

# SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009

In attendance were Cllrs. Holdstock, Mrs Smart, Mrs Duncan, Mrs Williamson, Clark, Mrs Bernthal, Duncan, the clerk and 5 members of the public. Also attending was SBC Cllr. Bobbin. Apologies from KCC Cllr. Bowles

### 1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr. Holdstock be elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the year 2009-10, and Cllr. Mrs Smart as Vice Chairman. There being no other valid nominations the motion was carried. Cllrs. Holdstock and Mrs Smart completed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### 2. Declarations of Interest and Updates to the Register of Members Interests

Cllr. Mrs Bernthal declared an interest in item 6i Crown Hill Cottage

### 3. Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record subject to the removal of Cllr. Mrs Williamson name being in attendance, and inserted in apologies received.

**Item 3 Year End Accounts:** The clerk advised that Ken Abrahams will be carrying out the internal audit of accounts 2008-09 on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

### 4. Representation on Outside Bodies and Council Responsibilities

Village Hall: Cllr. Mrs Smart

KALC, KALC Swale Area Committee, Mid Kent Downs Steering Group, LEF & SRF: Cllr. Duncan

Selling C of E School: Cllr. Mrs Williamson

Perry Wood: All members of the Council

Highways: Cllr. Mrs Duncan

Planning Applications: Cllrs. Holdstock and Clark

The clerk to remain as RFO

It was proposed and seconded that travel expenses be paid to members when attending meetings on behalf of the Council, outside of the Parish.

### 5. Planning Matters *Due to time constraints items i and ii were considered prior to the meeting*

(i) SW/07/1464 Case: 23043 1 & 2 Rhode Common Cottages, Dunkirk  
Replacement of no. 1 and no. 2 Rhode Common Cottages with 2 eco houses.

(ii) TC/09/0026 TD Case: 23586 Cobbes Corner, The Street, Selling  
Fell one Cherry Tree and reduce Cherry tree to rear by 25%

(iii) TC/09/0027 TD Case: 17943 Selling Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Selling  
Reduction of 2 Lime trees

(iv) The Planning Inspectorate. (Public footpath ZR663 (part), Boughton-under-Blean, Dunkirk & Selling. Definitive Map Modification Order 2008.

Notice that the order will be determined following a hearing on 09.09.09 at Boughton-under-Blean Village Hall 10am.

There were no objections to any of the above

A letter and CD on Sittingbourne Town Centre and Milton Creek Supplementary Planning Document was received. Agreed this be circulated in the file.

## 6. Planning Decisions

- (i) Crown Hill Cottage, Perry Wood, Selling  
Extension, erection of replacement garage and installation of a package sewage treatment plant. Planning and listed building consent approved by SBC
  - (ii) 1, Shepherds Hill Cottages, Shepherds Hill, Selling  
Fell Eucalyptus tree and reduce Holly tree by 25-30%. Approved by SBC
- It was noted that a site meeting of the Crown Hill Cottage appeal for a double garage with home office within roof space will be held next week. Cllr. Duncan to attend.

## 7. Reports

**Highways:** Following a chance meeting between Andrew Rourke, KHS, and Cllr. Duncan, Mr. Rourke was disappointed to learn that some highway issues in the Parish were still outstanding. He therefore arranged for the work to deal with the water at Norham to be commenced the following day.

There are numerous pot holes in the Parish, due to severe weather conditions during the winter. The movement of badgers in Featherbed Lane is still being monitored and any problem soil is removed. Keith Ferrin KCC Cabinet Member for Highways has announced the launch of the first phase of the KHS Parish Portal. This will enable Parishes to obtain up to date information on line.

A letter from a Parishioner was received regarding the lack of verge grass cutting in Selling Road, Neames Forstal and the highway triangle by Bridge Cottages.

The clerk has advised KHS and will also contact Swale Housing to see if it is the verge outside the LA houses is their responsibility. The Chairman and Clerk are to attend a KHS presentation on the Speed Limit Review.

**Perry Wood:** Following accusations that the Parish Council has not informed the public nor responded to information received regarding the HLF, Cllr. Mrs Bernthal took members through a lengthy report showing precisely the Council's response whenever information was received. It does appear however, that some members of the public are privy to certain information whilst the Parish Council is not. It was proposed and seconded that the clerk write to SBC and KDAONB requesting that as a legally elected body, the Parish Council be kept informed.

Cllr. Mrs Williamson, the Chairman and clerk contacted the police regarding a suspected rave in Perry wood on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. The meeting was advised of the rave control line as 01795 477055.

**Selling C of E Primary School:** No report

**Selling Village Hall:** Cllr. Mrs Smart informed the meeting that there has been a delay in the improvements to the mens urinals but work should start very soon.

**Outside Bodies:** Cllr. Duncan circulated a report which advised of his attendance at Mid Kent Downs Steering Group, Swale Rural Forum and Faversham Local Engagement Forum.

## 8. Finance Matters

- (i) The following accounts were approved for payment:

EDF Energy	£ 17.43	Lighting Energy	DD
KALC	£ 270.66	Annual Subscription	
NALC	£ 13.50	Local Council Review	

- |  |                  |          |                                |
|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
|  | Audit Commission | £1414.50 | Additional Charges for 2005-06 |
|  | Allianz          | £ 769.48 | Annual Insurance               |
|  | Mrs Shaw         | £ 186.81 | SO March                       |
|  | Mrs Shaw         | £ 186.81 | SO April                       |
|  | Mrs Shaw         | £ 60.00  | Stationary & Expenses          |
|  | Cllr. Holdstock  | £ 42.11  | APM Chairman's Expenses        |
- (ii) Members noted receipt of £2509.50 half year precept and £90.00 lighting grant. The clerk advised that the shortfall of lighting grant applied for, has been added to the precept.
- (iii) The clerk advised that the current minute book is now full. Members agreed she purchase a properly bound minute folder.
- (iv) A letter from solicitors advised that they have been instructed by our insurers to recover their outlay for the damaged notice board in 2005. They are enquiring whether we wish them to include our outlay of £125.00 in respect of our policy excess. As the contract advises that there could be expenses in excess of £500.00, it was agreed not to pursue.
- (v) Members agreed the Chairman sign the Southern Electric contract for the maintenance of street lights. The clerk advised that Southern Electric does not have the facility to set up a direct debit.
- (vi) Following the successful public meeting on Broadband at which KCC advised that the Parish would qualify for £50000.00 towards setting this up, it was moved and seconded that the Parish Council accept.

*Members wished it to be recorded that a vote of thanks be given to Cllr. Mrs Bernthal for all the work and research she has carried out on Broadband.*

## 9. Parish Plan

Following the talk given at the Annual Parish Meeting, members agreed to pursue the idea of a Parish Plan. A notice to be put in the magazine and on the boards asking for interested parties to form a committee.

## 10. Matters Raise by Electors at the Annual Parish Meeting

As it was reported that SBC are unable this year to offer the services of a clean up day, the clerk to obtain information and costs from SBC for the removal of bulky rubbish and place a notice on the boards.

A resident had kindly obtained a brochure and quotation for a replacement directional sign at Norham, unfortunately the type of signs provided are of a street furniture nature and thought not be acceptable to KHS for main highways.

Further correspondence was received regarding the state of the sign. It was agreed the Chairman obtain a quotation for repair from a metalworker, in the meantime the clerk to seek other quotations.

A member had been approached regarding a bus service in the Parish. The Chairman advised that this had been thoroughly investigated 3 years ago.

## 11. Correspondence, Publications and Other Matters of Importance

Inspector Swinney has agreed to address the Council on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009.  
Cllr. Duncan to arrange.

**Circulated in the folder**

Letter from Inspired-Kent offering their landscape/building services  
Swale Borough Council lists of lodged planning applications  
KALC Parish News & minutes of the last Swale Area Meeting  
CPRE Viewpoint, the Field and Countryside Voice.  
Oast to Coast  
The Orchid  
Letter and leaflet re: Public Sector Equality Duties  
Southern Water's Business Plan 2010-2015

**12. Confirmed the date of the next meeting as 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 8pm**

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed:.....

Dated:.....

**Open Forum:** A resident of Perry Wood read a statement suggesting the Parish Council has failed to provide sufficient information on the Heritage Lottery Funding for Perry Wood. She further objected to an email addressed to her husband by a member of the Parish Council. Although this was written as a private interested and involved-to-date individual and not as a Council representative.