

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

There were three members of the public present.

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor Cllr. P Smith, Wiltshire Councillor Cllr. J Seed and the Neighbourhood Policing Team, PCSO Helen Wilson.

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 16 December 2015.**

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

4. **Neighbourhood Policing.**

Cllr. Smyth reported the following on behalf of the Neighbourhood Policing Team:

The 'No Entry Watch' scheme was working well and in the last four weeks some sixty-nine vehicles had been turned around and fourteen warning letters issued.

Cllr. Smyth stated that the times and days of operating the scheme are to be varied.

The Parish Council **resolved** to express its thanks to all the 'No Entry Watch' scheme volunteers for operating in the scheme.

5. **Adjournment.**

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

Conor Lee (Hannick Homes) presented the latest proposals for residential development along St Georges Road and a parishioner made representations regarding a planning application.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

6. **Wiltshire Council Report.**

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

7. **Planning.**

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

15/09725/FUL	The Old Pig Barn, High Street	Demolition of existing barn and replacing with two storey office and store	Revised Plans
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The Parish Council supports this application subject to the use of the proposed development being restricted to employment use only.

b. The following planning applications were received after 8 January 2016 and the Council examined the applications and **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics):

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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15/12704/FUL	29 High Street	Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation	NEW
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The Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:

- There is a serious loss of amenity for 27A High Street – existing daylight to the south facing windows of 27A High Street would be significantly and unacceptably reduced.
- The existing wall that the proposed development shows as an integral structural component of the development is a very old wall and in a state of disrepair that is totally unsuited for this development.
- The proposed development is termed an ‘annexe’. It is not an annexe. It is a separate detached building located some distance from the main residence and this application should identify it as such.
- The Site and Locations Plans are incorrect and fail to show the present configuration e.g. an existing, adjacent property – 27A High Street – is not shown. The proposed development would have a significant and immediate detrimental effect on 27A High Street.

16/00054/LBC	29 High Street	Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation	NEW
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Clerk's Note.

The comments from the Parish Council were as shown for planning application 15/12704/FUL.

c. The Council noted the Oil and Gas Authority 14th Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round – Oil & Gas Authority Consultation response to the consultation.

The Chairman reported that the Wiltshire Air Ambulance Charitable Trust had written to him inviting the Parish Council to visit the Operations Centre at Devizes.

8. Finance.

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

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	10,662.26
30 November 2016		
Total:	£	10,662.26

Credits (1 December 2015 to 31 December 2015):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 9	£	116.40
Total:	£	116.40

Debits (1 December 2015 to 31 December 2015):

Clerk's Salary (November)	£	290.94
Clerk's Expenses (October)	£	18.26
HMRC PAYE Month 8	£	116.40
R Robinson	£	14.50
Clerk's Expenses (November)	£	21.51
HMRC PAYE Month 9	£	116.40

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R Oglesby		£	17.99
Cloth Road Arts Week		£	100.00
	Total:	£	696.00

Balance at 31 December 2015: £ 10,082.66

Credits (1 January 2016 to 13 January 2016):

None		£	-
	Total:	£	-

Debits (1 January 2016 to 13 January 2016):

Clerk's Salary (December)		£	290.94
	Total:	£	290.94

Balance at 13 January 2016: £ 9,791.72

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining: £ 375.99

Parish Council Balance at 13 January 2016: £ 9,415.73

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement		£	7,598.70
30-Sep-16			

Credits

Interest (Approx)		£	0.30
Interest (Approx)		£	0.30
Interest (Approx)		£	0.29
Interest (Approx)		£	0.29
		£	1.18

Debits

None		£	-
		£	-

Balance at 13 January 2016: £ 7,599.88

Total Balance in hand at 13 January 2016: £ 17,015.61

Payments to be authorised (13 January).

Clerk's Salary (January)		£	290.94
Office Expenses (December)		£	19.85
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 10)		£	116.40

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CodeWater Solutions	£	160.00
TOTAL:	£	587.19

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (25 November 2015).

None	£	-
	£	-
TOTAL:	£	-

b. Following a discussion on the content of a proposed budget for FY2016/17 presented by the Clerk and following changes to some of the proposed figures, the Parish Council resolved to adopt the following budget:

Semington Agreed Budget FY2016/2017

ITEM (Description)	Budget FY15/16 Agreed	Estimated FY15/16 31-Mar-16	Budget FY16/17 Agreed
<u>Income:</u>			
Precept	9500	9500	12000
Lloyds A/C 7754288 (Ex. St Georges Fund)	5	5	5
Lloyds A/C 2149025	0	0	0
Tennis Court Insurance	0	0	0
VAT Reclaim	634	634	386
Donations (War Memorial)	0	0	0
Tennis Court Maintenance Fund	0	0	0
Total Income	10139	10139	12391
<u>Expenditure:</u>			
Clerk Salary	3491	3491	3491
Expenses	250	250	250
Office Allowance	125	125	150
Tennis Court Insurance	0	0	0
Chairman	0	0	0
Hire Hall	450	450	500
Audit	230	230	230
Subscriptions	36	36	36
Insurance	677	677	800
Community (Section 137)	1250	1250	2250
Projects (e.g. Tree/Bulb planting)	0	0	500
War Memorial Project	0	0	376
Neighbourhood Plan	0	0	0
Training	0	0	0
Elections	1000	0	1000
Tennis Court	0	0	1000
Ex-WC Functions	0	0	2500
	7509	6509	13083

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Net Income	10139	10139	12391
Net Expenditure	7509	6509	13083
Surplus	2630	3630	-692

Balance Carried Forward at 31
March 2015: £15,211.16
(as per Annual Return FY2014/15)

**Forecast Balance Carried Forward at 31 March
2017: £14,519.16**

NOTE
Tennis Court Fund = £5400
approx

The Council noted that there is to be significant extra expenditure in FY2016/17 following the decision by Wiltshire Council to concentrate on providing only statutory services – thereby requiring Parish Councils to meet the cost of many traditional, non-statutory services - the requirement to provide funding for the new Information Boards and additional expenditure for the maintenance of the Tennis Court. The Council also noted that the Council Tax grant this year was only £43.55 compared to £241.95 last year.

It was noted that the resulting increase in the Council Tax for a Band D parishioner by increasing the precept from £9,500 to £12,000 amounted to £7.11 for the year.

The Council **resolved** to adopt the proposed Budget (as above) subject to a resolution to request an amount of £12,000 from Wiltshire Council for FY2016/17.

The Council **resolved** to request a Precept of £11956.45 noting that when added to the Wiltshire Council 'Top Up' Grant of £43.55 it will ensure that Semington Parish Council receives a total sum of £12,000 from Wiltshire Council for FY2016/17.

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

9. Highways/Environment.

a. There was nothing reported.

b. Cllr. Robinson tabled revised A3/A2 size paper prints of the proposed Information Board for councillors to examine and comment. It was agreed that councillors would provide further comments to Cllr. Robinson outside the meeting and Cllr. Robinson offered to obtain costings for the manufacture and installation of two Information Boards.

Clerk's Note.

Subsequent to the meeting Cllr. Robinson reported that the cost of an A2 signboard is £530 (ex VAT) and A1 is £640 (ex VAT). He had added that delivery was free to most areas.

c. Cllr. Lockwood stated that he intended taking photographs of Wessex Close Play Area to show its poor condition and requested that this item is deferred until the next meeting.

d. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from St George's Primary School requesting permission to erect a banner on the roadside verge advertising the Fun Run event. The Parish Council **resolved** that permission needed to be sought from Wiltshire Council and not the Parish Council. The Clerk stated that he would reply accordingly.

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Chairman's Signature _____

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Cllr. Smyth asked councillors to propose 'environmental projects' to be undertaken in the village as he understood that there were charitable funds available.

In response to a comment from Cllr. Rimmer, the Parish Council **resolved** that a further batch of saplings be obtained for planting locally.

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

The Chairman reported that Wiltshire Council is undertaking a public consultation on Bus Services in Wiltshire and that it was important that the public responded to this consultation if it wished to retain such services. He added that rural services, especially those that attract the highest subsidies from Wiltshire Council are particularly under threat and this may include the weekly service from Semington to Bath.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

13. Tennis Court.

There was nothing specific reported. Cllr. Wade agreed to obtain quotations for replacing the net and for maintaining/replacing the surface and fencing.

14. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Oglesby stated that he would be making the monthly report on the condition of the Defibrillator to South West Ambulance Services.

The Clerk reported the following:

- Victim Support – An appeal for donations (To be carried forward to the next meeting).
- Melksham Mayor's Reception.

Cllr. Lockwood reported that he had read in the Wiltshire Times that the Fire Service had attended a significant fire at the travellers' site a week or so ago. The Clerk was asked to inform Cllr. Seed and if the report of the fire was true, to request that Wiltshire Council investigates whether there was a breach of a planning condition by the occupants of that site.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

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

- Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 24 February 2016 at 8pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.05pm.

R A Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council