

# SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2014 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

### Present.

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

There was one member of the public present.

### 1. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared.

### 2. Apologies.

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

### 3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 19 November 2014.

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

### 4. Neighbourhood Policing.

In the absence of a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team no report was given.

### 5. Adjournment.

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

### 6. Wiltshire Council Report.

In the absence of Cllr. Seed no report was given.

### 7. Planning.

a. The Council noted the status of the following extant planning applications:

14/09318/ADV	Littleton Roundabout	4 free standing non illuminated sponsorship signs	Approved
14/10176/FUL	51 Little Marsh	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling with detached single garage (Resubmission of 14/07713/FUL)	Approved
14/09817/FUL	545 Canal Bridge	Demolition of existing single storey extension, erection of a two storey extension, garage and associated works.	Pending
14/10293/FUL	Aidan's Field Devizes Road	Extend existing large barn and construction of a new detached barn. Improvements to existing vehicular access	Pending

b. The Parish Council examined the following planning application and **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics):

18 December 2014

Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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14/10797/FUL	Greenacres Mobile Park	Change of use of agricultural land to create 7 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches with associated ancillary development.	NEW
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The Parish Council objects to this planning application for the following reasons:

- The proposed development will compromise highway safety – there will be significantly increased traffic moving on/off site and there will be disruption to the flow of existing traffic along the busy A361.
- It is inappropriate development immediately next to the western boundary of the West Wiltshire Crematorium and will result in a loss of privacy, peace for quiet reflection and dignity. It represents overdevelopment and will result in a loss of open countryside.
- The Appeal Decision in relation to the existing site (Ref. APP/Y3940/A/11/2156159 dated 24/2/12) clearly stated (at Para 17) that no development should take place on the site proposed in this application and Condition 5 stated ‘ Pitches shall not be formed, nor caravan sited on land other than the eastern part of the site identified for this purpose.....’ To approve this application would overturn the Inspector’s decision.

c. There were no planning applications received after 10 December 2014.

d. Councillors made strong representations regarding the continuing development at the Littleton/Landsdowne site that was apparently contrary to existing planning permissions. It was reported that (potentially toxic) material is being burned, a new entrance has been opened on to the metalled track and bunding has been installed adjacent to the A361 road. The Chairman suggested that councillors expressed their concerns to Wiltshire Council – as requested by Cllr. Seed.

Cllr. Scott asked whether any further information had emerged in relation to the consultation meeting held at Melksham, attended by Wiltshire councillors and other interested parties to discuss a possible large scale development between Semington and the River Avon centred on the Wilts and Berks Canal. The Clerk and Cllr. Scott each stated that they had contacted Cllr. Seed and were awaiting a reply. Cllr. Scott added that he would follow this up with Cllr. Seed. He commented that it was important, in view of its likely impact on Semington, that Semington Parish Council is invited to any subsequent meeting.

The Clerk reported that the Wiltshire Council Enforcement Officer, Joe Richardson, had taken action in respect of the ‘school’ at Littleton Mill and that the occupiers had agreed to cease their activities as directed by Wiltshire Council.

## 8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 19 November 2014 was as follows:

### Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	8,920.90
31 October 2014		
(L Hiscocks (£40) - Late agreed cheque)	Total:	<b>£ 8,920.90</b>

### **Credits (1 November 2014 to 30 November 2014):**

R P Coleman HMRC PAYE Month 7	£	114.00
	Total:	<b>£ 114.00</b>

**SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL****Debits (1 November 2014 to 30 November 2014):**

Clerk's Salary (October)	£	284.67
Clerk's Expenses (October)	£	18.03
HMRC PAYE Month 8	£	114.00
St Georges PCC	£	500.00
J Long (Memorial Stone)	£	220.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,136.70</b>

**Balance at 30 November 2014:**

<b>£</b>	<b>7,898.20</b>
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**Credits (1 December 2014 to 17 December 2014):**

R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 8)	£	114.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>114.00</b>

**Debits (1 December 2014 to 17 December 2014):**

Clerk's Salary (November)	£	284.67
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>284.67</b>

**Balance at 17 December 2014:**

<b>£</b>	<b>7,727.53</b>
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**Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:**

<b>£</b>	<b>612.17</b>
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**Parish Council Balance at 17 December 2014:**

<b>£</b>	<b>7,115.36</b>
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**Lloyds A/C 7754288**

Bank Statement 30-Sep-14	£	7,594.93
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**Credits**

Interest (Approx)	£	0.30
Interest (Approx)	£	0.28
Interest (Approx)	£	0.25
	<b>£</b>	<b>0.83</b>

**Debits**

None	£	-
	<b>£</b>	<b>-</b>

**Balance at 17 December 2014:**

<b>£</b>	<b>7,595.76</b>
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**Total Balance in Hand at 17 December 2014**

<b>£</b>	<b>14,711.12</b>
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**Payments to be authorised (17 December 2014).**

Clerk's Salary (December)	£	284.67
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## SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Office Expenses (November)	£	7.37
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 9)	£	114.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>406.04</b>

### Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (17 December 2014).

None	£	-
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>-</b>

b. The Council **resolved** unanimously to adopt the 2014/2016 NALC/SLCC National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks and **resolved** that the Clerk is to be remunerated according to the revised salary scale for SCP24.

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

### **9. Defibrillator.**

Cllr. Bowyer confirmed that he had submitted a grant application to the Melksham Area Board for £1100 towards the cost of the Defibrillator – this representing half the cost of the project. He added that the application will be considered in February 2015.

### **10. Highways/Environment.**

a. The Clerk stated that he had sent councillors the latest Community Day programme that he had received from Stuart Renfrew, the Wiltshire Council Highways and Streetscene Focal Point.

b. Cllr. Wade explained that the cost of installing a new street light on Path SEMI41/10 (next to the Village Hall) was prohibitive and questioned whether it would have a beneficial effect on safety as was originally thought. Councillors discussed this matter and resolved not to proceed with this matter for the time being and that it would be revisited once the work associated with the hedge had been completed.

The Council noted that the occupiers of the properties close to the hedge that runs alongside Path SEI41/10 did not accept ownership or responsibility for this hedge that over the years had become very overgrown and presented a hazard to those walkers using the path. Councillors noted that letters had been addressed to those properties without effect and that research indicated that ownership of the hedge could not be established.

The Council **resolved** that the hedge be removed and it requested Cllr. Wade to obtain two further quotations for this work to be undertaken – an earlier indicative price had been received from Wiltshire Council. A decision on which quotation to accept will be taken at the next Parish Council meeting.

c. There were no other matters raised.

### **11. Melksham Community Area Board/Community Area Transport Group Meetings.**

There was nothing to report. It was noted that the Melksham Area Board meeting was being held at the same time as this Parish Council meeting.

### **12. Wilts & Berks Canal.**

There was nothing new to report.

### **13. Tennis Court.**

There was nothing to report.

### **14. Any Other Business.**

Cllr. Scott – Fast Broadband (BT Infinity) is now available in Semington.

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Cllr. Lockwood – Dog fouling is a serious problem in the village.

Cllrs. Rimmer and Wade – Thanks were expressed to all those who helped to collect and to erect the Christmas tree.

Cllr. Robinson – A self-closing gate should be installed on the footpath close to The Turnpike to prevent stray dogs from entering private properties.

Cllr. Robinson – The installation of a wooden barrier between the new/old roads near to the roundabout would be a useful safety measure to prevent children from running into the road.

### **15. Date of Next Meeting.**

The Council noted the date of the next scheduled Ordinary Parish Council meeting thus:

- 14 January 2015.

### Note.

The following dates were agreed for Parish Council meetings:

18 February 2015.

25 March 2015.

22 April 2015.

20 May 2015.

17 June 2015.

The meeting concluded at 9.50pm.

R Oglesby  
Chairman, Semington Parish Council