

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4 March 2020 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), R Blake, P Bowyer, M Kasasian, R Oglesby, S Rimmer, W Scott, P Smith and the Clerk Roger Coleman.

There were two members of the public present initially.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. P Smith, stated that the present Chairman Cllr. B Smyth was retiring from the Parish Council after some twenty years or more as a councillor and thanked him on behalf of the present Council and the parishioners of Semington for his dedicated and conscientious service over that period. Cllr. Smyth thanked Cllr. Smith and others for their kind sentiments and explained that it is with considerable regret that he would be resigning after the conclusion of this meeting but that it was the right decision.

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies from non-attendance were received and accepted from Parish Councillor C Wade and Community Policing Team PCSO J Gould.

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared by councillors.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 5 February 2020.**

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

4. **Actions.**

The Actions in accordance with the Action Grid were addressed during the course of the meeting, where possible, and the current state is recorded on the attached Action Grid dated 4 March 2020. Outstanding actions will be addressed at the next Parish Council meeting.

An outstanding action regarding the installation of the recently acquired Neighbourhood Watch signs was raised by Cllr. Scott and it was agreed that these signs will be erected forthwith at available locations. Cllrs. Rimmer and Scott agreed to identify those locations and to erect the signs.

5. **Community Policing.**

PCSO Gould of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the February monthly report that he had subsequently sent to all councillors. The Clerk read out the report shown below.

Police Monthly Report for March 2020 Parish Council Meeting February's 2020 Figures

Poulshot

No reports

Bulkington

No reports

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Keevil

No reports

Steeple Ashton

No reports

Great Hinton

14/02/2020 PEPPERCORN ORCHARD

Unknown suspect has rattled the front door of the IP's address. No attempt to gain entry was made and the suspects left.

Semington

03/02/2020

St Georges Primary School

Unknown male has been seen by various parents hanging around outside the school gates carrying a big camera around his neck.

Seend

03/02/2020

Sells Green

Male suspect has left his canal boat following an argument. Shortly afterwards his boat has caught fire, placing other boats in close proximity at risk. Male arrested on suspicion of arson with intent to endanger life.

16/02/2020

THE THREE MAGPIES

2 Vehicle RTC one has gone into a fence.

27/02/2020

SELLS GREEN

RP has found small amount of cannabis outside of his address and officers have collected it.

6. **Adjournment.**

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

7. **Wiltshire Council Report.**

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

8. **Planning.**

a. The Council noted the status of the following planning application:

19/11589/VAR	Bay Tree Cottage 5A High Street	Variation of Condition 2 of planning application 18/08168/FUL – Proposed dingle storey rear extension & outbuilding.	Approved
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b. There were no planning applications received after 25 February 2020.

c. Councillors noted that the decision regarding the Village Green will be made at the forthcoming Western Area Planning Committee meeting to be held on 18 March 2020. The Clerk was asked to place this item on the Agenda of the next Parish Council meeting. Councillors also noted that the Planning Appeal in respect of Planning application 19/02147/OUT is to take place on 13/14 May 2020.

The Council **resolved** to investigate the current progress of the Wiltshire Council enforcement action in respect of Lansdowne and the letting of caravans for hire.

Cllr. Scott stated that the meeting of the Wiltshire, Swindon and Oxfordshire Canal Partnership is to take place tomorrow, 5 March, and that he would be attending that meeting. He explained that there does appear to exist a conflict between the Partnership and the Environmental Agency

7 March 2020

Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

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regarding the Melksham Link and its access to the River Avon that needs clarification and resolution.

9. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 4 March 2020 was as follows:

<u>Lloyds A/C 2149025</u>			
Bank Statement		£	18,929.73
31 January 2020			
Victim Support £50 not banked	Total:	£	18,929.73

Credits (1 February 2020 to 29 February 2020):

Wiltshire Council (Play Area)		£	6,000.00
HMRC PAYE Month 10		£	136.80
	Total:	£	6,136.80

Debits (1 February 2020 to 29 February 2020):

Clerk's Salary (January) (Paid 1 February 2020)		£	341.90
Clerk's Expenses (January)		£	41.38
HMRC PAYE Month 11		£	136.80
Code Water Solutions		£	120.00
Victim Support		£	50.00
	Total:	£	690.08

Balance at 29 February 2020:

£ 24,376.45

Credits (1 March 2020 to 4 March 2020):

HMRC PAYE Month 11		£	136.80
	Total:	£	136.80

Debits (1 March 2020 to 4 March 2020):

Clerk's Salary (February) (Paid 2 March 2020)		£	341.90
	Total:	£	341.90

Balance at 4 March 2020:

£ 24,171.35

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement		£	7,634.38
31-Mar-19			

Credits

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09-Apr-19	Interest	£	0.30
09-May-19	Interest	£	0.31
10-Jun-20	Interest	£	0.33
09-Jul-19	Interest	£	0.30
09-Aug-19	Interest	£	0.32
09-Sep-19	Interest	£	0.32
09-Oct-19	Interest	£	0.31
04-Nov-20	HMCTS	£	1.10
09-Nov-19	Interest	£	0.35
03-Dec-20	HMCTS	£	1.10
09-Dec-19	Interest	£	0.29
03-Jan-20	HMCTS	£	3.02
09-Jan-20	Interest	£	0.32
04-Feb-20	HMCTS	£	1.92
10-Feb-20	Interest		£

	£	10.63
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Debits

None

	£	-
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	£	-
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Balance at 4 March 2020:

	£	7,645.01
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Total Balance in Hand at 4 March 2020:

	£	31,816.36
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Payments to be authorised (4 March 2020).

Clerk's Salary (March) To be paid 1 April 2020	£	341.90
Office Expenses (February)	£	6.50
HMRC PAYE Month 12 (Due 5 April)	£	136.80

TOTAL:

	£	485.20
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b. The Council **resolved** that the Clerk's Salary be increased to SCP29 with effect from 1 April 2020 and that such an increase agrees with the FY2020/21 Budget provision.

c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised'. The Chairman tabled a letter from the Wessex Midsummer Vintage Show 2020 Committee seeking a donation from the Parish Council towards its Vintage Show. The Council **resolved** not to make a donation.

10. Highways.

The Council **resolved** to take no further action at present in respect of the Traffic Survey and steps to secure a lower speed limit (i.e. 20mph) in Semington. This view was prompted largely by the expressed views of parishioners.

11. Environment.

Councillors noted that the Litter Pick will take place on 14 March and those individuals taking part should meet at 10am, Village Hall.

The Clerk tabled the Wiltshire Council Green Infrastructure Survey Form for discussion. There

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ensued a lengthy discussion regarding the nature of this survey and how the views of parishioners are to be sought. Cllr. Scott agreed to complete the Survey Form on behalf of the Parish Council but would beforehand obtain extra copies of the form for distribution at the Village Hall Coffee Morning for parishioners to also offer their views and that he would make reference to this Survey on the Village website.

12. World War 2 – End of Hostilities Commemoration.

The Council **resolved** not to plant additional oak trees to commemorate the end of hostilities but it **resolved** that the deaths of the five local WW2 servicemen during that conflict and the one serviceman who died during the Korean War would be commemorated by the addition of a brass plaque recording their sacrifice to be placed on the Memorial Bench. It was agreed that Cllrs. Rimmer and Kasasian would decide on the appropriate wording for the plaque.

13. Footpaths.

The Chairman reported that the Ramblers Association members under the auspices of Wiltshire Council plus some parish councillors had cleared paths SEMI14 and SEMI17 in Semington as an ongoing project to clear/reopen existing Rights of Way in Semington and that he had personally thanked those involved. The Parish Council **resolved** that those involved should also be thanked by the Parish Council. The Chairman stated that he would take the necessary action. Cllr. Smyth stated that the Semington Footpath Survey Sheet had been updated accordingly.

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

- a. There were no matters raised.
- b. It was noted that a Traffic Survey would not be undertaken.

15. Wessex Close Play Areas.

a. The Council noted that Wiltshire Council had contributed £6000 towards the Play Area – as promised. The Council **resolved** that the Clerk takes action for the repair of the Tornado play equipment. Further discussions on the future of the Wessex Close Play Area was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

b. The Chairman, Cllr. Smyth, stated that there had been no response from parishioners to date regarding the establishment of a Community Group to promote and manage the Wessex Close Play Area. The Chairman asked the Clerk to place this matter on the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. Smith stated that he would be visiting St Georges School and to discuss the subject of Play Equipment with the Headteacher and with the PTA (Parent Teachers Association) in order to inform the various options available to the Parish Council. Cllr. Rimmer added that he was also intending to visit the school for discussions regarding the Play Area and the planting of trees at agreed sites in the village.

16. Semington Post Office.

Cllr. Oglesby reported that negotiations/discussions are continuing regarding the future of the Post Office. Cllr. Scott added that he and a number of parishioners had made representations to Post Office Ltd and, in his case, to the MP, Michelle Donnelan, regarding the importance of maintaining the Post Office at Semington.

17. Tennis Court.

The Chairman stated that a quotation for the repair of the boundary fence is still awaited.

18. Any Other Business.

There were no matters raised.

19. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted that the dates of the next Ordinary PC Meetings were 15 April 2020, 13 May 2020 (commencing at 7.30pm), 17 June 2020 and 15 July 2020.

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The meeting concluded at 10.05pm.

Cllr. P Smith
Acting Chairman
Semington Parish Council

20 May 2020

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ACTION TABLE 4/3/20						
Action Serial	Meeting Date Agenda Item	Completion Date	Actionee	Action	Progress	PCM 15/4/20 Agenda item
56 See Action 64	13/11/19 16	11/12/19	All Cllrs.	WW2 Anniversary commemorations	In Hand	TBA
60	11/12/19 18	8/1/20	Cllr. Wade	To obtain quotation - Tensioning Wires	In Hand	TBA
65	8/1/20 14	5/2/20	Clerk	To investigate Traffic Survey application.	Cancelled	TBA
67	5/2/20 15a	4/3/20	Cllr. Smith Cllr. Rimmer	To discuss St Georges Play Area with Headteacher	In Hand	TBA
68	4/3/20 15a	15/4/20	Clerk	To arrange repair of Tornado play equipment item,	In Hand	TBA
69	5/2/20 15b	4/3/20	Clerk	To apply to WC for Additional Funding (£6000)	Complete	
70	4/3/20 4	15/4/20	Cllr. Rimmer Cllr. Scott	To erect NHW signs	In Hand	TBA
71	4/3/20 8c	15/4/20	B Smyth	To progress WC Enforcement Action	In Hand	TBA
72	4/3/20 11	31/3/20	Cllr. Scott	To complete Green Infrastructure Survey Form	In Hand	TBA
73	12	15/4/20	Cllr. Rimmer Cllr. Kasasian	To agree wording for plaque.	In Hand	TBA