

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

PCSO Maggie Ledbury of the Neighbourhood Policing Team attended (part-time).

There were no members of the public present.

1. **Apologies.**

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

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 January 2016.**

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

4. **Neighbourhood Policing.**

The Clerk reported that PC Thomas had sent a written report to him prior to the meeting. The Clerk read out this report (shown below in italics) and PCSO Ledbury summarised the main points for the benefit of the meeting and provided more details regarding the Cyber Crime initiative.

- *Hill View Farm in Seend 22/01/2016 had an attempt theft of Diesel from lorry parked up*
- *2 vehicles parked in Highfield Close 30/01/2016 – criminal damage (vehicles were keyed)*
- *We as a team as part of the Cyber Crime awareness NPT Priority have been going to primary schools and delivering 'Op Polite' which covers aspects of internet safety, Cyber Crime and handing out information booklets as an aid to parents. Keevil Primary School has recently been attended by PC Thomas and PCSO Ledbury.*
- *The 'no through' road monitoring is continuing to be a success, and is well supported. A special constable on the 16th of Feb issued a £100 fine and 3 points to an offending driver Since 10 Sept. 52 Advisory letter had been sent to motorists ignoring the No Through Road sign and 221 had been 'turned round'.*

PCSO Ledbury commented that parking of vehicles at the corner of Church Street when 'Bridge Days' are being held at the Village Hall are causing an obstruction. The Chairman stated that he would advise Mr Taylor of this problem.

Cllr. Smyth reported that the No Through Road administrative requirements had increased to an extent that it was proving difficult for Wiltshire Police to handle and they had requested support from volunteers.

5. **Adjournment.**

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

The Clerk read out the correspondence from Dr. Elizabeth Williamson, the Chair of Governors at St Georges School.

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

6. Wiltshire Council Report.

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

7. Planning.

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

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--|----------|
| 15/09725/FUL | The Old Pig Barn, High Street | Demolition of existing barn and replacing with two storey office and store | Approved |
| 15/12704/FUL | 29 High Street | Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation | Pending |
| 16/00054/LBC | 29 High Street | Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation | Pending |

b. There were no planning applications received after 16 February 2016.

c. Cllr. Scott reported that the recently approved planning application for the Air Ambulance site (15/10766/OUT) did not carry any reference to a 'Control Gate – as required by the Parish Council'.

Councillors noted the request from Air Ambulance to undertake a public consultation with display boards etc at the Village Hall over the coming months. The Clerk was asked to advise Air Ambulance (Kevin Reed) to contact Cllr. Smyth or Gerald Taylor (01380 870530) directly.

8. Finance.

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

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement
31 December 2015

£ 10,182.66

Total: £ 10,182.66

Credits (1 January 2016 to 31 January 2016):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 10

£ 116.40

Total: £ 116.40

Debits (1 January 2016 to 31 January 2016):

Clerk's Salary (December)

£ 290.94

Clerk's Expenses (December)

£ 19.85

HMRC PAYE Month 10

£ 116.40

Cloth Road Arts Week

£ 100.00

Codewater Solutions

£ 160.00

Total: £ 687.19

Balance at 31 January 2016:

£ 9,611.87

Credits (1 February 2016 to 24 February 2016):

26 February 2016

Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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| | | |
|--------|---|---|
| None | £ | - |
| Total: | £ | - |

Debits (1 February 2016 to 24 February 2016):

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------|
| Clerk's Salary (January) | £ | 290.94 |
| Total: | £ | 290.94 |

Balance at 24 February 2016:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| £ | 9,320.93 |
|---|-----------------|

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| £ | 375.99 |
|---|---------------|

Parish Council Balance at 24 February 2016:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| £ | 8,944.94 |
|---|-----------------|

Lloyds A/C 7754288

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| Bank Statement 30-Sep-16 | £ | 7,598.70 |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|

Credits

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------|
| Interest | £ | 0.31 |
| Interest | £ | 0.32 |
| Interest x) | £ | 0.31 |
| Interest (Approx) | £ | 0.29 |
| Interest (Approx) | £ | 0.27 |
| | £ | 1.50 |

Debits

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| None | £ | - |
| | £ | - |

Balance at 24 February 2016:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| £ | 7,600.20 |
|---|-----------------|

Total Balance in hand at 24 February 2016:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| £ | 16,545.14 |
|---|------------------|

Payments to be authorised (24 February 2016).

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Clerk's Salary (February) | £ | 290.94 |
| Office Expenses (January) | £ | 14.39 |
| R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 11) | £ | 116.40 |
| R Robinson | £ | 25.00 |
| TOTAL: | £ | 446.73 |

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (24 February 2016).

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None

£ -

£ -

TOTAL:

£ -

- b. The Council **resolved** to make a donation of £50 to Victim Support.
- c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above.

9. Highways/Environment.

- a. The following matter needed to be reported to Wiltshire Council:

- Potholes in Pound Lane (reported by Cllr. Scott).

Cllr. Smyth stated that the weed clearing was in hand and progressing well.

Cllr. Smyth reported that the current Parish Steward scheme operated by Wiltshire Council has had to be suspended in some areas because of the lack of available personnel but that it would be re-introduced when the new contractor (Ringway) takes over the highways contract in April. Cllr. Smyth stated that there is a Wiltshire Council 'Involvement Evening' to be held on 12 April between 7.30pm and 9pm and all councillors are invited to attend.

- b. Cllr. Robinson tabled revised A3 size paper prints of the proposed Information Board for councillors to examine and comment. Further comments were agreed at the meeting and Cllr. Robinson stated that he was now satisfied that the final version could be ordered and once he had made the necessary amendments it would be sent to the Clerk for it to be included in the order for the Interpretation Board and Lectern.

The Parish Council **resolved** that two A2 Recycled Plastic Interpretation Boards and Lecterns be ordered from FILCRIS at a cost of £636 (inclusive of VAT) each and it further **resolved** that an application should be made to the Melksham Area Board for a grant to assist with the funding of the Boards/Lectern.

Councillors proposed that the location of the Interpretation Boards and Lecterns could be on the Ragged Smock (near to the bench) and in the vicinity of The Somerset Arms/Brook House. However, councillors commented that further discussions were necessary before agreeing on final locations and it may be necessary to seek approval from Wiltshire Council for the proposed locations.

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

- d. The Council noted the correspondence from Dr. Elizabeth Williamson, the Chair of Governors at St Georges School, in relation to introducing road safety measures at Pound Lane/Pound Close to improve the safety of pupils travelling to and from St Georges School. The Council discussed the proposed safety measures at some length and it fully supported the proposal to improve road safety at that location. The Council **resolved** that the Clerk writes to Dr Williamson fully supporting her proposal and stating that the Parish Council had attempted a number of times over the years to persuade Wiltshire Council to examine and improve road safety in that area and that as this matter was the responsibility of Wiltshire Council she would be best advised to direct her enquiries to Wiltshire Council. Councillors reiterated their support for her initiative to improve road safety in that area but commented that the Parish Council had no powers to act, except to support her initiative.

- e. Cllr. Robinson stated that following representations from a parishioner he would examine the condition of Path Semi 11/10 and the report of a tree partly obstructing that path.

10. Community Emergency Plan.

Cllr. Smyth explained that Wiltshire Council had held an Emergency Planning Workshop in

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December at which it was emphasized that local communities needed to develop their own 'Emergency Plan' to ensure that the effects of local emergencies, such as flooding, could be mitigated. Cllr. Smyth explained the possible content of such an Emergency Plan and described the various levels, Level 1 to Level 3 of detail that the plan should contain. Councillors discussed this topic at some length and **resolved** to take no action at this stage except to notify Wiltshire Council that in the event of an emergency then the Village Hall would be the assembly point for parishioners. Cllr. Smyth agreed to advise Gerald Taylor accordingly.

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

Cllr. Robinson stated that in the minutes of the previous Area Board Meeting there was emphasis on the need to respond to the Public Transport consultation. The Chairman reminded all councillors that it was important to take note of this request because the existing local bus services were vulnerable to cuts.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

13. Tennis Court.

Councillors noted the request from the tennis coach at Melksham House to allow him to hold coaching at the Semington Tennis Court between 9:00am and 13:00 on a Saturday - and maybe even during other times of the week. The Council discussed this request and **resolved** that to allow a dedicated group to use the Tennis Court on a regular basis - especially on Saturday mornings - would deprive the casual users from Semington of the Tennis Court at a time when it is most popular and therefore it could not accede to that request. An additional difficulty identified was that there exists no mechanism for booking the Tennis Court or for policing its use. The Clerk was asked to advise the tennis coach accordingly.

14. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Smyth – An appeal for possible environmental projects.

Cllr. Robinson – A proposal to clear up the area around the Pill Box (gun emplacement) artefact near to the Ragged Smock.

Clerk – Correspondence from FISHER GERMAN in relation to the Esso pipeline.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

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

- Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 23 March 2016 at 8pm.

The Clerk proposed that subsequent meetings are held on the following dates:

- 27 April 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.
- 25 May 2016, Commencing at 7pm – Annual PC Meeting, Ordinary PC Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting,
- 22 June 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.
- 20 July 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.

The Clerk stated that he would contact the Booking Officer for the Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm.

R A Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council