## Minutes of Sevington with Finberry Parish Council A Virtual Meeting held in on Monday, 1<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm

Present Cllr Martin (Chair) Cllr Bartlett

Cllr Bartram Cllr Whybrow

In attendance: 2 members of public and Tracey Block (Clerk)

To be actioned by:

To receive and approve apologies for absence	
Apologies had been received from Cllrs Oakley-Hills and Townsend.	
To receive declarations of interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests). The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared.	
Cllr Bartlett declared an interest in the Sevington Inland Border sites as it is in close proximity to his home	
address.  Cllrs Martin and Bartram declared an interest in the Waterbrook Inland Border sites as it is in close proximity to their home address.	
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021.	
The minutes were approved as a true record.	
To discuss matters arising from previous minutes that are not covered by the agenda.	
The co-option of a new Councillor was discussed. It was agreed that the Sevington Ward Councillor	
vacancy would be advertised on the Finberry Facebook page, it was suggested that Cllr Bartlett should post this. The Clerk and Cllr Martin will draft an advert.	
Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item.	
Both members of the public had an interest in the owls.	
Borough Councillors Report	
A report had been circulated and a copy is available on the website.	
There is one important action which is the consultation of the Sevington IBF. The issues raised are the	
potential increase in the traffic on the roads. It remains to see whether the traffic flow will change when Waterbrook closes. The closure was due to take place today, but this is delayed.	
It is hoped that this might mean that lorries will not be going to Kingfisher Close. A marshall should be introduced in Church Road, Sevington North. DfT have permission to use Waterbrook for 2 years.	
Cllr Bartlett was wondering whether the Wi-Fi mast would be visually intrusive. There are extra buildings in reduced height; the refrigerated containers can be heard as they are diesel generators. It can be	
annoying for some residents. Those in Church Road are suffering from noise pollution. The site should be connected to the National Grid which would eradicate the problem.	
The Bellamy Gurner Scheme – work was supposed to start in March, GSE have highlighted issues that need	
to be agreed between the stakeholders who are DfT, Church Commissioners and Crest Nicholson. The issues need to be addressed at a ministerial level. This would be a matter to be brought to attention of Damian Green MP. An agenda item is suggested for the April Meeting.	ТВ
There was a question as to why lorries are ending up in Nightingale Close, Kingfisher Close and Kingsford	
Street. When HMRC check has been validated, the lorries try to park up; one went in to the industrial park. The theory is that they may need somewhere to wait. They should be reported via Ashford Borough Council website.	
During January, there were only 49 reported lorries and only 10 reported in February. In comparison to the number of lorries there are, it is very few.	
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Cllr Whybrow stated that the lorries are going unreported; they are turning round on Kingfisher Close. The signs on Barrey Road and on the filter lane are not reducing the number of lorries. There seems to be a steady stream. It is important, therefore, to remind the DfT that this is an issue.

Cllr Martin suggested taking Cllr Bartletts points as a basis to the response, Cllr Whybrows comments will be taken into account and others should comment. Cllr Bartlett to send out some details, the Clerk will circulate and the Clerk will remind Councillors to send their comments to Rick so a submission can be made on 14/03/2021.

Αll

The positive is that there is no parking in Barrey Road and Foster Road has been eliminated. Cllr Whybrow will send details of haulier information to Cllr Bartlett.

ΑW

Another positive is that the fear of traffic numbers and gridlocked roads has been unproven.

## **Captain's Wood Management**

Cllr Oakley-Hills was to bring some information to the meeting but she has not been able to attend a meeting.

The Friends of Captains Wood will have a seat at the Stakeholders meeting. It is unlikely that this meeting will go ahead soon. It is important that the Parish Council considers setting up the Friends of Captains Wood group which will need to be an entirely separate group from the Parish Council.

One member of the public has started a Finberry and Bridgefield Wildlife Facebook and can provide this as a platform to start the group. It was considered that the Facebook group could be used to gauge interest in creating the Friends of Captain's Wood. It was agreed that this member of public should set up the Friends of Captain's Wood? 5 would be plenty; you need enough weight to being gravitas at the Stakeholders Meeting.

It was suggested that a constitution would be required in order to ensure the minimum number of people required to take an action forward.

The Facebook group will be asked for interest, Cllr Martin offered advice re: constitution and this will be another agenda item.

TB

## **Owl Boxes**

Cllr Bartlett explained that the papers have been circulated. It is the initiative of Mr Thompson who attended the meeting and was able to explain.

Mr Thompson explained that the Barn Owls presented themselves in the day time in the snow and there are some hunting territories along the Stour river where there is some scrub area that is being used. These areas will be saved as green spaces but invariable green spaces can become sterilised areas but this riparian corridor is ideal for Barn Owls, so there was a suggestion of purchasing owl boxes provided by the Kentish Stour Valley Partnership. These boxes would help our current barn owls and this would amplify the need to save this space.

6 residents of Finberry were out spotting Barn Owls in the snow.

The other member of the public fully supported these comments. There are also some Nightingales nesting and breeding in the Waterbrook development.

Cllr Bartlett supports this because it is the right thing to do and would form a good basis on providing input on the land between Finberry and Waterbrook. It is also a good way of engaging with the land owners, if we can show support as a Parish Council we can request support in decision making. Cllr Bartram supports this as do Cllr Whybrow and Cllr Martin.

How do we see ourselves as supporting these wildlife items going forward? We, as a Parish Council, have an important role on opining on Planning applications and it is important that we become involved in projects when we ask developers to do something about assisting the wildlife.

All agreed this expenditure. Cllr Bartlett is to gain landowner agreement and then the purchase can be made. The Facebook group is asked to make it known that the PC will be purchasing these. This Facebook group has 35 supportive comments for the PC to spend the money on this.	
Telephone Kiosk, Church Road Sevington	
The Clerk had contacted UK Power Networks to visit the site.	
Repairs will need to be undertaken, suggest that we ask people via Facebook. There is a handy man on Finberry but there might be others in the area. Quotes are to be sought.	
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Update on Sevington and Waterbrook Inland Border Facilities	
Addressed under Borough Councillor Report.	
Planning Matters:	
All of the applications are in the Google documents drive. There were no applications received.	
Financial Matters:	
Financial documents had been circulated.  To note the Parish Councils position: £10,226.76 with £220.20 outstanding.	
To authorise payments: The payments were approved.	
Any other business	
It was suggested that Sevington North should have its own Parish Council Facebook group. Official news is	
required rather than personal information. This should be an item for the next agenda.	ТВ
Determining the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council:	
Monday 12 April 2021 Monday 10 May 2021	
The meeting closed at 8.40pm	