

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 2010 at 8.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present.

Councillor R Oglesby (Chairman) and Councillors P Bowyer, K Lockwood, S Rimmer, R Robinson, B Smyth, P Vooght, C Wade and the Clerk, Roger Coleman.

PC Emily Thomas attended (part-time).

There were five members of the public present (part-time).

1. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr. Wade declared a personal interest in Planning application W/10/01209/REG3 – St George's School. There were no other interests declared in accordance with the Revised Model Code of Conduct.

2. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor F Dobbyn and Wiltshire Councillor Jonathon Seed.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 21 April 2010.

The minutes were signed as an accurate record.

4. Adjournment.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for members of the public to raise any points of interest. The meeting then reconvened.

5. Neighbourhood Policing.

PC Thomas stated that she would ensure that the Parish Council received the results from the Metrocount traffic survey as soon as they became available. She reported that there were no other matters that she wished to raise at the meeting.

Cllr. Lockwood reported that a van had persisted in parking inconsiderately in the area of Pound Lane and that it was regularly causing an obstruction and a danger to other road users and pedestrians because it significantly restricted visibility. PC Thomas stated that she had made a note of this and that she would ask PCSO Rose Baldock to take an interest.

6. Semington Annual Parish Meeting held on 12 May 2010.

a. There were no resolutions passed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

b. There were no other matters raised at that meeting that required the attention of the Parish Council.

7. Planning.

a. The Council noted the status of the following Planning Applications:

W/09/03542/FUL	Motel Field	'Care Village'	Permission
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b. The Council decided to send comments in respect of the following planning applications to Wiltshire Council as shown in italics:

W/10/01226/FUL	2 Pound Close	Demolish existing extension. Erect 2 Storey Extension	New.
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20 May 2010

Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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8. Gypsy and Traveller Issues and General Approach Consultation.

The Chairman requested all councillors to forward their comments on this consultation to the Clerk without further delay.

9. Highways.

a. The Chairman stated that he had been informed that the Chief Executive, Wiltshire Council had announced that more potholes were being filled each month this year that had been achieved in the whole of FY 2007/08.

b. Cllr. Bowyer confirmed that both he and Cllr. Smyth had attended a site meeting with Wiltshire Council to examine possible sites in the High Street for a new Bus Shelter – a restriction on the choice of sites was the requirement to maintain a 1.3m wide thoroughfare when the shelter has been installed. He stated that two possible sites had been identified; one between the turnings for the Somerset Arms and Brook House, the other outside the garage. The Council expressed a preference for the Somerset Arms/Brook House position. Cllr. Bowyer stated that he would now discuss the proposed position of the Bus Shelter with the owners of the neighbouring properties to ensure that they were content with the prospect of a Bus Shelter in that position. He added that he would provide the Clerk with a full specification of the Bus Shelter for him to be able to obtain a quotation for its supply and installation. The Council reaffirmed its intention to seek a grant towards the cost of the Bus Shelter.

10. Sports and Social Facilities in Semington – St George’s Fund.

a. There were no new projects to report.

b. The following projects were reviewed, as shown:

Sports/Recreation Field.

Cllr. Lockwood stated that the development of the Playing Field was progressing well and the purchase of a set of goalposts was now imminent..

Village Hall Improvements

Cllr. Vooght stated that the preparation of outline drawings and a likely cost for the works was proceeding well.

Wessex Close Play Equipment.

The Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had requested a site visit to Wessex Close with representatives from the Parish Council in order to progress this matter. He added that Monday 24 May had been suggested as a possible date for the visit. Cllrs. Bowyer, Smyth and Vooght stated that they would be able to attend the site visit. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

11. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position was as follows:

Semington Parish Council - Financial Statement - 19 May 2010

Lloyds TSB A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	1,012.82
31-Mar-10		
	Total:	£ 1,012.82

Credits (1 April 2010 to 28 April 2010):

23-Apr	Wiltshire Council Precept FY2010/11	£	7,500.00
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20 May 2010

Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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Total: £ 7,500.00

Debits (1 April 2010 to 28 April 2010):

STO	Clerk's Salary (March)	£	255.16
	Office Expenses (March)	£	28.00
	Memorial Seat Plaque	£	32.50
	Devizes Building Supplies Ltd	£	104.01
	Total:	£	419.67

Balance at 28 April 2010:

£ 8,093.15

Credits (1 May 2010 to 19 May 2010)

Nil	£	-
Total:	£	-

Debits (1 May 2010 to 19 May 2010):

01-May	Clerk's Salary (April)	£	258.46
	Total:	£	258.46

Balance at 19 May 2010:

£ 7,834.69

Lloyds TSB A/C 7754288

Bank Statement
25-Mar-10

£ 31,356.61

Credits

11-Apr	Interest	£	1.40
11-May	Interest	£	1.40
	Total:	£	2.80

Debits

Nil	£	-
Total:	£	-

Total: £ 31,359.41

Balance at 19 May 2010:

£ 31,359.41

Total Balance in hand at 19 May 2010:

£ 39,194.10

Semington Parish Council

Payments to be authorised (19 May 2010).

Clerks Salary (May 2010)	£	258.46
Office Expenses (April)	£	27.00
Wiltshire Wildlife Subscription	£	36.00
Aon (Allianz) Insurance Premium	£	629.38
Village Hall Hire	£	400.00

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TOTAL:	£ 1,350.84
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Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (19 May 2010).

TOTAL:	£ -
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The Council resolved unanimously to pay the Internal Auditor a sum of £100 and the Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks to her. The Council noted that a payment of £125 to the Clerk - an Office Allowance – had been agreed at the Annual Parish Council meeting.

b. The Council decided not to make a donation to the Sports' / Football Club (Sports' Field Development) at this meeting and to defer the decision to a subsequent meeting.

c. The Council resolved to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including those to the Internal Auditor (£100) and the Clerk (£125)..

12. Environment.

a. Cllr. Vooght stated that he given the Clerk the names or addresses of the parishioners concerned to enable a 'polite' letter to be sent asking them to 'cut back' their overgrown vegetation.

Cllr. Smyth stated that he had enquired into the possibility of acquiring land for use as an allotment garden from a private landowner but without success.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that the Memorial Plaque was now ready to be affixed to the Memorial Bench. Cllr. Oglesby remarked that the Memorial Bench was now ready for an official 'opening'. Cllr. Lockwood offered to arrange for a photographer from the Wiltshire Times to be in attendance when the official 'ceremony' takes place.

b. The Clerk reported that he had received a reply from Wiltshire Council regarding the introduction of bunding at Littlemarsh. He stated that Wiltshire Council had been unable to acquire the soil that had been necessary for this project. He added that Wiltshire Council had now offered to improve the ditch and to use some of that soil for more modest bunding. Wiltshire Council had argued that this would improve the protection against unwanted intrusions and would provide a facility for introducing soft landscaping. The Council asked the Clerk to write to Wiltshire Council requesting that such action is taken without further delay.

13. Semington Website.

Website: webmaster@semington-village.co.uk

The Council noted that the content of the website and the remuneration for managing it had now agreed.

14. Wiltshire Racial Equality Council.

The Clerk stated that he had written to WREC and to the Charity Commissioners requesting a copy of the Annual Report. Cllr. Rimmer confirmed that the report had now been supplied online and he encouraged other councillors to read it. He added that he had read some comments in it that referred to 'racial intimidation' that caused him some alarm and that such comments were both unjustified and unsubstantiated. The Council resolved that once all councillors had read the Annual Report it may be appropriate for the Council to take further action if individual councillors also took the same view as Cllr. Rimmer. The Council agreed in principle that any such comments should be challenged and must be supported by evidence, without which WREC would be invited to withdraw the comments.

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15. Community Area/Area Boards.

- a. There were no matters raised under this Agenda item.
- b. There were no specific matters that councillors wished to refer to the Community Area Board to be held on 26 May 2010.

16. Tennis Court.

It was reported that the Tennis Court was in good order.

17. Any Other Business.

Exchange of views on matters not requiring a decision:

- The Clerk stated that an invitation to the Melksham Town Council Civic Service/Ceremony on 13 June 2010 had been received.

18. Date of the next meeting.

The Council noted the date of the next meetings:

Ordinary Parish Council meeting - Wednesday 16 June 2010 at 8.00pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.15 pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

16 June 2010.