

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2018 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

PCSO Ledbury attended (Part-time)

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

There were two members of the public present (Part-time).

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor P Smith.

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared by councillors.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24 January 2018.**

The Council **resolved** that the minutes were a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4. **Community Policing.**

PCSO Ledbury had sent a written report to the Clerk prior to the meeting that the Clerk had sent to all councillors. This report was a general report but included content specific to Semington that is reproduced below (in italics). PCSO commented on points in the report for the benefit of the meeting.

CRIME EXCEPTIONS

These figures are based on an evaluation of data, over a two year rolling period. Using this data we can predict what figure is the average that should be reported in a specific month, and what are the higher and lower parameters that we may expect. Figures outside of these parameters are classed as 'Crime Exceptions'.

*ED12 (Shaw, Whitley, Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Beanacre, Bowerhill, Berryfields)
January 2018 showed 34 crimes for this Beat Area against the average of 30.6 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.
The three largest crime groups accounted for 88% of ED12 crime as follows;*

*Violence Against the person showed 13 crimes compared to the average of 11.5
Theft showed 10 crimes compared to the average of 7.8
Criminal Damage showed 9 crimes compared to the average of 6.8*

*ED13 (Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Keevil, Semington, Great Hinton, Steeple Ashton)
January 2018 showed 9 reported crimes across this Beat area against the average of 9.3 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within this data.
The two largest crime groups accounted for 100% of ED13 crime as follows;*

*Violence Against the person showed 5 crimes compared to the average of 3.6
Theft showed 4 crimes compared to the average of 3.5*

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COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH CHECKS WITHIN YOUR AREA

Poulton has been subject of Speed checks to support the local CSW. This was done twice in the month of January, on the 19th and the 23rd. On both occasions, no persons were caught exceeding the speed limit.

OTHER INFORMATION

Poulshot - Crimes for January 2018

None reported

Bulkington - Crimes for January 2018

None reported

Keevil - Crimes for January 2018

Non reported

Steeple Ashton - Crimes for January 2018

6th Anti-Social Behavior (ASB) reported both present day and historical. Surveys have been delivered to the estate.

Great Hinton - Crimes for January 2018

22nd Electric Fence battery stolen from Stoggy Lane

Semington - Crimes for January 2018

15th Vehicle Seizes S165 on the A361

25th 2 Vehicle Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Non Injury A350 Semington

Seend - Crimes for January 2018

9th A wheelbarrow and vehicle parts stolen in Seend.

13th An attempted burglary in Dial Close.

17th Failure to Stop (FTS) RTC at Sells Green

23rd One vehicle RTC on Seend Hill. Male arrested Driving under the influence (DUI).

23rd Vehicle stopped in the High Street Seend. Male arrested DUI.

24th Car v Lampost Baldham Seend

27th Vehicle into tree Non-inj Seend

COMMUNITY MESSAGING

PLEASE SIGN UP! Community messaging to receive regular emails regarding crime updates, crime prevention advice and public appeals specific for your area. -

<https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

For a detailed breakdown of the crime in your area visit...

<https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/>

CONTACT US

THE CPT TEAM EMAIL - CPTWestWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Local Contact - PCSO Maggie Ledbury – maggie.ledbury@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Sector Inspector – Inspector Andy Fee – andy.fee@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Sector Deputy – Sergeant Gill Hughes – gill.hughes@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Community Coordinator – Pc Lee Pelling – lee.pelling@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Cllr. Oglesby reported that a dog had attacked two sheep locally and that the dog and dog owner were being sought.

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Cllr. Scott stated that an attempt to resolve an incident involving stray cattle on the canal towpath failed because he was unable to obtain the telephone number of the farmer despite his telephone call to Tel. No. 101 to report the incident. He suggested that the telephone numbers of local farmers should be known to the police and, perhaps also, to the Parish Council.

5. Adjournment.

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

6. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed gave a report on the following topics:

Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Bus Gate.

Cllr. Seed reported that he and the Parish Council Chairman had recently had a very useful meeting with the Air Ambulance personnel and that it had been agreed that a further meeting will take place to discuss the relocation of the Bus Gate following the construction of the building and after the 'follow-up' metrocount figures were available.

A361 – Road Works.

These works to improve pedestrian and road safety near to The Turnpike/Littlemarsh were to commence on 26 February 2018.

Data Protection.

The new regulations that are to come into force in May 2018 appear to be very onerous and burdensome to small parish councils. Wiltshire Council and the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils share this view and are working together to obtain clarification of this legislation from the Information Commissioner and how it may affect parish councils. He commented that the Leader of the Council was raising this issue at Central Government level.

Planning.

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

17/10025/FUL	Greenacres, Littleton	Change of use to provide 5 additional gypsy and traveller pitches (14 in total each with 1 static caravan and 1 touring caravan) and associated ancillary works including landscaped amenity areas. This is in lieu of the 3 pitches and 8 caravans approved under permission W/11/01206/FUL and the further 6 pitches and 12 caravans approved under permission 14/10797/FUL. Retention of the existing dayroom approved under 14/04110/FUL. Retrospective approval for stone walled entrance to site	Approved
17/12013/FUL	April Cottage, Littleton	Proposed Replacement Porch, Garage Conversion, Fenestration Alterations and Detached Garage and Workshop/Gym.	Approved

b. There were no planning applications received after 13 February 2018.

c. The action taken in respect of the Bus Gate was reported at Agenda item 6 above.

d. The Parish Council **resolved** that the failure of Wiltshire Council officers and elected members to reply to correspondence from the Parish Council was totally unacceptable and that the Clerk is to write to the Leader of the Council to express this sentiment and to ask when a reply to the correspondence will be received by the Parish Council. This sentiment was shared by Cllr. Seed.

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The Council **resolved** that it is to make enquiries of Wiltshire Council regarding the Parish Council acquiring the Salt Tip when it becomes redundant.

8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 21 February 2018 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	19,494.62
31 December 2017		

Total:	£	19,494.62
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Credits (1 January 2018 to 31 January 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 9	£	118.80
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Total:	£	118.80
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Debits (1 January 2018 to 31 January 2018):

Clerk's Salary (December)	£	296.79
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S Rimmer (Bulbs)	£	22.72
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Clerk's Expenses (November)	£	8.36
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B Smyth (Photocopying)	£	26.00
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S Rimmer (Trees/Lights)	£	192.08
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P Smith (T Box/Carols)	£	117.34
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Total:	£	663.29
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Balance at 31 January 2018:

£	18,950.13
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Credits (1 February 2018 to 21 February 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 10	£	118.40
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Total:	£	118.40
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Debits (1 February 2018 to 21 February 2018):

Clerk's Salary (January)	£	296.79
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Clerks Expenses (December)	£	6.86
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HMRC PAYE Month 10	£	118.40
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SLCC Membership (Part)	£	53.00
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R Robinson (Xmas tree donation)	£	28.00
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Total:	£	503.05
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Balance at 21 February 2018:

£	18,565.48
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Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

£	375.99
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22 February 2018

Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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Parish Council Balance at 21 February 2018:

£	18,189.49
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Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement

£	7,625.26
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29-Dec-17

Credits

11 Jan Interest (Approx)

£	0.32
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11 Feb Interest (Approx)

£	0.30
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£	0.62
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Debits

None

£	-
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£	-
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Balance at 21 February 2018:

£	7,625.88
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Total Balance in Hand at 21 February 2018:

£	25815.37
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Payments to be authorised (21 February 2018).

Clerk's Salary (February)

£	296.79
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Office Expenses (January)

£	7.06
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HMRC PAYE Month 11

£	118.40
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Code Water Solutions Invoice

£	120.00
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TOTAL:	£ 542.25
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Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (21 February 2018).

None

£	-
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TOTAL:	£ -
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b. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above.

9. Highways/Environment.

a. The Chairman stated that he would report the following to the Parish Steward:

- The need to clear moss/leaf mulch etc from the footpath between St Georges Road and Pound Lane and the corner of Church Street.
- To clear the path near to the Bus Stop on the A361 road (Littlemarsh side) – Trowbridge direction.
- To clear the moss on the path that runs alongside the Village Hall.

Councillors commented on the Lleylandii tree branches overhanging the road at the corner of Pound Lane/Wessex Close causing an obstruction. It was agreed to leave this for neighbours to approach the house owner.

22 February 2018

Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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b. There was no further progress to report.

c. In response to a query from the Chairman the Council decided that it would not take part in the planned Area Board sponsored 'litter pick' on 3 March because the Council regularly arranges its own litter pick and had only recently undertaken one.

Cllr. Robinson observed that last year there were some twenty Rook nests in evidence in the trees at the Salt Tip but this year no nests were to be seen.

Cllr. Oglesby reminded councillors that there was a need to record where daffodils had been planted in the village so that any additional bulb planting took place in 'new' areas. The Chairman stated that he would arrange for photographs to be taken as a record.

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

The date for the next CATG meeting was noted – 8 March 2018, 4pm at Melksham Fire Station.

Cllr. Wade stated that he would attend this meeting.

11. Assets of Community Value (ACV).

The Chairman stated that he had sent the following information and list of those artefacts that he considered may qualify as 'Assets of Community Value' to councillors for discussion at this meeting. This information is shown below in italics. The resolution of the Parish Council whether or not to seek listing of these assets is shown in bold for each asset.

The Wiltshire Council definition of an Asset of Community Value is as follows (further details are detailed in the Wiltshire Council Briefing Note).

Definition.

A building or land in a local authority's area will be listed as an Asset of Community Value if in the opinion of Wiltshire Council:

- a. its primary use, or use in the recent past, furthers the social well-being or social interests (cultural, recreational, or sporting interests) of the local community, and*
- b. it is realistic to think that this could continue in the next five years (whether or not in the same way as before).*

The purpose of the Asset of Community Value listing is to allow time for the Parish Council or another local community group to bid for the asset.

Assets.

Somerset Arms - this meets the criteria a & b above and could be nominated for listing as an ACV.

The Council resolved to seek listing of this asset. Cllr. Smyth stated that he would complete the necessary application form.

*Sports Field - Again this meets the criteria. We could nominate for listing but the Crematorium are very unlikely to sell it off anyway. **No Action.***

*Salt Tip - WC owned. We might be able to argue that this meets criterion b above. One reason for listing the salt tip would be to avoid inappropriate development on the site but we would need to be able to state what alternative use we would have for it and show it meets criterion a. The fact that there will be considerable salt contamination of the ground could be a downstream problem. Seeking an asset transfer might be a first option for the salt tip rather than an ACV listing. **No Action – This matter was addressed at Agenda item 7d above.***

*School field - If WC wanted to sell the land the process would be much longer than the delay if listed as an ACV - therefore no advantage. **No Action.***

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Village Hall - In village ownership and is adequately protected by its charitable asset status. **No Action.**

Tennis Court and future Allotments - Already or will be owned by PC. **No Action.**

Ragged Smock & Millennium Wood - WC owned. These are both of community value but there is probably little advantage, if any, in the PC taking these on. **No Action.**

Pound Lane Play Area - WC owned and would be too much of a financial burden for the PC to take on. **No Action.**

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported in respect of current developments.

13. Tennis Court.

Councillors reported that the roots of the adjoining hedge have been cleared. It was agreed that the state of the bench is to be checked for defects.

The Clerk was asked to contact Healthcare 2000 to enquire whether it wished the existing advertising banner to remain at the Tennis Court and, if so, whether Healthcare 2000 would consider making a further donation.

14. Any Other Business.

There was nothing else reported.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

The Clerk handed a Canal and River Trust publication to the Chairman for circulation.

The Council noted the following meeting dates thus:

19 March - a Monday! - Ordinary PC Meeting

18 April - Ordinary PC Meeting

16 May - Annual Parish Meeting, Annual PC Meeting and Ordinary PC Meeting – see below.

13 June - Ordinary PC Meeting

18 July - Ordinary PC Meeting

No meeting in August.

Meetings will commence at 8 pm except for 16 May when there will be three meetings:

7.30pm - Annual Parish Meeting

8pm - Annual PC Meeting

8.30pm - Ordinary PC Meeting

The meeting concluded at 9.53pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

19 March 2018