

**Minutes of Sevington with Finberry Parish Council**  
**Meeting held at the Chamber of Commerce on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

<b>Present</b>	Cllr Martin (Chair) Cllr Bartram Cllr Lemon Cllr Whybrow	Cllr Bartlett Cllr Coppins Cllr Townsend
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In attendance: Tracey Block (Clerk)

To be actioned by:

<p><b>To receive and approve apologies for absence.</b>                  There were no apologies received.</p>	
<p><b>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.</b>                  Cllrs Bartlett and Coppins declared an interest in the IBF and Waterbrook due to the proximity of their homes to the site.</p>	
<p><b>To approve the minutes Sevington with Finberry Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.</b>                  The minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were signed as a true copy.</p>	
<p><b>To discuss matters arising from previous minutes that are not covered by the agenda.</b>                  There were no matters arising for discussion.</p>	
<p><b>Public session: To receive questions and comments from the public on any agenda item.</b>                  There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>	
<p><b>Borough Councillors Report</b>                  No report had been received from Cllr Nilsson.                  Paul Bartlett’s Borough Councillor Report had been circulated and was taken as read.                  The report is available to read at:  <a href="http://www.sevingtonwithfinberry.org.uk/community/sevington-with-finberry-parish-council-13425/abc-councillor-report/">http://www.sevingtonwithfinberry.org.uk/community/sevington-with-finberry-parish-council-13425/abc-councillor-report/</a></p> <p>Cllr Bartlett explained that he had met with Public Rights of Way Officers to discuss the following:                  The path between Finberry and Waterbrook, this is flooded and if raised out of the flood plain it would need permission from the Environment Agency, it is hoped it that it could be repaired by using some type 1 sub base to make good the path.                  Whether the circular path round Waterbrook could have a cut through to Cheeseman’s Green Lane to join the path to existing walking routes. This is being considered.                  When the path between Cheeseman’s Green Lane and Finberry will be re-opened. This will be looked into.</p>	
<p><b>Financial matters:</b>  <b>a) To note/authorise the following:</b>                  i. <b>To note the Parish Council’s financial position.</b>                  The Parish Council has £24,662.64 in the bank.                  ii. <b>To authorise any payments.</b></p>	

Payments were authorised as follows:

	£
HMRC	82.00
Clerk	462.62

**To consider any changes to the Risk Assessment.**

There were no changes to the Risk Assessment

**Planning matters: to authorise a response to any application(s) and to note any recent planning decisions by Ashford Borough Council or any correspondence on planning matters.**

The following applications required a response:

The Iceland application requires a response by 12/1.

Cllr Bartlett had attended the Planning Committee meeting for Waterbrook and the reserved matters application had been passed with consideration to tightening the management company clause.

**Update regarding the possible separation of the Parish Council**

The Clerk had received communication with Paul Libreri and the Parish Council needs to undertake a survey of residents to find out what support there is for separating the Parish Council.

It was agreed a survey would be produced which asked all pertinent questions of each area. Some areas have differing options i.e. Highfield Ward could become a Parish Meeting rather than a Parish Council and Sevington South residents could choose to be part of Mersham, stay with Finberry or be part of the Highfield Ward.

The Clerk is to provide Cllr Martin with some of the background information held.

**To receive an update on any matters pertaining to Sevington Highfield**

The next meeting is on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7pm.

Cllr Whybrow explained that he had been in conversation with the owner of Sevington Mill and his agents. The owner is keen to sell the property.

Cllr Whybrow discussed his concern about the lack of action to address the outstanding issues that Cllrs Campkin and Nilsson have agreed to undertake but they remain unaddressed.

There are currently 6 unresolved actions including Kingfisher Close land ownership, parking survey. The Clerk is to request an update from the Cllrs in question.

The crossing point from Wickes to the Business Park was discussed as this is a dangerous spot. This matter will be put into a Highways Improvement Plan.

**To receive an update on any matters pertaining to Finberry.**

Crest have started new contractors working with HML. It was suggested a log should be kept through photographs for the outstanding issues and this can then be reported in March.

**To receive an update on any matters pertaining to Sevington South.**

There was nothing to report at this time.

**To receive any update on IBF or Waterbrook**

No further update at this time.

**To receive any update on Highways (to include the Bellamy Gurner Scheme)**

Cllr Bartlett explained that chaos is expected when the biometric checking is implemented for

