

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2013 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

Councillor Robert Oglesby (Chairman) and Councillors P. Bowyer, K Lockwood, S. Rimmer, W Scott, B Smyth, C Wade and the Clerk, Roger Coleman.

Wiltshire Councillor Cllr. J Seed attended the meeting (Part-time).

The Neighbourhood Policing Team, PCSO Rose Baldock attended the meeting (Part-time).

There were forty-six parishioners present for the public adjournment and for Agenda items 'Neighbourhood Policing' and the 'Wiltshire Council Report' after which the number reduced to seven.

1. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared.

2. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor R. Robinson.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 11 September 2013.

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

4. Adjournment.

Conor Lee of Hannick Homes and Developments Ltd attended the meeting and engaged in a Question and Answer session with parishioners and with the parish councillors in respect of possible development of the field to the south of St Georges Road.

Following other, unrelated, matters raised by a parishioner, the meeting reconvened.

5. Neighbourhood Policing.

PCSO Rose Baldock of the Neighbourhood Policing Team reported that in Littlemarsh some chickens were stolen and that youngsters were engaging in 'Trick or Treat' in Semington and were causing a nuisance to residents. She added that both of these incidents had been addressed and appropriate action had been taken. She also reported that motorists were still ignoring the No Through Road signs at the northern end of the village and that recently a number of Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued.

There were no matters raised by councillors.

6. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed reported that he was awaiting the War Memorial grant application and that the Semington Village Hall grant application needed to be resubmitted. He added that Wiltshire Council had received a large number of applications relating to the provision of disabled access for Village Halls.

He commented that the sum required for the Parish Council Precept will need careful consideration noting that the 'top up' grant provided by Wiltshire Council for the current Financial Year will not be available.

In answer to a question from the Chairman, Cllr. Seed stated that any enquiries regarding Ash Die-Back disease should be addressed to Defra.

In respect of outstanding monies that had resulted from s106 Agreements, Cllr. Seed stated that a full list of all extant s106 Agreements, including details of their purpose and the sums of money involved was published by Wiltshire Council two or three years ago.

7. Planning.

a. The Clerk reported the status of the following planning application:

W/13/00287/FUL	Land South of Littlemarsh	Proposed Agricultural Store	Permitted
13/01394/FUL	8 Pound Lane	Two storey side extension and garage conversion	Approved

b. There were no planning applications received after 30 September 2013.

c. The Chairman commented that the lengthy discussions that took place during the Public Adjournment were very helpful and that he was grateful to Connor Lee for attending the Parish Council meeting and for being willing to seek the views of parishioners so early in the process in order to influence any development proposals. He added that the Parish Council was keen to take up the offer by Mr Lee to organise a ‘workshop’ whereby possible development proposals can be displayed and the views of Semington parishioners obtained.

d. The Council noted the copy of the s106 Agreement that had been received from Jephson Homes and agreed to study it in relation to the ‘local connections’ occupancy requirement.

The Council noted the date for the commencement of the Appeal hearing of planning application W/12/02050/FUL. Cllr. Smyth confirmed that he would attend and the Council **resolved** that Cllr. Smyth had the authority to speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Smyth confirmed that he had contacted the Highways and Streetscene Focal Point, Stuart Renfrew, and had advised him of various tasks that needed to be undertaken. New tasks were also identified by councillors and he stated that he would pass these on to Mr Renfrew.

b. Councillors confirmed that the existing Grit Bins were full.

c. The Clerk stated that the Agenda item relating to ‘Dropped Kerbs’ was an error and had applied only to those parishes in the Bradford on Avon Community Area.

d. Cllr. Smyth stated that it would be appropriate to undertake a ‘Litter Pick’ in the village and that he will contact Stuart Renfrew regarding this matter and in respect of the use of the necessary equipment.

e. Cllr. Rimmer stated that he was proposing to purchase and install the remaining stone circle for the Time Capsule. The Council **resolved** that a three metre stone circle be purchased at a cost of £189.12.

Cllr. Rimmer proposed that a ‘planting plan’ be developed for Semington and that further bulbs be planted. The Council **resolved** that a sum not exceeding £75 be expended on the purchase of 2 x 25kg bags of bulbs.

9. Semington War Memorial.

The Council **resolved** that the wording of the ‘Donation Letter’ was satisfactory and it requested the Clerk to obtain twenty copies for Mr Heard. The Council further **resolved** that canvassing for donations should commence on 1 December 2013 – a date well clear of any Remembrance Day commemorations.

Cllr. Rimmer stated that he was intending to apply for grant aid from the Melksham Area Board for a sum of £750 – to be matched funded by Semington Parish Council and other voluntary donations. The Clerk advised that the original application was to be for £500 but this larger grant, if approved, would enable additional work to be undertaken on the War Memorial. The Council **resolved** that the application for £750 should proceed.

10. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 9 October 2013 was as follows:

Lloyds TSB A/C 2149025

Bank Statement 31-Aug-13	£	8,147.97
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	£	8,147.97
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Credits (1 September 2013 to 30 September 2013):

RP Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 6)	£	112.80
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	£	112.80
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Debits (1 September 2013 to 31 September 2013):

Clerk's Salary (August)	£	281.86
Office Expenses (July)	£	5.60
HMRC PAYE Month 5	£	112.80
Grant Thornton Audit Fee	£	120.00
St Georges PCC	£	500.00
L Hiscocks (Grass Cutting)	£	40.00

	£	1,060.26
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Balance at 30 September 2013:

	£	7,200.51
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Credits (1 October 2013 to 9 October 2013):

None	£	-
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	£	-
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Debits (1 October 2013 to 9 October 2013):

Clerk's Salary (September)	£	281.86
HMRC PAYE Month 6	£	112.80

	£	394.66
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Balance at 9 October 2013:

	£	6,805.85
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Lloyds TSB A/C 7754288

Bank Statement 30 June 2013	£	7,590.22
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Credits

Interest	£	0.30
Interest	£	0.32
Interest	£	0.32

	£	0.94
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Debits

None	£	-
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	£	-
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Balance at 9 October 2013:

	£ 7,591.16
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Total Balance in hand at 9 October 2013

£ 14,397.01

Payments to be authorised (9 October 2013).

Clerk's Salary (October)	£	284.67
Office Expenses (September)	£	13.13
Clerk's Salary Back Pay (1/4/13 to 31/9/13)	£	16.70
HMRC PAYE (Month 7)	£	120.40
TOTAL:	£	434.90

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (9 October 2013).

None	£	-
TOTAL:	£	-

- b. The Council noted the letter of thanks from the St Georges PCC for the recent donation.
- c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above.

11. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing significant to report. Cllr. Smyth stated that work continues on the design and planning of the project.

14. Tennis Court.

Cllr. Smyth commented that the green paint on the metalwork was flaking.

15. Any Other Business.

The Clerk stated that there was nothing further that he needed to draw to the attention of the Council.

The following matters were reported by councillors:

Cllr. Rimmer – A Christmas Tree has been donated to the village for the Christmas celebrations and this tree will need to be felled and transported to the site. He added that it was intended to erect the tree on 30 November with the 'switch on' of the lights on 7 December.

Cllr. Smyth – At the crematorium leaves and other detritus was in the drainage ditches and needed to be cleared. Advice was offered by councillors.

Cllr. Wade – He had taken action regarding the website and the letter from a parishioner and that the letter to the Parish Council was intended to be informative.

16. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the dates for the next Ordinary Parish Council meetings:

- 20 November 2013
- 8 January 2014

19 February 2014
19 March 2014
16 April 2014

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on 26 March 2014.

The meeting concluded at 10.05 pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

20 November 2013