and Bike Club Survey – Response 24th August

Dist Cllr Long left the meeting.

7. STREET MARSHALS

Discussion took place regarding whether to reintroduce street marshals within Salcombe during the height of the tourist season and approve such payment and it was felt that the problems were not as bad this July as last year. There was still a lot of smashed glass around and people roaming the streets from 10pm -2a.m. However the police had been present confiscating alcohol to the need for security was down to 4 weeks and town council could afford this. It was AGREED to request City Security to commence immediately till after August Bank Holiday and their role must be clearly set out and be shared with publicans so everyone knew.

8. CIVIC FUNCTIONS

It was AGREED that arrangements be as stated below and this would be placed in the Gazette to advise the community what was being planned:

- Civic Lunch – 3rd Sunday in October, 17th and to request this at Harbour Hotel
- Remembrance Sunday – Full service again with Road Closure. Rob Wheeler and Daniel French would be requested to attend as previously and Cllr Fice would speak to the volunteer Parade Marshall.
- Citizen of the Year – This would be advertised and circulated to all groups for nominations.

9. JUBILEE GARDENS

The working party reported on their visit to inspect the play equipment and advised that the posts had movement and it had not aged well. It was APPROVED that provision was required for the younger children with enjoyable play equipment and the working party would bring a proposal for such back to full council.

10. BONFIRE HILL CEMETERY

The installation of a concrete plinth to allow a commemorative bench to be installed were circulated and it was AGREED to request District Council to carry this out at a cost of £675.00 plus VAT.

11. PARK AND RIDE BARRIER

The quote for works of £340 to repair the damaged overhead barrier was APPROVED.

Cllr Fice raised concern on how to deter people walking down Bonfire Hill as they were in danger and affected the traffic flow. Perhaps a sign advising that going left was dangerous and for pedestrians to please walk the other way.

12. REPORTS

MAYORS'S REPORT

The Mayor firstly wished to declare an interest, on behalf of herself and Cllr Mrs Bricknell, in the Section 106 Affordable Housing off-site contribution payable from the Treetops development in Salcombe. This money was offered by the District Council Housing Specialist to the Salcombe Community Land Trust and, as Trustees, she and Cllr Mrs Bricknell immediately took a step back and left the discussion with District Council and subsequent application to the Trust's Secretary, Nicki Barclay. They were not involved with this proposal whatsoever but they would, of course, appreciate the support of the Town Council for this contribution to be awarded to Salcombe CLT otherwise there was a risk that it could be spent elsewhere in the South Hams, or go back to the developer unspent.

She also explained that along with Cllr Mrs Bricknell they wished to declare an interest in respect of the Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Plan. As the current OSSR Working Group they had received from the Trustees of The Young Salcombe Centre a proposal to go into the Plan for funding towards the purchase of indoor sports equipment, but they were also two of the Trustees who put together the application. The town clerk had emailed and explained their involvement in The Young Salcombe Centre to Alexis Huggins, the District Council OSSR officer, in order to be upfront and clear about their roles in both the Town Council and The Young Salcombe Centre. As it was the District Council were the ones who decided which of the projects put forward by every club, group, and organisation fulfilled the criteria of the Plan and so were eligible. Whether they would be awarded the S106 funding or not, there was no opportunity for the Mayor and Cllr Mrs Bricknell to favour, what could be seen as, their own 'pet projects' to receive money other than be part of any applications.

The Mayor advised she had attended the online Planning Inspectorate Hearing regarding Lower Rockledge on the 30th June, as an observer.

The proposed Airband presentation via Zoom on the 20th July was cancelled at the last minute due to the company's liaison officer succumbing to Covid. This would be rescheduled, and she would be emailing around for availability dates again as soon as she had heard from the officer as to her available days/times.

There had been several online catch-up meetings with police Inspector Nicky Baker since the last Council meeting, to discuss general policing matters and specifically the sad case of Mrs Mee Kuen Chong's body being found in woods off Bennett Road. Everyone was kept as up to date as the Inspector was permitted with the investigation, and of course once an arrest and charge was made it all became sub judice so no more could be said. Generally, crime and incidents in Salcombe had not changed since pre-Covid times, with the predictable drugs, threatening behaviour, damage to vehicles, break-ins, and domestic abuse. June recorded 4 crimes and 15 incidents, which was the lowest since 2019 (3 crimes and 14 incidents), and July 2020 only saw 5 crimes and 17 incidents recorded. These were still extremely low figures. The biggest problem locally was 'forgetting to pay' for fuel at Malborough petrol station! The Inspector applied for, and received, additional funding for double crewed units working Fridays,

Saturdays and Sundays in the 'hotspots' of Salcombe and Kingsbridge. These extra patrols started in mid-July and would continue through August. Inspector Baker took the opportunity at the final meeting on the 21st July to let the Mayor know that she was moving to a temporary post with CID, but was hoping to have time before her transfer on the 2nd August to introduce her replacement.

Cllr Moore asked what was happening with regard to the Young Salcombe Centre and Cllr Mrs Bricknell responded it was just that they were Trustees and in this capacity they had to serve Notice on District Council to obtain a new Lease. District did not respond in time so the lease had rolled over but the building had been out of use for a year whilst they were trying to agree a new Lease. There were groups ready and waiting to go in and start but the Trustees needed security of tenure for allowing groups to be in the building without the worry they could be thrown out. Cllr Fice felt that the Trustees could have approached town council to assist with liaising with District Council as a consolidated approach would potentially have more weight and he was worried it was too much pressure on the Trustees. The Mayor noted it would be good to have support but whilst they had said they would facilitate the building for the groups they did not want to expose their plans or give their details out. She said they would talk to the groups and other trustees and report to town council in September. The perception in the town of what was happening with the area when they saw a big container in the garden was this was another thing lost to the town. Town needed to know steps were being taken to secure this building for them.

The Mayor note the email received from Salcombe Live, Andrew Jones, to advise town council of their music festival weekend which also asked if town council would be prepared to provide financial report. This was felt to to be a town provision that the ARG Funding should apply to and they should be encouraged to approach Dist Cllr Mrs Pearce and Long.

She questioned why a planning application had been submitted for the mortuary building when it was agreed by town council that the building would only made water tight with general renovation. It was not felt that the works intended required this so the application would be withdrawn.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Lafferty-Holt emailed the following report as he was unable to attend.

- Whitestrand bin collection was carried out at 19.10 on 27th July. He did not know if it was also done later, but this would seem too early for the evening collection as he thought the afternoon collection was about 16.00.
- There was no "MENS" sign on the toilets in Whitestrand. All that could be seen was "LADIES", "DISABLED" and "BABY CHANGING" on the door of the mens. At quiet times (when there was not a stream of people going in and out), he had noticed some men looking lost as to where to go.
- Whitestrand - The barrier to the car park was doing a good job to stop the cars, but it was too wide and made a bottleneck for people walking in and out. Either one barrier was needed otherwise they should be placed a couple of metres back from the entrance to allow for sufficient pedestrian access.
- Planning notices - He had taken a number of photos of planning notices around town that were either grossly out of date, or looked a shambles. In an AONB, conservation area, with a Planning Office keen to maintain the heritage of the town, it seemed at odds to put crumpled, soggy notices up around the town. The planning notice for his property was put up outside on a

lamppost with string. Within days it became a soggy crumpled mess and was still there. Could these not been laminated at the least to stop them becoming dishevelled? Posting and removal was supposed to be undertaken by Locality Officers.

- Cllr Mrs Sinnott – Noted the cemetery car park adjacent to the Park and Ride and that some motorists were using it on a daily basis. The Mayor would place a note on offending vehicles. Plantation Wood, Bennett Road had drawn a lot of tourists to it but signage did not advise the footpath was not suitable for prams or pushchairs. It was agreed that no sign was felt applicable and people should make this decision themselves.
- Cllr Fice – Asked if Covid signs could now be removed and Pete Robinson was asked to do. With regard to the land at Lower Rockledge he attended the Appeal and one of the points he raised was that if approved town council would like a section 106 and he explained the emerging amendment to the Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning officer was questioned about this and responded this was not in yet confirmed so should go through as was. However the Inspector expressed surprise it was not included. He also queried whether District had yet been informed about town council not contributing to public toilets free entry. A Contract was never agreed and although there remained outstanding invoices nothing had been heard in response to an email sent by the town clerk and read out in the meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Pete Robinson and Mark Long, as Tree Warden, had met with Simon Putt from Devon Tree Services to carry out a summer canopy review of the trees in town council ownership. It had been observed that a further two trees at Bonaventure required felling and it was requested that these works be allowed to go ahead in principle and added to works already approved for Devon Trees Services as they would be applying for a Road Closure Order for the works currently approved by town council. A quote had been requested. Sadly it had also been noted that the 'community swing' tree at the Berry was in a bad state and would need to be felled. This was to proceed as stated.
- A breakdown of visits paid by the hawk for the project showed that it had exceeded the programme having completed 106.67% of flights to date. Average attendance being over 4 hours per visit giving an extra 12 hours 48 minutes of coverage. Chris Wood had promised to make another visit later this week, which would further extend his contribution above the contracted flights. Having discussed the programme it seemed that it might be better to pull the programme back a couple of weeks, as starting earlier would catch the mating gulls and the July coverage only moved the gulls on and was not really deterring them from nesting. This would be diarised for the December meeting to consider the need for a 2022 programme and agree a way/schedule forward. Cllr Moore raised various questions which Pete Robinson would follow up with the hawk owner.
- The new Salcombe Community Noticeboard provided by town council had been erected at the crossroads by Onslow Road/Main Road adjacent to the bus shelter.
- No further progress had been made with regard to weed spraying by District Council and the company requested to attend to quote had failed to make contact or arrive.
- Salcombe Live Festival email advising of arrangements for October 2021 had been circulated to all town council.
- A complaint had been made by ansaphone to the Salcombe Information Centre regarding usage of Ringo at the Park and Ride. Devon County had advised that the

service had received constant payments over this period and therefore it was believed to be working correctly and that it was isolated users having problems.

13. FINANCE

Bank Balances

Current Account £500.00

Deposit Account £494203.60 (to include £362,044.97 held for projects in reserves) Balance £156,211.58

Receipts: None

APPROVED Internet payments to:

HMRC July – Tax and NI £795.51

NEST July – Pension £181.91

Wages July – £1854.22

Chris Wood – Hawk programme final payment 2021 £660.00

SHDC – Maintenance June £1261.20

Notice-It Ltd – Community Noticeboard £1095

Richard Mitchell (work by Harry Thomas) Work to Shadycombe Cemetery/Forster Road wall £3970.00

WPS Insurance – Town Council Annual renewal £2321.71

14. NEXT MEETING

Town Council meetings recess during August so the next meeting would be held 22nd September 2021.

Meeting ended: 9.00p.m.

..... 22nd September 2021.

Town Mayor