



Seaford Town Council

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee held via Zoom on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.00pm.

**Present:**

Councillors S Dunn (Chair), L Wallraven (Vice-Chair), J Cash, J Edson, M Everden, M Hayder, R Hayder and J Meek.

Adam Chugg, Town Clerk

Tony Jackson, Project & Facilities Manager

Georgia Raeburn, Executive Support Officer (Technical Host)

There were 14 members of the public

**CS21/02/20 Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Substitute Members**

There were no apologies for absence received.

**CS22/02/20 Disclosure of Interests**

No declarations were made of discloseable pecuniary interests or interests other than pecuniary interests as defined under the Seaford Town Council Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011, in relation to matters on the agenda.

**CS23/02/20 Public Participation**

<i>Resident A</i>	<i>Wanted to support the excellent paper at item 6; Storm Gate on Seaford Promenade. This is very important to the town as part of the Gateway Project to encourage seafront visitors to the town centre, as well as helping with accessibility. Various partners are involved in this project; Impact Seaford, Seaford Community Partnership, Seaford Chamber of Commerce Seaford Rotary Club and the Environment Agency.</i>
Response	Thanked for their contribution.
<i>Resident B</i>	<i>Had sent an email round to all councillors regarding report 131/20 and asked the Committee to concentrate on the relevant points of email; largely protecting wildlife, seals, dolphins and birdlife.</i>
Response	Thanked for their contribution.
<i>Resident C</i>	<i>As the report author. will be speaking by way of introduction at the start of item 10.</i>
Response	Chair will suspend Standing Orders at that point of the meeting to allow the report author to introduce the report as part of a larger project, rather than commercial venture.
<i>Resident D</i>	<i>Speaking regarding item 9, as a beach hut owner for three years. They really enjoy the experience of unspoilt tranquillity. Concerned about the; noise, pollution, danger posed by jet skis, harm to the wildlife, having no place in Seaford especially as a Council-supported activity, being out of character in Seaford bay and how the activities can be policed.</i>
Response	Thanked for their contribution.

Resident E	<i>Introduced themselves as Skipper Water Sports, with over 10 years experience, which has held the concession on the beach for two years. Explained that the proposal would be for guided tours on the jet skis alongside a safety boat along to seven sisters. They are eco skis that are restricted to 25mph. Each hirer would have a 20 minute lesson and would not ski in the buoyed area. Explained that they were happy to offer a trial and that they want to help bring people to the town, especially when people are looking to stay in the UK.</i>
Response	Thanked for their contribution.

#### **CS24/02/20 Projects & Facilities Manager's Update Report**

The Committee considered report 129/20 informing the Committee on progress and actions relating to the Town Council's assets, services and projects.

Projects & Facilities Manager updated on The Salts tennis courts external funding success, Martello toilets lottery grant process, Bönningstedt beach huts sales, the seasonal short term rent concession huts awaiting planning permission, the installation and sponsorship of the seafront water refill stations, external grant funding received and the Bönningstedt electric ice cream concession.

*(7.20pm – A resident exited the meeting)*

The Committee discussed the return of the fresh fish concession, the design concerns regarding the flat top of the Bönningstedt sea defence wall and the plans for 2021 Seaford Christmas Magic.

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

#### **CS25/02/20 Community Services Finance Report to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

The Committee considered report 127/20 informing members of the Community Services Committee income and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

#### **CS26/02/20 Storm Gate – Seaford Promenade**

The Committee considered report 128/20 presenting information about the installation, operation and management of a Storm Gate on Seaford promenade.

The Committee discussed the crossing at that point of the highway and signage regarding the storm gate.

**CS26.1** It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

**CS26.2** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** recommending the installation of a Storm Gate on Seaford promenade subject to agreement from the relevant agencies.

**CS26.3** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** officers operating the Storm Gate during inclement weather where there is a risk of flooding or storms.

#### **CS27/02/20 Salts Tennis Operating Models**

The Committee considered report 130/20 presenting information regarding the options for the running of the new Salts Tennis Courts.

**CS27.1** It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

**CS27.2** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** (in order for the Town Council to be equipped to properly assess the options available) the advertisement of a Community Tennis Tender for proposals from external businesses to fully manage and run the new tennis courts planned to be built in 2021 (referred to as Option 1 within the report).

**CS27.3** It was **RESOLVED** to **DELEGATE** to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairs of the Community Services Committee and the Finance & General Purposes Committee, the authority to select the most appropriate of the two options detailed in this report following the Community Tennis tender process being undertaken (as per recommendation 2) and analysis of the two options.

**CS28/02/20 Fields in Trust Programme**

The Committee considered report 132/20 regarding instructing officers to research the possible registration of The Salts, The Crouch and Martello Fields as protected spaces with Fields in Trust.

The Committee discussed the importance of the protection that the Fields in Trust programme offers.

**CS28.1** It was **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to instruct officers to research protected green space status for The Salts Recreation Ground, The Crouch and the Martello Fields through the Fields in Trust programme.

**CS28.2** It was **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** that this work is carried out as part of the work for the Assets Working Group feasibility studies being conducted on those sites.

**CS28.3** It was **PROPOSED** to **AGREE** that Lewes District Council be contacted to request they research the same Fields in Trust protection for the Downs site and Walmer Road; this **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

**CS29/02/20 Seaford Water Sports Concession Proposal**

The Committee considered report 131/20 presenting a proposal for consideration from Skipper Water Sports for their concession licence to include jet ski hire and a mobile trailer selling water sports equipment and accessories.

The Committee discussed the positive feedback of users of the current concession, the location of the concession/ski route, the use of the portable toilet for beach hut users only and alternate ways of viewing the wildlife. The Committee discussed taking the recommendation as two.

**CS29.1** It was **PROPOSED** to **APPROVE** a proposal from an existing water sports concession, Skipper Water Sports, to operate jet ski hire. A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested;

Councillor Nazish Adil	Abstained
Councillor Jean Cash	Against
Councillor Sylvia Dunn	Against
Councillor John Edson	Against
Councillor Morag Everden	Against
Councillor Mohamed Ali Hayder	Against
Councillor Rahnuma Hayder	Against
Councillor James Meek	Against
Councillor Linda Wallraven	Against

the **MOTION** was **NOT CARRIED**.

**CS29.2** It was **PROPOSED** to **APPROVE** a proposal from an existing water sports concession, Skipper Water Sports, to operate a mobile trailer selling water sports equipment and accessories, as well as their usual trade of hiring kayaks and stand-up paddle boards. A **RECORDED VOTE** was requested;

Councillor Nazish Adil	For
Councillor Jean Cash	For
Councillor Sylvia Dunn	For
Councillor John Edson	For
Councillor Morag Everden	For
Councillor Mohamed Ali Hayder	For
Councillor Rahnuma Hayder	For
Councillor James Meek	For
Councillor Linda Wallraven	For

the **MOTION** was **CARRIED**.

*(8.06pm – Two residents exited the meeting)*

### **CS30/02/20 Ouse Valley and Tide Mills Nature Reserve Project**

The Committee considered report 119/20 presenting the report “Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership in the Lower Ouse Estuary-An Overview and Vision of Seaford Community Partnership”.

*(8.06pm – Standing Orders were suspended to allow the report author to introduce the report and take questions)*

The report author introduced the report and provided an outline summary of the project and its aims.

The Committee questioned the approach where the various landowners are concerned, the removal of Tide Mills as a green space from the Seaford Neighbourhood Plan by the Inspector and the strategy to now seek strengthened protection, the possible preference by Newhaven Town Council to take on the whole nature reserve site including Tide Mills at a later date (with a joint board managing the site) and the accessibility and viewability points of the site.

The Committee thanked the report author and the extensive work of Seaford Community Partnership.

*(8.18pm – Standing Orders were reinstated)*

- CS30.1** It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report “Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership in the Lower Ouse Estuary-An Overview and Vision of Seaford Community Partnership” as detailed in Appendix A.
- CS30.2** It was **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** to pass the Committee’s support of the proposals outlined in Part 3 and the appendices of that document on to Full Council for consideration at its meeting in March 2021.
- CS30.3** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** Town Council officers being involved in the development concepts contained within the proposals in co-operation with Seaford Community Partnership and its partners.
- CS30.4** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** receiving further reports on progress of this project during this year.

The meeting closed at 8.21pm.



Councillor Sylvia Dunn  
Chair of Community Services