

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2015 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

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

There was one member of the public present initially.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Cllr. S Rimmer, Cllr. R Robinson and from PCSO Helen Wilson of the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

2. Co-option of New Member.

This item was deferred until the Parish Council meeting to be held in October.

3. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared.

4. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 29 July 2015.

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

5. Neighbourhood Policing.

PCSO Helen Wilson sent the Clerk a written report that is reproduced here (in italics).

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23/08/2015 – RTC - The RP has lost control of his vehicle and has collided with a bus stop at the side of the road causing damage to one panel.

14/08/2015 - 23/08/2015 - Burglary - Unknown persons have gained entry via secure back window, searched whole house and attic and left drawers open.

02/09/2015 – RTC - 2 Vehicle non injury RTC.

10/09/2015 – RTC - Driver of veh 2 was in right hand lane on roundabout when he was "cut up" by lorry causing damage to his wing mirror and scratches to front and rear of passenger front wheel arch. Driver of veh 1 failed to stop but driver of veh 2 followed the lorry flashing his lights and blowing his horn until the lorry (veh 1) pulled over. The driver of veh 1 denied hitting veh 2 and refused to exchange details with driver of veh 2.

The Chairman reported that volunteers are being sought to monitor and to report vehicles ignoring the No Through Road sign at the northern end of the village.

Cllr. Wade reported that there had been a burglary in the village and jewellery was taken.

6. Adjournment.

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

Mr Ray Heard presented the completed Semington Memorial Book for councillors to examine.

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Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

7. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed gave a report on the following topics:

- Habitats Regulations Assessment of 14th Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round (Fracking) Consultation, Licence Application Block ST84 – Ecology Study.
- Planning application 15/08789/FUL (Lansdowne).
- Community Governance Review.

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
15/05678/FUL	Aidans Filed Farm, Devizes Road	Erection of temporary mobile home	Approved

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

15/08789/FUL	Lansdowne, Littleton, Semington	Alterations to an approved gypsy and traveller site from 5 approved pitches to 7 together with associated ancillary development (amendment to 13/06123/FUL)	New
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The Parish Council has no objections to this proposed development subject to the imposition of the following conditions:

- *There are to be NO fires on the site.*
- *There is to be NO commercial activity on the site.*
- *There is to be NO commercial waste on the site.*

Please Note:

The scale of the proposed layout is misleading. The mobile homes shown on the proposed layout are approx 3/4 the length of the ones on the approved layout.

c. The Council noted the Community Governance Review and that there were no proposed changes to the boundaries of Semington Civil Parish.

d. Councillors commented that there had been correspondence sent by parishioners to those responsible for the Melksham Link and related developments. Cllr. Scott stated that the Parish Council needed to remain alert and vigilant to these developments and their likely effect on Semington. The Chairman agreed with this sentiment and added that he was deliberately keeping Parish Council involvement in this issue at arm's length for the time being until firm plans were developed for fear of the Parish Council being accused of prejudice by commenting on embryonic plans for various development options. Councillors also commented on the proposal to provide a base for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance on the outskirts of Semington and its relationship to the Melksham Link development. Councillors argued that in view of the proposed developments it was very important to protect and to retain the existing No Through Road restriction at the northern end of the village and that Clerk was asked to write to Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Air Ambulance and Melksham Without Parish Council expressing the following sentiments (in italics):

'Semington Parish Council and the parishioners of Semington greatly value the existing No Through Road traffic restriction at the northern end of the village and consider that it is very

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Chairman's Signature _____

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important to protect and to retain this facility. The Parish Council requests that you take into account the Wiltshire Air Ambulance proposal for a base immediately to the north of Semington and that any entrances to it or to the proposed Marina (and any related developments) and their impact on the No Through Road restriction. Semington Parish Council asks you to ensure that the No Through Road restriction commences just to the north of the Newtown Farm entrance and, as discussed with representatives from the Wiltshire Air Ambulance, this traffic restriction is to be enforced with a set of bollards that rise and fall thereby allowing the passage of authorized traffic only.'

9. Finance.

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

Semington Parish Council - Financial Statement at 16 September 2015

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement 30 June 2015	£	13,391.10
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Total:	£	13,391.10
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Credits (1 July 2015 to 31 July 2015):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 3	£	116.40
HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 4	£	116.40

Total:	£	232.80
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Debits (1 July 2015 to 31 July 2015):

Clerk's Salary (June)	£	290.94
HMRC PAYE Month 3	£	116.40
L Hiscocks	£	50.00

Total:	£	457.34
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Balance at 31 July 2015:

£	13,166.56
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Credits (1 August 2015 to 31 August 2015):

HMRC PAYE (R P Coleman) Month 5	£	116.40
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Total:	£	116.40
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Debits (1 August 2015 to 31 August 2015):

Clerk's Salary (July)	£	290.94
Clerk's Expenses (June)	£	40.97
External Audit Fee	£	120.00
HMRC PAYE Month 5	£	116.40
Village Hall Hire	£	450.00

Total:	£	1,018.31
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Balance at 31 August 2015:

£	12,264.65
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Credits (1 September 2015 to 16 September 2015):

None		£	-
	Total:	£	-

Debits (1 September 2015 to 16 September 2015):

Clerk's Salary (August)		£	290.94
	Total:	£	290.94

Balance at 16 September 2015:

	£	11,973.71
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Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

	£	612.17
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Parish Council Balance at 16 September 2015:

	£	11,361.54
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Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement 31-May-15		£	7,597.45
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Credits

09- Jun	Interest		£	0.30
11- Jul	Interest (Approx)		£	0.31
11- Aug	Interest (Approx)		£	0.31
11- Sep	Interest (Approx)		£	0.31
			£	1.23

Debits

None		£	-
		£	-

Balance at 16 September 2015:

	£	7,598.68
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Total Balance in hand at 16 September 2015:

	£	18,960.22
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Payments to be authorised (16 September 2015).

Clerk's Salary (September)		£	290.94
Office Expenses (July)		£	13.96
Office Expenses (August)		£	5.99
Ray Heard (Memorial Book)		£	118.71
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 6)		£	116.40

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TOTAL:

£	546.00
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Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (16 September 2015).

St Georges PCC

£ 500.00

£ -

TOTAL:

£	500.00
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- b. Council **resolved** to make a donation of £500 to St Georges PCC.
- c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above. The Council further **resolved** that three A3 sized Semington Memorial Books be purchased at a cost of £55 (approximately) each; one for the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, one for the Crematorium and one for the major donor to the Memorial Fund.

10. Defibrillator.

- a. The Chairman stated that the defibrillator training will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 12 October 2015.
- b. This item was addressed under Agenda item 8d above.

11. Highways/Environment.

- a. Cllr. Smyth reported that Community Days and the Parish Steward Scheme have ceased owing to funding limitations at Wiltshire Council and that requests for work to be undertaken have now to be reported via an 'app' or by telephone or use of the Wiltshire Council website. He added that all requests will be prioritised by Wiltshire Council and dealt with accordingly. Cllr. Smyth agreed to co-ordinate requests if required. He considered that Semington would be worse off as a result of the new procedures.
- b. Discussions and decisions relating to the Information Board were deferred until the next meeting when it was anticipated that Cllr. Robinson would be present. Meanwhile, councillors agreed that an informal meeting of interested councillors should take place prior to the next Parish Council meeting and Cllr. Lockwood offered to obtain A2 size prints of the proposed Information Board.
- c. The 'tree planting plan' for the wide verge opposite to the crematorium was discussed and it was confirmed that a site visit had taken place. It was agreed that trees and shrubs should be chosen for their ability to create colour. The Clerk commented that it is likely that a s96 Licence from Wiltshire Council would be required before planting could commence and councillors agreed to contact Cllr. Rimmer to discuss this matter.
- d. The Chairman stated that he had recently attended a meeting to review the existing bus services and how they would be affected in view of the subsidy reduction by Wiltshire Council. He gave a summary of the proceedings of that meeting and stated that no decisions had yet been made by Wiltshire Council and the Bus companies involved but some rural bus services were likely to be withdrawn or significantly reduced.

Cllr. Oglesby stated that he had received a number of requests from parishioners for allotment spaces and he passed these details to Cllr. Smyth. The Chairman enquired whether there had been progress on the request to install white lines at Pound Lane in order to restrict or to deter car parking. The Clerk replied that nothing had been heard.

Clerk's Note.

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Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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During the report by Cllr. Seed he had advised that any such requests must go via the CATG and that the Parish Council must be prepared to part-fund their installation.

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

There was nothing reported.

13. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

14. Tennis Court.

Cllr. Lockwood reported that it was in good order with the exception that the bottom of the net was fraying – as reported previously.

15. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Smyth reported the following:

- The Defibrillator Box is a Parish Council asset and needs to be covered by the Insurance Policy.
- Cllr. Rimmer has secured a Christmas Tree for the village but arrangements need to be made for its removal and transportation.
- A local firm has shown an interest in sponsoring the roundabout. Cllr. Smyth was advised that the applicant has the responsibility for applying for a s96 Licence from Wiltshire Council.
- Grass cutting of the Jubilee Wood grass is now being undertaken by Cllrs. Rimmer and Smyth. Councillors expressed their thanks to Les Hiscock who had been undertaking this task to date.
- Hedge cutting – Village Hall path. Discussion on this subject was deferred until the next meeting.
- The St Georges PCC has given notice that it no longer wishes to rent the field – the owner is Salisbury Diocese. Councillors commented that it could be ideal as an allotment plot. This matter was deferred until the next meeting.
- Notice has been given that the Semington Bypass (A350) is to be closed for carriageway repairs to be undertaken.

The Clerk reported that a Freedom of Information request from Andrew Grant had been satisfied.

Councillors requested that 'Review of the Website' be included as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

16. Date of Next Meeting.

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

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

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 11 November 2015 at 8pm – **To be confirmed.**

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

The meeting concluded at 10.05pm.

R Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council