

SAUNDERSFOOT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of the General Meeting of The Saundersfoot Community Council held on Thursday 5th August 2021. This was a hybrid meeting - Councillors met within the Regency Hall with a live link to enable members of the public, and any Councillors who preferred to attend virtually, via Zoom. (These arrangements are in line with the current Government imposed Covid 19 Restrictions).

This meeting was open to members of the public.

Present - In person- Cllrs M Wainwright (Chair), D Ludlow (Vice Chair), P Baker (County Councillor), R Hayes MBE, B Clevely, S Boughton Thomas, M Saunders, M Williams BEM, A Upham, T Pearson and the Clerk

Present – Remotely via the live link Cllr L James

Meeting commenced at 18.02 – Due to technical problems - the live link was available after agenda item 2021/08 72

2021/08 68 Apologies for Absence – Cllr Neil Sefton

2021/08 69 Chairman's Report

Cllr Wainwright reported that:

- On Thursday the Wales in Bloom judge visited and that it was a very productive day.
- It is lovely to see the village full of happy smiling visitors and locals as we get through this pandemic.
- I have visited the Sensory Gardens on a few occasions and would like to thank all concerned for their magnificent efforts, and although it is looking very well presented, we have had a few comments about various matters, including people of all genders using it as a toilet. Also, the area running alongside the boundary wall with the harbour seems to be overhanging the pathway, Councillor Williams has agreed that he will have a look at it.
- During a recent visit to the beach, I noted quite a few dogs on the beach, a Byelaw is in place and such should be upheld if Saundersfoot is to keep its Blue Flag Award. Consideration to be given to more prominent signposting or possibly a banner.
- A meeting of the personnel group has been held. It went very well and quite a few issues were discussed and I think we all agreed that it was a very positive meeting.
- A request from a member of the community was received regarding the possibility to cut the hedge alongside the path leading up to the top of the new cemetery, I went and had a look and it was very overgrown with possible health and safety issues. I contacted the Clerk and I am pleased to report that this hedge has now been cut back and access is now very much easier and safer, thank you to the Clerk for moving quickly on this.
- I have been through all the names and dates on the Chain of Office and have tabulated them. I have printed off copies if you are interested or I can send them electronically.

2021/08 70 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Boughton-Thomas declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any matters appertaining to the Regency Hall/Library – Cllr Boughton Thomas is Treasurer to the Regency Hall. Cllr Boughton Thomas has been granted a Dispensation by Pembrokeshire County Council - Standards Committee to speak, but not vote, on any matters relating to the Regency Hall/Library.

Cllr Upham declared a personal interest in any matters appertaining to the Regency Hall/Library – Cllr Upham is a Trustee of the Regency Hall

Cllr Baker declared a personal interest in any matters appertaining to the Library - Cllr Baker is also County Councillor and Pembrokeshire County Council are the Agreement holders for the library

Cllr Baker declared a personal interest in all planning matters as he is an appointee to the PCNPA Development Management Committee.

Cllr Hayes MBE declared a personal interest in agenda item 2021/08 76 – Cllr Hayes MBE is a Trustee of Saundersfoot Sports Field.

2021/08 71 To Receive the Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 1st July 2021

Cllr Hayes MBE proposed that the Minutes for the meeting held on the 1st July 2021 be signed as a true record; Cllr Baker seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/08 72 Matters Arising from the Minutes – Information Only

2021/07 64 The Minutes of the Saundersfoot's Lonely Tree Preservation Society were made available to all Councillors.

2021/08 73 Account(s) for Payment and Bank Reconciliation

Following consideration of the information presented to the Council; Cllr Boughton-Thomas proposed that bank/cashbook reconciliation be accepted as a true and accurate record of the Council's accounts, Cllr Cleevely seconded the proposal with all Councillors in full agreement.

2021/08 74 Planning Application(s) Received

A	NP/21/0421/OUT	1, Nash Place, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire, SA69 9LS	New Dwelling
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Following consideration of all the information provided by the planning authority, no objections or concerns were raised

B	NP/21/0373/FUL	Beach Kiosk to Rear of Old Chemist Inn, The Strand, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire, SA69 9ET	Change of use of kiosk building to provide beach side cafe together with alterations & creation of outside seating area
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Following consideration of all the information provided by the Planning Authority, Councillors considered that a site visit would be beneficial to enable an informed decision be made regarding this planning application. Its reasons for a site visit include: access across the beach for deliveries and collection of waste, possible flooding due to rising tides and potential health and safety issues regarding fire exits to neighbouring properties.

C	NP/21/0411/FUL	Bevelin House, Sandy Hill Road, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire, SA69 9HR	Erection of new boundary fence approx 2.35m above adjacent ground level
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The Clerk advised the Council that one letter had been received regarding this application. This was read out in the meeting.

Following consideration of all the information provided, Councillors considered that a site visit would be beneficial to enable an informed decision be made regarding this planning application. Its reasons for a site visit include: to consider the possible differing heights of the two adjoining properties and the effect of the proposed fence to the adjoining properties.

D	NP/21/0456/FUL	Conversion and extension of an existing Guest House into 15 Residential units	Malin House Hotel, St. Brides Hill, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire, SA69 9NP
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Following consideration of all the information provided by the planning authority, no objections or concerns were raised. Councillors raised the following observations: 4 affordable houses to be included within the proposed plans, all outside amenities had been considered ie car parking, outside space for residents and a waste/recycling area for the storage of suitable receptacles and also that the new buildings are to be set back from the road edge. Saundersfoot Community Council support this application.

2021/08 75 Licensing Application(s) Received

Hean Castle Estate - The alcohol will be sold electronically on the website, when letting holiday cottages. The alcohol will be delivered to holiday cottages by employees of Hean Castle Estate either alone or part of a hamper for the arrival of the holiday makers.

No concerns or objections were raised.

2021/08 76 Consideration of Correspondence Received to include -

- The request made by the Saundersfoot Sports and Social Club – Email sent to all Councillors 16th July 2021, re Play Park Fencing
- The request made by the Saundersfoot Sports and Social Club – Email sent to all Councillors 16th July 202, re Third Tennis Court

Note: the request made regarding the third tennis court was made by the Cricket Club and not the Saundersfoot Sports and Social Club.

Following consideration of the two above correspondence – Councillors consider that a meeting would be beneficial between all parties with an interest in this area ie the Saundersfoot Sports and Social Club, The Saundersfoot Bowling Club, the Regency Hall and the Council. The Clerk to liaise with the Chair and arrange such meeting.

The Clerk to advise the Saundersfoot Bowling Club of the water leak which was purportedly caused by the lorries driving over the water pipes when delivering stone.

- The request made by Grace Church – Email sent to all Councillors 20th July 2021, re reserving parking spaces

Following consideration of this request Councillors considered that, at this point in time, it would not be prudent to permit 6 car parking spaces to be reserved every Sunday morning as this would set a precedence for spaces having to be reserved for other events in the village. The task and finish group will hold a meeting to discuss how this area of car parking will be managed moving forward.

- Email received regarding Operation London Bridge and consideration of the Council's response to such

It was agreed that no further action is required at this point in time.

- Email received by a Councillor raising concerns over the mud and moss on the MUGA

The Clerk reported that the surface was being pressure washed at that very moment with good results.

- Numerous correspondences have taken place between the Solicitor, the bus shelter supplier and the Clerk regarding the accident resulting in the bus shelter at North Close to be replaced.

The Clerk advised the Council that the Solicitors firm handling the Claim had not been very communicative, but at last had confirmed that the price for the replacement shelter had been approved with the funds being transferred to the Council's bank account. An invoice for the Clerks time will be paid once the Claim is completed.

2021/08 77 To receive County Councillor's Report

Cllr Baker reported

County Hall matters

- Gold Command continues to oversee the response to Covid 19 across the County.
- Work continues to have oversight of the visitor infrastructure monitoring car-parks, visitor ambassadors etc, this week had seen the busiest days for car-parking.
- The Incident Management Centre and Covid response teams continue to offer advice to individuals, groups and businesses via the local County Councillor.
- Officers continue to visit communities offering advice and in extreme cases enforcement

Ward matters

- The short Strand tunnel has had new lights fitted, there have been teething problems
- The new lighting installation in the long tunnel is still awaited.
- Cllr Baker praised the street cleaning teams, the bin emptying and litter picking seeing teams still visiting 4 or 5 times daily. The work undertaken by volunteers is incredibly important to how the Village presents itself to everyone.
- The street sweeper is visiting regularly dealing with litter and sand.
- The Café culture barriers checked weekly and it is pleasing to see them used as regularly as possible.
- Cllr Baker also advised that a review of mini roundabout and signage will take place during week commencing 9th August.

2021/08 78 To Receive Any Reports from Committees/Working Parties

To include reports from the:

Sensory Garden Working Party and Grounds Management Working Party

Cllr M Williams BEM reported that:

- The Sensory Garden requires continuous weeding and deadheading
- A few hours tutorial by Mr David Cox regarding plant care is being arranged
- The area along side the Bowling Club which was cleared of all plants and shrubs has opened up this area exposing the Saundersfoot Community Council's Grounds man's office which required the door and windows painting - This will be completed ASAP

Play Park Task and Finish Group

Cllr D Ludlow reported that:

- Due to prior contracts with schools, which the Saundersfoot Community Council were unaware of, the fencing company are not able to erect the fencing until early September 2021. This news was accepted with great disappointment.
- The soft ground areas should be installed within the next ten days.
- An interim invoice had been received from the playground installers – the task and finish group will meet with the Clerk and ensure that the amount requested for payment is acceptable.

Library 2022/2023 Task and Finish Group

Cllr A Upham reported that the survey was ready to be distributed but a date is awaited regarding the release of such.

Personnel Working Group

The Council considered whether a further Councillor should be added to the group but it was concluded that the membership should stay as is.

Cllr James reported that:

- The first meeting of the Personnel group had been held on the 20th July 2021 – present Cllrs Williams BEM, Wainwright, James and the Clerk.
- Cllr James was appointed as Chair
- Mr Lewis' annual appraisal for 2021/2022 was noted and accepted
- A date to be set for the Clerks annual appraisal for 2021/2022 – due October 2021
- Training and support to be arranged for both the Clerk and Mr Lewis
- A replacement laptop is required – The Clerk had made enquiries as to the cost of such with the specification required. Cllr James proposed that Saundersfoot Community Council purchase a new laptop to the value of £500 (Net); Cllr Baker seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

Discussion also took place regarding the Clerks request, made in September 2020, for a pay review as per her Contract of Employment and the scenario that followed such that a full job appraisal should take place.

Cllr James proposed that a full evaluation of the Clerks role/hours worked and pay scale and Mr Lewis pay scale be undertaken by an independent Consultant at a cost of £300 and that any recommendations within the report will be considered by the Saundersfoot Community Council; Cllr Baker seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

2021/08 79 To Receive Reports from Council Representatives

To include reports from the:

Saundersfoot's Lonely Tree Preservation Society – See Minute 2021/08 72

It was also noted that a request for a donation to the Saundersfoot's Lonely Tree Preservation Society had been made – this has been diarised for the September 2021 meeting

One Voice Wales – Cllr Cleevely advised the Clerk that he had not received any correspondence from One Voice Wales – The Clerk to advise One Voice Wales of Cllrs Cleevely and Seftons' contact details.

2021/08 80 Update regarding the change of Ward Boundaries – and the impact this will have on the Saundersfoot County Council Ward and Saundersfoot Community Council electoral arrangements

Cllr Baker advised that following discussions with PCC Election Officers, he was eager to update the Council in regard to the 2019 LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES Boundary Review, it concludes that Saundersfoot County Council Ward will be altered. Approximately 2/3 of the existing Ward will become Saundersfoot South and the remaining 1/3 of the Ward will be linked to Amroth and known as Amroth with Saundersfoot North. The boundary between the two Wards will run from the main beach slipway along the centre of The Ridgeway.

The Saundersfoot Community Council boundary will remain as it currently exists but divided into two Wards with 4 Community Councillors representing Saundersfoot North and 8 Community Councillors representing Saundersfoot South.

Following the 2022 Elections Saundersfoot Community Council meetings could potentially see two County Councillors in attendance.

Currently elections are due to take place on 5th May 2022 and if any persons would like further information on how to represent Saundersfoot as a County or Community Councillor they should contact the Clerk – clerk@saundersfoot-cc.gov.wales

2021/08 81 Consideration of how Beddows Lake can be cleared - and made more ascetically pleasing thereafter

The Clerk advised the Council that she had met Ranger Lewis and discussed this area with him. Range Lewis advised that, in his professional opinion, the current environment is ideal for encouraging wildlife.

Cllr Pearson suggested that murals could be painted on the nearby properties to enhance the area. Cllr Pearson will make enquiries with the adjacent home owners and report back to Council at the September 2021 meeting.

2021/08 82 The Paddock –

Cllr Hayes MBE advised the Council that she had received a number of complaints regarding the area opposite the arcade in Saundersfoot and its unkempt state. Following discussions it was concluded that the Clerk should seek further information from Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Planning Authority as to any planning conditions placed upon this land and ascertain where the responsibility lies regarding the upkeep on this land.

2021/08 83 Next Meeting – To consider the arrangements for the next meeting, taking into account any changes in the Government Imposed Covid 19 Restrictions regarding the holding of meetings.

It was agreed that the September 2021 meeting of Saundersfoot Community Council be a hybrid meeting affording members of the public to join via a live link.

Prior to the meeting closing Cllr Hayes MBE requested that the Council consider whether she would be able to represent the Saundersfoot Community Council in Anglesey at the Wales in Bloom Award Ceremony on the 9th September 2021. Cllr Wainwright proposed that Cllr Hayes MBE attends the award ceremony on behalf of the Saundersfoot Community Council; Cllr Ludlow seconded the proposal with all Cllrs in full agreement.

Meeting closed – 20.09