

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2015 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed attended (Part-time).

There were three members of the public present initially.

Cllr. Smyth took the Chair from the commencement of the meeting up to and including Agenda item 5 and then handed over to Cllr. Oglesby.

1. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared.

2. **Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr. C Wade and from PCSO Helen Wilson of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 17 June 2015.**

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

4. **Neighbourhood Policing.**

PCSO Helen Wilson had provided the Clerk with a written report. The Clerk read out this report (shown below in italics) at the meeting.

I have checked the system for the previous month :-

03/07 – 04/07/2015 – Burglary, Semington Football Club -Unknown suspect(s) have overnight entered a portacabin on a sports field by unknown means. Suspect(s) have taken a goal post, two football nets and some footballs from within.

04/07/2015 – Criminal Damage, The Strand - Known suspects have pushed large round hay bales into the stream which runs alongside the property. This has damaged the bales TVO £60.

No Through Road

I have spoken with PC Barny APPLETON this afternoon and he has advised me that the risk assessments for the "No through Road" have been carried out. There is still a long way to go, and I now need to speak with Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator to find out about policies and procedures. It may be worth putting feelers out to see if we have any volunteers etc. Once I have more information on what to do next I will let you know.

We are having a large number of pedal cycle thefts in Melksham Town, and history tells us that they are being moved from Melksham to Trowbridge via Semington so please make sure that any cycles you may have are secured.

5. **Adjournment.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for members of the public to speak.

Conor Lee and Nick Cleverley of Hannick Homes addressed the meeting.

The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

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Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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6. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed gave a report on the following topics:

- Planning application 15/05428/FUL (Lansdown) and the refusal by Wiltshire Council to approve the proposed development. He also commented on the illegal entrances to the site from the access road and the illegal use of Wiltshire Council land.
- Settlement Boundaries and the Strategic Housing Allocation Consultation.

7. Planning.

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

15/02347/CLE David Cox	33 Littleton Willows	Residential Use (Certificate of Lawfulness)	Pending
15/03888/FUL Philip Baker	16 Church Street	Single storey extension to front with two storey extension to the rear and detached garage.	Approved
15/04491/FUL Kate Sullivan	St Georges Primary School	New path around Playing Field	Approved
15/05428/FUL James Taylor	Lansdowne, Littleton	Alterations to an approved gypsy and traveller site to form 8 permanent traveller pitches and 4 transit pitches together with associated ancillary development.	Refused
15/05678/FUL James Taylor	Aidans Filed Farm, Devizes Road	Erection of temporary mobile home	Pending

b. There were no recent planning applications.

c. The Council **resolved** that the Clerk writes to Wiltshire Council thus:

Wiltshire Council Highways – To insist upon enforcement action in relation to the illegal entrances to Lansdowne.

Wiltshire Council Spatial Planning – To re-state the comments from the Parish Council in respect of the draft Settlement Boundaries for Semington.

8. Finance.

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

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement 31 May 2015	£	13,921.93
Total:	£	13,921.93

Credits (1 June 2015 to 30 June 2015):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 2	£	116.40
Total:	£	116.40

Debits (1 June 2015 to 30 June 2015):

Clerk's Salary (May)	£	290.94
HMRC PAYE Month 3	£	116.40

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Internal Audit Fee	£	110.00
Carer Support	£	100.00
Clerk's Expenses (May)	£	29.89
Total:	£	647.23

Balance at 30 June 2015: £ 13,391.10

Credits (1 July 2015 to 29 July 2015):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 3	£	116.40
Total:	£	116.40

Debits (1 July 2015 to 29 July 2015):

Clerk's Salary (June)	£	290.94
HMRC PAYE Month 4	£	116.40
L Hiscocks	£	50.00
Total:	£	457.34

Balance at 29 July 2015: £ 13,050.16

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining: £ 612.17

Parish Council Balance at 29 July 2015: £ 12,437.99

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement	£	7,597.45
31-May-15		

Credits

Interest	£	0.30
Interest (Approx)	£	0.31
	£	0.61

Debits

None	£	-
	£	-

Balance at 29 July 2015: £ 7,598.06

Credits

None	£	-
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Debits

None

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Balance at 29 July 2015:

£	7,598.06
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Total Balance in Hand at 29 July 2015:

£	20,036.05
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Payments to be authorised (29 July 2015).

Clerk's Salary (August)	£	290.94
External Audit Fee	£	120.00
Village Hall Hire	£	450.00
Office Expenses (June)	£	40.97
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 5)	£	116.40

TOTAL:

£	1,018.31
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Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (29 July 2015).

None

TBA

TOTAL:

£	-
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b. The Clerk reported that he had received the completed Annual Return for FY2014/15 from the External Auditor confirming that all matters were satisfactory and added that there were no matters that had to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council. He presented the Annual Return to the Chairman to confirm this fact. On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked the Clerk for his conscientiousness.

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

9. Defibrillator.

The Chairman stated that the defibrillator cabinet and defibrillator had now been mounted on the outside wall of the Village Hall and that it was now available for use. He added that he now had to arrange the formal training session to be given by South West Ambulance Service.

The Parish Council **resolved** to thank the Village Hall Management Committee for its assistance in installing the Defibrillator Cabinet and for supplying the electrical connection.

10. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Smyth reported that he had met recently with the Highways and Streetscene Focal Point, Stuart Renfrew to discuss a number of issues including confirming that Semington Parish Council valued the Community Days. Cllr. Smyth stated that the weeds at Church Street and Pound Lane required clearing.

The Parish Council **resolved** to set up a Working Party to prune the hedge that runs alongside the Village Hall path and Cllr. Smyth confirmed that a parishioner had offered to collect the arisings in his trailer and to dispose of them.

The Parish Council **resolved** that the hedge would be trimmed back to a 'manageable level' and it was agreed that a height of around 5ft would suffice. It was acknowledged that this work would take place in September to avoid nesting birds.

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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b. Cllr. Smyth reported that he had attempted to establish who had undertaken the artwork for the Berryfields Information Board but without success. He commented that it may be possible to adapt a Google map for the proposed Semington (correctly named) Countryside Interpretation Board. He stated that he would continue with his research.

c. The Council discussed a possible tree planting plan for the wide verge opposite to the crematorium – as proposed by Cllrs Smyth and Rimmer. Cllr. Scott commented that the existing hedge that may have to be removed to allow such a tree planting scheme contained relatively mature Ash trees and Field Maple trees that would, in future, prove to have greater visual impact than the proposed birch trees in the planting scheme. Councillors agreed that it would not wish to destroy a hedge with such diverse and valuable species of flora and a site visit was planned to allow councillors to examine the proposed site for the planting scheme more closely before making any decisions.

Cllr. Scott reported that there were the remains of some steel posts near to the roundabout that come be dangerous to walkers because they presented jagged edges and were partly hidden. Cllr. Smyth stated that he would inform Mr Renfrew.

Cllr. Scott reported that he had taken part in the 'Big Path Watch' organised by the Ramblers Association and that during his walk he had identified one blocked path, two stiles needing repair and blocked access to a further path.

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

The Chairman stated that owing to severe financial constraints at Wiltshire Council the local Bus Services were in jeopardy and he encouraged councillors to examine any proposed cutbacks and if concerned to write directly to Wiltshire Council.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

13. Tennis Court.

The Council noted that the bottom of the net at the tennis court was fraying and may need replacement and **resolved** to revisit this subject in the Spring.

14. New Member Co-option.

The Council **resolved** to co-opt a new member and that the co-option would take place at the September Parish Council meeting.

15. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Smyth reported that Stuart Taylor is revamping the Village Website and is encouraging village clubs and organisations to provide him regularly with content for it.

16. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the date of the next Parish Council meetings thus:

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 16 September 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 14 October 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 11 November 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 16 December 2015 at 8pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.03pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____