

# SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2015 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

### Present.

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

PCSO Helen Wilson of the Neighbourhood Policing Team attended (Part-time).

There was one member of the public present.

### **1. Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared.

### **2. Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllrs. K Lockwood, S Rimmer and from Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed.

### **3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 20 May 2015.**

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

### **4. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20 May 2015.**

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

### **5. Neighbourhood Policing.**

PCSO Helen Wilson reported the following:

There were no reported incidents in Semington. However, the following incidents have been reported in nearby villages:

- Keevil – Electric Fence energisers stolen together with some fencing.

PCSO Wilson stated that she has been making enquiries whether Community Speed Watch scheme could be extended or used to monitor and note vehicles ignoring the No Through Road sign at Semington. He added that she was awaiting a reply from her colleagues at Devizes Wiltshire Police Headquarters.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that there had been an instance of a bogus charity worker being sighted in the village and Cllr. Oglesby advised councillors that there is a scam being perpetrated in which parishioners have been identified as a Postcode Lottery Europe winners when such a lottery does not exist.

PCSO Wilson advised councillors of the 'Community Messaging' service at [www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk)

### **6. Adjournment.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for members of the public to speak. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

### **7. Wiltshire Council Report.**

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

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### 8. Planning.

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

15/02347/CLE	33 Littleton Willows	Residential Use (Certificate of Lawfulness)	Pending
15/03888/FUL	16 Church Street	Single storey extension to front with two storey extension to the rear and detached garage.	Pending

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

15/04491/FUL	St Georges Primary School	New path around Playing Field	New
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*The Parish Council supports this planning application.*

15/05428/FUL James Taylor	Lansdowne, Littleton	Alterations to an approved gypsy and traveller site to form 8 permanent traveller pitches and 4 transit pitches together with associated ancillary development.	NEW
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*The Parish Council objects to the planning application for the following reasons:*

- *This application does not conform to the Wiltshire Core Strategy.*
- *This application should not be considered by Wiltshire Council until all current planning conditions relating to previous planning approvals are met and existing enforcement orders are executed.*
- *The 'approved' plan submitted with the application does not show the current position because extant planning permissions and conditions have been ignored.*
- *Significant highway problems will be caused because existing passing places are to be made into site entrances. Additionally, the land proposed for these entrances is owned by Wiltshire Council and not the applicant.*
- *This proposed development represents overdevelopment of the site. The drawing scales on the drawings are different which give the appearance that there is more space on the site than actually exists.*
- *A bund was a requirement of the previous planning permission. This is not shown in the current planning application. It must be reinstated and built as required.*
- *The proposal for additional pitches represents a disproportionate increase in the number of pitches locally and, if the application is approved, the total number of gypsies/travellers living locally will change the character of Semington village.*
- *If this application is approved the total number of pitches in Semington would be twenty-two. This represents 20% of the allocation for the whole of Wiltshire in one small village. This is not sustainable and is inconsistent with the Wiltshire Core Strategy.*

c. There were no planning applications received after 8 June 2015.

d. The Council noted that Cllr. Scott had written to Wiltshire Council regarding existing developments at Greenacres and Lansdowne and that he was awaiting definitive replies to those enquiries.

### 9. Finance.

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

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Lloyds A/C 2149025

**SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Bank Statement	£	16,009.48
30 April 2015		

Total:	£	<b>16,009.48</b>
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**Credits (1 May 2015 to 31 May 2015):**

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 1	£	116.00
HMRC VAT Refund	£	633.67

Total:	£	<b>749.67</b>
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**Debits (1 May 2015 to 31 May 2015):**

Clerk's Salary (April)	£	290.94
HMRC PAYE Month 2	£	116.40
SWAS Defibrillator	£	1,600.00
Direct365 Defibrillator Cabinet	£	594.00
Clerk's Expenses (April)	£	24.88
Clerk's Office Allowance	£	125.00
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	£	36.00
Bobby Van Trust	£	50.00

Total:	£	<b>2,837.22</b>
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**Balance at 31 May 2015:**

£	<b>13,921.93</b>
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**Credits (1 June 2015 to 17 June 2015):**

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 2	£	116.40
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Total:	£	<b>116.40</b>
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**Debits (1 June 2015 to 17 June 2015):**

Clerk's Salary (May)	£	290.94
Internal Audit Fee	£	110.00
Carer Support	£	100.00

Total:	£	<b>500.94</b>
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**Balance at 17 June 2015:**

£	<b>13,537.39</b>
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**Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:**

£	<b>612.17</b>
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**Parish Council Balance at 17 June 2015:**

£	<b>12,925.22</b>
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**Lloyds A/C 7754288**

Bank Statement	£	7,597.12
30-Apr-15		

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## Credits

Interest	£	0.33
Interest (Approx)	£	0.31
	£	<b>0.64</b>

## Debits

None	£	-
	£	-

**Balance at 17 June 2015:**

	£	<b>7,597.76</b>
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## Credits

None	£	-
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## Debits

None

**Balance at 17 June 2015:**

	£	<b>7,597.76</b>
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Total Balance  
at 17 June  
2015

	£	<b>20,522.98</b>
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### Payments to be authorised (17 June 2015).

Clerk's Salary (June)	£	290.94
Clerk's Salary (July)	£	290.94
Office Expenses (May)	£	29.89
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 3)	£	116.40
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 4)	£	116.40
<b>TOTAL:</b>	£	<b>844.57</b>

### Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (17 June 2015).

Cloth Road Arts Trail		TBA
	£	-
<b>TOTAL:</b>	£	-

b. The Parish Council **resolved** that it would make a donation to the Cloth Road Arts Week to be held in 2016 and that the amount to be donated would be decided at a subsequent meeting. The Clerk was asked to inform the Cloth Road Artists Treasurer (Esme Howard) of this decision.

c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including a payment of £50 for the purchase of a lawnmower for Parish Council use to cut the grass at the Jubilee Wood and Ragged Smock Green.

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### 10. Defibrillator.

The Clerk stated that the defibrillator cabinet had been received but that it was defective and had been returned. He added that he was awaiting delivery of a replacement cabinet.

### 11. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Smyth reported that he had not had a meeting recently with the Highways and Streetscene Focal Point and that there did not appear to be any urgent tasks to report.

b. Cllr. Smyth reported that he had sent all the latest correspondence on the proposed Information Board – now correctly named ‘The Countryside Interpretation Board - to councillors prior to the Parish Council meeting. He explained that he had investigated various aspects of the proposed board - graphics, board construction, maps – and that he now intended to contact Melksham Without Parish Council to obtain information on the Information Board at Berryfields. The Council **resolved** that once a decision on the design of the Board had been agreed then the Parish Council would apply for a grant from the Area Board.

c. Cllr. Smyth presented a possible tree planting plan for the wide verge opposite to the crematorium. There ensued a lengthy discussion on the detail of this plan and on possible species of trees to be planted. Cllr. Smyth stated that ten trees would be required and that they would provide an impressive visual spectacle. The Council **resolved** that ten trees be purchased. Cllrs. Scott and Smyth stated that they wished to give further consideration to possible species of trees and their preferred maturity and cost. It was agreed that any tree planting should take place in the Autumn and that Wiltshire Council needed to be consulted prior to any decision being made regarding the planting.

d. There were no other matters reported.

### 12. Melksham Community Area Board/Community Area Transport Group Meetings.

There was nothing reported.

### 13. Wilts & Berks Canal.

a. Cllr. Smyth presented the proposed letter from the Parish Council to Paul Laenarts, the W&B Canal Trust (Melksham Link Project Manager) and to Jock MacKenzie, the Marlix International BV Consultant that offered comments in respect of the proposed Melksham Link and associated developments.

Councillors discussed the contents of this letter and **resolved** that it be sent as drafted. The Chairman thanked Cllrs. Scott and Smyth for drafting the letter.

b. The Council **resolved** that parishioners are to be advised that any correspondence on this subject from them is to be addressed to Paul Laenarts and Jock MacKenzie with a copy sent to Wiltshire Council and the Parish Council.

### 14. Tennis Court.

It was reported that the bottom of the net at the tennis court was fraying and may need replacement. Councillors agreed to investigate this report and to report back at the next meeting.

### 15. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Wade asked that the Village Hall Management Committee be requested to provide a Wifi internet connection at the Village Hall.

### 16. Date of Next Meeting.

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

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 29 July 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 16 September 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 14 October 2015 at 8pm.

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Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 11 November 2015 at 8pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 16 December 2015 at 8pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.05pm.

R Oglesby  
Chairman, Semington Parish Council