

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2018 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), P Bowyer, M Kasasian, R Robinson, W Scott, P Smith, C Wade and the Clerk, Roger Coleman.

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

There were six members of the public present.

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors R Oglesby and S Rimmer.

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

Cllrs. Smyth and Wade each declared a personal interest in the Village Hall (Agenda item 10d). There were no other interests declared by councillors.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18 July 2018.**

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

4. **Community Policing.**

In the absence of PCSO Ledbury no report was given.

5. **Adjournment.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the members of the public to raise any matters of interest. Following contributions from the public he reconvened the Parish Council meeting.

6. **Wiltshire Council Report.**

Cllr. Seed gave a report on the Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of Wiltshire Warding Arrangements and its possible implications for Semington.

7. **Planning.**

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

18/05406/FUL	70 High Street	Replace existing prefabricated garage and attached log store with a single storey timber garage.	Approved
18/05493/FUL	28 The Orchard	Proposed demolition of existing garage and conservatory and construction of new 2-storey extension forming new master bedroom to 1st floor and study/utility to ground floor and reconstructed porch.	Approved

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

18/08128/OUT	Land West of 5a High Street	Proposed New Dwelling	New
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The Parish Council has no objection to this proposed development.

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18/08168/FUL	Bay Tree Cottage, 5A High Street	Proposed single storey extension & outbuilding	New
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The Parish Council objects to this proposed development for the following reasons:

- It is too close to the boundary.
- There is a lack of detailed information relating to this proposed development.

The Council noted the following planning application and owing to the late notice of this application the Chairman stated that he would consult with councillors and send the Clerk consolidated comments for onward transmission to Wiltshire Council by 14 September 2018.

18/04830/FUL Revised Plans	9 High Street	Two storey rear extension	Pending
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c. The Clerk stated that the Agent (Stride Treglown) for Westerleigh Group – West Wiltshire Crematorium) – intended attending the next Parish Council meeting (17 October 2018) to present the plans for the proposed extension of the crematorium that will include a new bereavement suite and second chapel.

d. The Council noted Briefing Note No. 367 – The Revised National Planning Policy Framework (24 July 2018).

e. There were no other planning matters raised.

8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 12 September 2018 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	17,378.18
30 June 2018		
Total:	£	17,378.18

Credits (1 July 2018 to 31 July 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 4	£	126.40
Total:	£	126.40

Debits (1 July 2018 to 31 July 2018):

Clerk's Salary (June)	£	316.18
Clerk's Expenses (June)	£	10.72
HMRC PAYE Month 4	£	126.40
HMRC PAYE Month 5	£	126.40
Growganic Ltd (Strimmer)	£	214.80
Total:	£	794.50

Balance at 31 July 2018:

£ 16,710.08

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HMCE VAT Refund

£ 228.61

Total: £ **228.61****Debits (1 August 2018 to 31 August 2018):**

Clerk's Salary (July)

£ 316.18

Information Commissioner

£ 40.00

Total: £ **356.18****Balance at 31 August 2018:****£ 16,582.51****Credits (1 September 2018 to 12 September 2018):**

HMRC PAYE Month 5

£ 126.40

Total: £ **126.40****Debits (1 September 2018 to 12 September 2018):**

Clerk's Salary (August)

£ 316.18

Total: £ **316.18****Balance at 12 September 2018:****£ 16,392.73****Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:**£ **395.99****Parish Council Balance at 12 September 2018:****£ 15,996.74****Lloyds A/C 7754288**

Bank Statement

£ 7,627.14

30-Jun-18

Credits

09-Jul Interest (Approx)

£ 0.32

09-Aug Interest (Approx)

£ 0.31

09-Sep Interest (Approx)

£ 0.30

£ 0.93**Debits**

None

£ -

£ -**Balance at 12 September 2018:****£ 7,628.07**

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Total Balance in Hand at 12 September 2018:

£	23,624.81
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Payments to be authorised (12 September 2018).

Clerk's Salary (September) To be paid 1 October 2018	£	322.50
Clerk's Back Pay 1 April - 31 August	£	31.20
Office Expenses (July)	£	17.70
Office Expenses (August)	£	13.47
Chew Valley Trees - Cheque already sent	£	753.96
R Robinson (Planter Expenses)	£	21.10
TOTAL:	£	1,159.93

b. The Clerk confirmed that the External Audit for FY2017/18 by PKF Littlejohn LLP had been completed and that there were no matters that needed to be brought to the attention of the Council.

c. The Council **resolved** unanimously to implement the revised NALC/SLC 2018-2019 National Salary Award for Part-Time Local Council Clerks. The Clerk thanked the Council for taking this action.

d. The Parish Council **resolved** to make a donation of £2000 to Semington Village Hall towards the cost of new window and doors. It was noted that the full cost of these improvements is to be £7356.

e. The Parish Council **resolved** to make a donation of £550 to St Georges PCC towards the upkeep of the churchyard and publication of the Village Newsletter.

f. The decision on the allocation of funds to the Tennis Court Maintenance Fund was deferred until a subsequent meeting pending receipt of information indicating possible maintenance/repair costs.

g. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including the donations of £2000 to the Village Hall and £550 to St Georges PCC.

9. Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations and Electoral Review Consultations.

The Council noted these consultations and the Clerk was asked to ensure that any comments to be sent to the Boundary Commission in respect of the Local Government Boundary Review be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

10. Highways/Environment.

a. The Chairman stated that there continues to be fly-tipping at the layby at Littlemarsh and also at the layby on the A361 opposite to The Turnpike. He speculated that the existence of the existing bin at Littlemarsh may be a reason why fly-tipping is occurring at that location. He commented that Wiltshire Council had been informed of the fly-tipping and that action was awaited. He also commented that the cut vegetation at Wessex Close awaited collection by Wiltshire Council.

b. Cllr. Smyth stated that the questionnaire received relating to the 'No Entry Gate' had been countered by the Parish Council by it issuing a factual statement to parishioners. The suspicion was that the author of the questionnaire was seeking support for the removal of the Bus Gate – the removal of which was vehemently opposed by the majority of parishioners and by the Parish Council.

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The Chairman reported that the proposal by Wiltshire Air Ambulance for new direction and location signage indicating the location of the Air Ambulance station had been put on hold pending the results of the vehicle count exercise that is currently taking place to assess the traffic flow to the Air Ambulance Station.

c. The tree planting project comprising the planting of trees to commemorate WW1 and the connection with Semington was well in hand with the tree planting planned for 23/24 September. It was confirmed that Cllr. Oglesby is to provide a sufficient quantity of containers for the water to ensure that the new trees are properly watered once planted.

d. The Council noted the correspondence from the Ramblers Association regarding the maintenance of public paths and stiles and decided that there were only two paths that needed attention – one at Great Lees Field (near to the canal) and the path near to the Crematorium/Travellers Site – and that councillors would assess the condition of the stiles over the coming weeks. The Clerk was asked to write to the Ramblers Association thanking it for its interest and stating the position outlined above in respect of paths and stiles in Semington and commenting that the Parish Council would approach Wiltshire Council if further assistance was required.

e. Cllr. Wade agreed to investigate the cost of acquiring a Christmas tree for Semington and Cllr. Rimmer was to be asked to investigate the cost of acquiring new lights for the tree.

11. War Memorial.

The Council noted the report by a parishioner entitled 'Semington Parish Council Decision not to include the names of William Henry John Hancock and Frank Braden Farmer on the Semington War Memorial – Initial Findings' that the Clerk had sent to all councillors.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Scott, the Parish Council **resolved** to await the Final Report from the parishioner before making any further comment.

12. Village Website.

The Parish Council discussed the current form of the website and following an assurance from the web master resolved that it is to continue as at present but that councillors are to view the website on a regular and more frequent basis and to propose any necessary changes.

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

Cllr. Wade stated that he had attended the last CATG Meeting but there was nothing specific to Semington raised at that meeting. The Council **resolved** that at the next CATG Meeting, Wiltshire Council was to be asked to undertake a 'Safety Assessment' in respect of school children and carers crossing Pound Lane during in-muster and out-muster times in the absence of a proper path. It was intended that the results of this assessment would influence a decision whether or not to install a proper pathway.

It was noted that the Area Board had agreed to provide a grant of £2500 toward the Village Hall for new doors and windows.

14. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported in respect of current developments.

15. Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas.

Cllr. Robinson commented that there was a need to clear vegetation from the edge of the playing area of the Tennis Court that was now becoming entwined with the Tennis Court fence. Cllrs. Robinson and Smyth agreed to investigate this vegetation. It was reported that unwanted vegetation was also encroaching on the Football Pitch and Basketball Court.

16. Any Other Business.

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Cllr. Robinson asked all councillors to provide comments on the proposed Information Board that was to be positioned in the Telephone Box.

17. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the following meeting dates thus:

- 17 October 2018
- 14 November 2018
- 12 December 2018.

The meeting concluded at 10.10pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

17 October 2018