

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14 July 2010 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

There was one member of the public present (part-time).

1. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared in accordance with the Revised Model Code of Conduct.

2. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors R Robinson and C Wade. Apologies were also received from Wiltshire Councillor J Seed and from PC Emily Thomas of the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT).

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16 June 2010.

The minutes were signed as a true and 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.

In the absence of a representative from the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) no report was given. PC Thomas had provided a copy of the 'metrocount' traffic survey report that was tabled at the meeting and is attached to these minutes. Cllr. Dobbyn stated that a change to the road geometry and street furniture is required to slow traffic down in the High Street and not, simply, a reduced speed limit.

6. Planning.

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

W/10/01226/FUL	2 Pound Close	Demolish existing extension. Erect 2 Storey Extension	Refusal.
W/10/01209/REGS	St Georges School	New Hall and Classrooms etc	Permission.
W/10/01227/OUT	2 Pound Close	Two Storey Detached Dwelling	Called-in
W/10/01422/FUL	73A High Street	Conservatory	Pending.
W/10/01736/FUL	Lansdowne	Change Section of Agricultural Area for Domestic use to install Septic Tank.	Pending
W/10/01748/FUL	Semington House	Conservatory	No PC Objections.
W/10/01911/FUL	11 The Hunt Close	Conservatory	No PC Objections.
W/10/01240/FUL	The Somerset Arms	Change of Use	Called-in.
W/10/01242/FUL	The Somerset Arms	Barn Conversion/New Dwelling	Called-in.

The Council considered planning application W/10/01242/FUL in order to provide comments to support the request for the 'call-in'. The Council resolved, by a majority, to object to planning application W/10/01242/FUL for the following reasons: It represents over-development of the site, the disposal of sewage from the property will compound the current known problems of sewage disposal from The Somerset Arms, there will be conflict over access to the property – especially

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with those vehicles entering and leaving the Public House – and there is inadequate dedicated car parking for the proposed development.

b. The Clerk reported that there were no planning applications received after 8 July 2010.

c. W/09/03542/FUL Motel Field 'Care Village' **s106 Agreement.**

The Council noted the correspondence from the St John Care Trust in relation to the 'Shop Facilities'. The Council resolved that it accepted the s106 Agreement provided the shop facility is retained and that the St John Care Trust arranges for a suitable tenant/individual/organisation to run that facility. The Council noted that throughout the negotiations and public presentations prior to the planning application being submitted and permitted the shop was an integral part of the Care Village development and that an assurance had been given by The St John Care Trust that such a facility would be available for use by the parishioners of Semington. There had not been any prior suggestion that the Parish Council would be responsible for finding someone to run it. The Clerk was asked to write to The St John Care Trust along those lines.

d. The Parish Council noted the letter from the Camping and Caravanning Club indicating an intention to establish a certificated 'small campsite' at The Old Cow Byre, Littlemarsh. The Council discussed this proposal at some length and noted the comments made by the public during the Public Adjournment. The Council resolved, by a majority, to object to this proposed development for the following reasons:

- The need for such a site is questioned when, within 500m of the proposed site, there already exists a Camping and Caravanning Club site that is greatly underused.
- The site proposed is marshy and is subject to flooding.
- It abuts, directly, an established residential area, the privacy of which will be destroyed and may be subject to a noise nuisance and disturbance.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Camping and Caravanning Club stating these objections.

Cllr. Vooght enquired whether the process for selection of residents for the 'affordable homes' development at The Turnpike had been changed. He commented that assurances had been given when the Council had been invited to make observations on the planning application that only individuals with a direct connection with Semington would qualify as potential residents. Other councillors commented that this requirement now appears to have been dropped and, if so, it was a betrayal by Wiltshire Council and by the Housing Society. It was also noted that residents had previously completed forms – provide by West Wiltshire District Council/Housing society - indicating their interest in acquiring or becoming a tenant of one of the 'affordable homes' and this process too now appears to have been abandoned.

The Clerk was asked to write to Wiltshire Council and to the Housing Society to obtain clarification.

The Council observed that its original support for the planning application was because of the assurance that the development would directly benefit the parishioners of Semington or those with a direct connection to the village.

7. Highways.

Cllr. Lockwood stated that there is a Ringway van that parked persistently in Somerset Way causing an obstruction. He added that the steps he had taken so far had proved unsuccessful in resolving the matter. Cllr. Vooght added that he had also been approached by members of the public in relation to the same matter. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Clark, Routine Maintenance Manager, Ringway Parkman, Devizes and to ask him to take action.

There were no other matters raised by councillors.

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8. 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 reported that this project is proceeding and that goalposts had now been purchased. He thanked the Parish Council for its donation in relation to the set of goalposts. He added that the Wiltshire Performance Grant application was to be considered by Wiltshire Council at a meeting next week and that he was still awaiting a grant from the Football Association.

Village Hall Improvements

Cllr. Vooght stated that he had received a set of drawings from the architect and these are to be considered by the Village Hall Committee at its meeting next week.

Wessex Close Play Equipment.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that he had a site meeting with Wiltshire Council recently and that it was agreed that Wiltshire Council will supply two pieces of play equipment to replace those previously removed by West Wiltshire District Council namely a 2.4m Cone Climber and a Spiro-Whirl roundabout. The equipment was likely to be supplied over a two-year period – depending on the availability of funding.

Bus Shelter.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that he had now received comments from all the neighbouring properties likely to be affected by the installation of a Bus Shelter, including comments from Mr Bruges who requested that steps should be taken to protect his stonewall from rainwater emanating from the roof of the Bus Shelter. Cllr. Bowyer added that a gutter is to be affixed to the roof of the Bus Shelter to address this possible problem. The Clerk stated that he is still awaiting the results of the utility searches currently being undertaken by Wiltshire Council.

Cllr. Bowyer commented that the old concrete Bus Stop post had been removed and had been replaced with a steel one, but it was not in the ‘new’ position to coincide with the proposed Bus Shelter location.

9. Finance.

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

Semington Parish Council - Financial Statement - 14 July 2010

	<u>Lloyds TSB A/C 2149025</u>		
	Bank Statement	£	6,669.25
	31-May-10		
		Total:	£ 6,669.25
	Credits (1 June 2010 to 30 June 2010):		
21-Jun	Transfer from A/C 7754288 (Goal Posts)	£	2,115.00
		Total:	£ 2,115.00
	Debits (1 June 2010 to 30 June 2010):		
STO	Clerk's Salary (May)	£	258.46
	Office Expenses (May)	£	75.18
	Village Hall Hire	£	400.00
	Wilts Wildlife Trust	£	36.00
	Internal Audit Fee	£	100.00

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Clerk to Semington Parish Council

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	Mark Harrod (Goalposts)		£ 2,115.00
		Total:	£ 2,984.64
	Balance at 30 June 2010:		£ 5,799.61
	Credits (1 July 2010 to 14 July 2010)		
			£ -
		Total:	£ -
	Debits (1 July 2010 to 14 July 2010):		
01-Jul	Clerk's Salary (June)		£ 258.46
		Total:	£ 258.46
	Balance at 14 July 2010:		£ 5,541.15
	<u>Lloyds TSB A/C 7754288</u>		
	Bank Statement		£ 31,359.29
	10-May-10		
	Credits		
10-Jun	Interest		£ 1.30
10-Jul	Interest		£ 1.25
			£ 2.55
	Debits		
21-Jun	Transfer to A/C 2149025		£ 2,115.00
			£ 2,115.00
		Total:	£ 29,246.84
	Balance at 14 July 2010:		£ 29,246.84
	Total Balance in hand at 14 July 2010:		£ 34,787.99

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Payments to be authorised (14 July 2010).

Clerks Salary (July 2010)		£ 258.46
Clerks Salary (August 2010)		£ 258.46
Office Expenses (June 2010)		£ 31.36
Flower Tub Compost (P Bowyer)		£ 11.98
	TOTAL:	£ 560.26

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (14 July 2010).

TOTAL: £ -

b. The Council resolved to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above.

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 Clerk to Semington Parish Council

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10. Environment.

The Council noted that some, but not all, of the vegetation overhanging the footpath alongside the Village Hall had been cut back following the request made in the two letters to residents from the Council.

11. Community Area/Area Boards.

a. The Council noted that the next Melksham Community Area Board is to be held on 28 July 2010.

b. There were no specific matters that councillors wished to refer to the Community Area Board.

12. Tennis Court.

Cllr. Smyth reported that the Tennis Court was in good repair.

13. Any Other Business.

Exchange of views on matters not requiring a decision:

Cllr. Oglesby: The Clerk was asked to remind Cllr. Seed to obtain a copy of the file relating to the temporary 'Travellers Site', as had been promised previously by Cllr. Seed.

Cllr. Dobbyn stated that the Council should develop its policy with respect to the 'Travellers' Site' well in advance of the expiry of the temporary permission next summer.

14. Date of the next meeting.

The Council noted the date of the next meeting:

Ordinary Parish Council meeting - Wednesday 15 September 2010 at 8.00pm.

The meeting concluded at 9.50 pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

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