

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2011 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

PCSO Rose Baldock attended (Part-time).

There were no members of the public present.

1. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared.

2. Apologies.

All councillors were present. Cllr. Seed sent his apologies for non-attendance.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 July 2011.

The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

4. Adjournment.

In the absence of any members of the public the meeting continued without an adjournment.

5. Neighbourhood Policing.

PCSO Baldock stated that she had nothing to report.

There were no matters raised by councillors.

6. Planning.

a. The Council examined the following planning application and **resolved** to send the comments shown in italics to Wiltshire Council:

W/11/02342/FUL	Land North of Littleton Green Farm	Demolition of existing timber hut and replacement with green GRP kiosk, retaining same usage as a river flow measuring station.
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The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

b. There were no planning applications received after 14 September 2011.

c. The Council noted date of the Appeal Hearing (W/11/01206/FUL) – 1 December 2011.

d. There were no other planning matters raised.

7. Highways/Environment.

Cllr. Vooght reported that the Parish Steward had cut back the vegetation that was overhanging the path that runs alongside the Village Hall and leading to Pound Close/Palmer Gardens.

Councillors identified a number of further tasks for the Parish Steward to undertake – mainly 'cutting back' tasks in relation to overgrown vegetation obstructing public footpaths. Cllr. Smyth agreed to note the tasks required and to inform Angela Weston, the village liaison officer, for the Parish Steward.

8. Sports and Social Facilities in Semington – St George's Fund.

The following projects were reviewed, as shown:

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Chairman's Signature _____

Sports/Recreation Field.

Cllr. Lockwood reported that the Football Pitch at the Playing Field is now in regular use. He commented that the cess-pit has now been installed and that the electrical installation is being undertaken this week. Thereafter the facilities will be connected to the water supply.

Village Hall Improvements

Cllr. Vooght reported that the supporting buttresses on one side of the Village hall have now been painted and that a quotation is awaited for the installation of similar buttresses on the other side of the Village Hall. Cllr. Vooght added that it was still his intention that grant aid would be sought, initially from the Area Board. Cllr. Smyth stated that he would download the appropriate forms from the Wiltshire Council website and give them to Cllr. Vooght. Cllr. Vooght reported that the organisers of the recently held Church Fete had generously donated half their profits from the event – £1460 – to the Village Hall Management Committee for the repair/maintenance of the Village Hall.

9. Finance.

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

		<u>Lloyds TSB A/C 2149025</u>
	Bank Statement 30-Jun-11	£ 7,310.13
	Total:	£ 7,310.13
	Credits (1 July 2011 to 31 July 2011):	
	None	£ -
	Total:	£ -
	Debits (1 July 2011 to 31 July 2011):	
01-Jul	Clerk's Salary (June)	£ 258.46
	Office Expenses (June)	£ 10.57
	Total:	£ 269.03
	Balance at 31 July 2011:	£ 7,041.10
	Credits (1 August 2011 to 31 August 2011)	
	None	£ -
	Total:	£ -
	Debits (1 August 2011 to 31 August 2011):	
01-Aug	Clerk's Salary (July)	£ 258.46
	S Rimmer (Fentongollan Flower Farm)	£ 116.13
	Total:	£ 374.59
	Balance at 31 August 2011:	£ 6,666.51
	Credits (1 September 2011 to 21 September 2011)	

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None		£	-
	Total:	£	-

Debits (1 September 2011 to 21 September 2011):

01-Sep	Clerk's Salary (July)		£	258.46
		Total:	£	258.46

Balance at 21 September 2011:	£ 6,408.05
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Lloyds TSB A/C 7754288

Bank Statement		£	11,113.28
09-Jun-11			

Credits

09-Jul	Interest		£	0.40
09-Aug	Interest		£	0.40
09-Sep	Interest		£	0.40
			£	1.20

Debits

None		£	-
		£	-

Balance at 21 September 2011:	£ 11,114.48
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Total Balance in hand at 21 September 2011:	£ 17,780.99
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Payments to be authorised (21 September 2011).

Clerks Salary (September 2011)		£	258.46
Office Expenses (June 2011)		£	10.57
Mazars Audit Fee		£	342.00
CodeWater (Website Maintenance)		£	180.00
	TOTAL:	£	791.03

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (21 September 2011).

None			
		TOTAL:	£ -

b. The Clerk tabled the report from the External Auditor (Mazars) in respect of the Annual Return for FY2010/11 for the Council to inspect and the Council noted that there were no matters that had to be brought to its attention. The Chairman thanked the Clerk on behalf of the Council for his conscientiousness in his financial management and for maintaining accurate financial records of the Council

c. The Council noted the request for a donation from St George's PCC and it **resolved** to

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 Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

make a donation of £500 comprising £300 towards the Newsletter and £200 towards the maintenance of the churchyard.

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

10. Jubilee Wood.

Cllr. Rimmer reported that Wiltshire Council has supported the Parish Council in its wish to plant a small copse at Littlemarsh and it has provided useful guidance. He added that it was necessary for the Parish Council to be granted a Section 96 Licence for the project and Cllr. Rimmer stated that he would complete the Section 96 Licence application as far as possible, including showing the planned planting scheme, and that he would then send it to the Clerk for him to complete and for onward transmission to Wiltshire Council. Cllr. Rimmer commented that the Woodland Trust would provide trees free of charge and that there was a choice of 'tree pack', each comprising 420 saplings. The Council **resolved** to request the 'wildlife/animal friendly pack'.

The Clerk stated that he was making enquiries of Zurich Municipal regarding insurance implications when planting the trees and subsequent public liability if a member of the public is hit by a falling branch. The Council acknowledged that a short training session on planting trees was appropriate to ensure that Health and Safety issues were addressed and that the trees were planted in a manner that ensured their sustainability.

11. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration 2012.

Cllr. Vooght reported that the planned meeting for 19 September did not take place for various reasons and that a future one would be held. Cllr. Dobbyn offered to facilitate the meeting and agreed to send Cllr. Vooght a list of dates when he is available in order to set a date for the meeting when the Village Hall is also available. It was proposed that the date for the meeting should be well advertised, including putting an article in the Village Newsletter. Cllr. Vooght agreed to send Cllr. Dobbyn a list of village contacts for him to invite to the meeting.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal Trust Working Group.

Cllr. Smyth reported that the meeting was held on 21 July. He reported that at that meeting Wiltshire Council appeared to be confident that the purchase of the requisite tracts of land associated with this development would go ahead.

13. Community Area/Area Boards.

There was no report. The next Community Area Board meeting is to be held at Seend on 26 October 2011 and thereafter at Semington on 14 December 2011.

14. Melksham Community Area Partnership.

The Parish Council noted the correspondence relating to the Community Area Partnership. Cllr. Bowyer took the correspondence to read in detail.

15. Queen Elizabeth 2 – Playing Field Challenge

Cllr. Lockwood stated that having studied the details of this challenge he considered that it was not applicable to the Playing Field. The Council supported Cllr. Lockwood in his view and **resolved** not to apply for the 'challenge'.

16. Tennis Court.

Cllrs Lockwood and Smyth acknowledged that they have still to inspect the gate to the tennis court and to decide on any necessary repair action.

17. Any Other Business.

The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the following:

- Wiltshire Police – New Non-Emergency Telephone No.
- WC – New Waste and Recycling Collection Service.

- WC – Car Park Fees Redemption Scheme.

Cllr. Rimmer explained that he had now 250kg of daffodil bulbs in his possession and that it was necessary to plant them. He stated that some would be donated to St George's School for the pupils to plant and he invited other councillors to join him on Saturday to plant the remainder. Arrangements were made for this planting to take place and proposals for areas to be planted were made by councillors.

Cllr. Rimmer reported that a Village Forum is now available on the website and he encouraged all councillors to become familiar with it. He added that he would send all councillors 'log-in' details and that a 'moderator' was required for the Forum.

Cllr. Robinson reported that he had heard that the salt tip is to be moved to a different location and that in his view the mature trees in that area might need some protection - such as Tree Preservation Orders imposed – against any subsequent developments. It was agreed that this would be an Agenda item at the next meeting.

There were no other matters raised.

18. Planning Appeal – W/11/01206/FUL.

The Chairman proposed that the public are excluded from the meeting because of the nature of the business to be discussed would be prejudicial to the public interest. The Council **resolved** to adopt this proposal.

This matter is recorded separately.

At the conclusion of this Agenda item, the Council **resolved** that the public be readmitted.

19. Date of the next meeting.

The Council agreed the following dates for the forthcoming Ordinary Parish Council meetings:

19 October 2011, 12 December 2011 (Monday),
25 January 2012, 22 February 2012, 21 March 2012 and 18 April 2012.

The meeting concluded at 10.00 pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

19 October 2011.