

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

There was one member of the public present initially.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from PCSO Helen Wilson of the Community Policing Team and from Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed.

2. Declaration of Interests.

The Clerk drew the attention of councillors to the Semington Code of Conduct – Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 and the requirement to disclose pecuniary interests.

There were no interests declared.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 25 May 2016.

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 25 May 2016.

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

5. Community Policing.

PCSO Helen Wilson had sent the Clerk a written report before the meeting and her report is reproduced here in italics:

Melksham NPT have had a few changes within the last year seeing our Police Sgt James Williams move on in January 2016 to take a post in Custody. His role has been filled by PC Kane Fulbrook Smith who is acting in the Sgts role. Insp Armstrong has been replaced by Insp MAWSON. However the rest of the PCs and PCSOS have remained the same.

It is no secret that the nature of front line policing is seeing an overhaul and Melksham is in line to be incorporated in to these changes. What does this mean to the future of NPT and the policing of Melksham?

In Trowbridge and Warminster they have ran a trial Community Policing Team project A Community Policing Team pilot has been taking place in the Trowbridge and Warminster area since 14 September 2015.

Initial evaluation has suggested that the Community Policing pilot could deliver a more efficient, effective and streamlined service to the public through a 'one team' approach to policing local areas. As we continue to move through a period of unprecedented austerity, it is ever more important that we are innovative and creative in the way we provide our policing services within the county.

The pilot was built upon 18 months of data gathering which included a large element of public consultation. During this consultation the public told us they saw the role of Wiltshire Police as 'to

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keep me safe and protect my community' through local, community based visible and accessible policing services – upon which the pilot model was built.

Neighbourhood policing is a core part of our proposed Community Policing Teams. Local officers will be policing local communities – dealing with local issues. The introduction of larger Community Policing Teams means that we would be broadening the size of local teams to include our response officers and investigators giving the public a more visible and accessible police presence in their local areas. Supporting this would be the development of a model in the control room to assist with decision making.

By introducing a Community Policing concept, we anticipate that this will deliver an even better service to the public because issues can potentially be resolved at the first point of contact (101 and 999 call-takers). A member of public will be provided with a named officer who they will be able to keep in touch with during the investigation.

It has been suggested that Melksham NPT will be incorporated in to this Community Policing Team later this year and A/Sgt Fulbrook-Smith and Insp Mawson have planned meetings with the Inspector on the Community Policing team, where they have listed all the current commitments, meetings, action groups, parish councils that NPT have involvement in with the aim in allow a smooth transition of Melksham NPT officers linking in with the Community Policing Team without losing any service to Melksham itself. It is expected that the current NPT officers in Melksham who have a wealth of local knowledge will be evenly distributed among the Community Policing Teams so that Melksham still has that local officer knowledge Policing the area.

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People First Honesty & Integrity Teamwork Professionalism Personal Responsibility

The Clerk tabled a questionnaire issued by the Community Policing Coordinator for Trowbridge and Bradford on Avon and invited the Council to provide a response, although commenting that it did not apply currently to the Melksham Area (including Semington). The Parish Council **resolved** to send the following response to Wiltshire Police:

- The Parish Council wishes to see only the PC or PCSO who covers the Semington area but failing this, the Parish Council wishes to see any PC or PCSO attend the meeting.
- Cllr. Smyth reported that the 'No Entry Watch' scheme appears to be working well with a noticeable reduction in the number of vehicles ignoring the prohibition.

6. Adjournment.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for members of the public to raise any matters of interest.

There were no matters raised.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

7. Wiltshire Council Report.

In the absence of Cllr. Seed, there was no report.

8. Planning.

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

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15/12704/FUL	29 High Street	Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation	Approved
16/00054/LBC	29 High Street	Conversion of outbuilding to create ancillary (annexe) accommodation	Approved
16/01678/OUT	Land at St Georges Road	Erection of up to 24 dwellings with associated access and parking and land for allotments (Reserved matters: Access.	Pending

b. The Council examined the following planning application and resolved to send the comments to Wiltshire Council, shown in italics:

16/04513/FUL Katie Yeoman	Fairfields, Devizes Road	Single Storey Side Extension	New
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The Parish Council has no objections to this proposed development.

c. There were no planning applications relating to Semington received after 8 June 2016.

d. The Council noted that negotiations in respect of a s106 Agreement were currently taking place in respect of planning application 16/01678/OUT prior to its determination and that a recent further archeological survey on the proposed development site had been undertaken by Hannick Homes that revealed nothing of interest that needed protection.

The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Seed to enquire whether the Great Leas field site had now been included in the SHLAA planning document. There ensued a lengthy discussion on the possible development by Richborough Estates and concern was expressed by councillors regarding the historical problems regarding sewage disposal and the adequacy of the existing drainage system that would need to be utilised if the proposed Richborough Estates development went ahead. The Clerk was asked to write to Wessex Water to enquire what steps have been taken to ameliorate the current problem and to seek advice regarding the existing capacity of the drainage system to handle additional demand.

e. There were no other planning matters.

9. Finance.

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

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement 30 April 2016	£	15,282.42
Total:	£	15,282.42

Credits (1 May 2016 to 31 May 2016):

HMRC PAYE Month 2	£	116.40
HMRC VAT Refund	£	385.67
Total:	£	502.07

Debits (1 May 2016 to 31 May 2016):

Clerk's Salary (April)	£	290.94
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Clerk's Expenses (March)	£	38.97
HMRC PAYE Month 2	£	116.00
Zurich Insurance	£	705.87
Internal Audit	£	100.00
S Rimmer (Lock)	£	29.99

Total: **£ 1,281.77**

Balance at 31 May 2016:

£ 14,502.72

Credits (1 June 2016 to 15 June 2016):

None £ -

Total: **£ -**

Debits (1 June 2016 to 15 June 2016):

Clerk's Salary (May)	£	290.94
Clerk's Expenses (May)	£	14.37
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	£	36.00
Bobby Van Trust	£	50.00
Filcris Ltd (Information Boards)	£	1,385.40

Total: **£ 1,776.71**

Balance at 15 June 2016:

£ 12,726.01

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

£ 375.99

Parish Council Balance at 15 June 2016:

£ 14,126.73

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement £ 7,600.58
31-Mar-16

Credits

Interest	£	0.34
Interest	£	0.29
Interest (Approx)	£	0.30
	£	0.93

Debits

None £ -

£ -

Balance at 15 June 2016:

£ 7,601.51

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Total Balance in Hand at 15 June 2016:

£	21,728.24
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Payments to be authorised (15 June 2016).

Clerk's Salary (June)	£	290.94
Office Expenses (May)	£	17.82
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 3)	£	116.40
TOTAL:	£	425.16

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (15 June 2016).

None	£	-
	£	-
TOTAL:	£	-

Cllr. Wade reported that he had received a cheque for £27.09 from the HMCTS Lancashire Fines Office as a first payment of compensation of £442.50 in respect of the initial loss the Parish Council had suffered as a result of the scam when ordering Jubilee Mugs in 2012. He understood that the person – a C Pickering - responsible for the fraud had now been convicted and this was the compensation for the loss being paid by him. Cllr. Wade commented that since Zurich Municipal had reimbursed the Parish Council with the full amount lost (£531) any monies received in compensation should now be paid to Zurich Municipal. The Parish Council **resolved** that this initial amount (£27.09) and any other compensation received should be paid to Zurich Municipal. The Clerk was asked to contact Zurich Municipal and to establish the necessary arrangements for reimbursing Zurich Municipal.

Clerk's Note:

Zurich Municipal confirmed that when a significant sum (undefined) had been received in compensation by the Parish Council then the Parish Council is to contact Zurich Municipal Recovery Team (Owen Thackeral 01252 387667) to arrange payment.

b. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above. The Council **resolved** to make the following additional payments – Office Allowance to the Clerk (£125), a contribution to the flowers purchased in respect of the Queen's Birthday celebrations (£100) and £14 for the hire of a room at Melksham Town Hall for the meeting with Richborough Estates representatives.

10. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Smyth reported that there are three areas in the village where hedges overhang the footway and needed cutting back – Pound Lane, Village Hall footpath and one by the school. He added that those responsible for the hedges are to be contacted. In respect of the overgrown hedge alongside the Village Hall, councillors commented that residents had agreed to keep that hedge trimmed once the major work of reducing its height had been undertaken. The Council **resolved** that if there is no action by the residents then the Council would consider removing that hedge altogether.

b. The Clerk confirmed that the two Information Boards had been manufactured and would be delivered to Cllr. Robinson this Friday (17 June). The Council reaffirmed its earlier decision that the preferred location for the second Information Board was adjacent to the site normally occupied by the Christmas Tree and that it would be located next to the existing seat, close to the path. Cllr.

16 June 2016

Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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Robinson presented the plan for the assembly and installation of the Information Boards and it was agreed that that a Working Party would undertake this work and the Council **resolved** that a maximum of £250 be spent on their installation.

The Parish Council **resolved** that permanent fixings e.g. shackles be provided and installed for affixing the support ropes for the Christmas tree.

c. Cllr. Scott reported that he had walked the local footpaths with a representative from the Ramblers Association in order to establish any necessary remedial work. He stated that the representative noted a number of issues that he considered needed attention and that he would provide a written report to Cllr. Scott for presentation to the Parish Council. Cllr. Scott commented that work on the stile at the bottom of Pound Lane that was to be undertaken by the Ramblers association was now unnecessary but the path between the crematorium and the travellers' camp had been identified as needing attention and would be undertaken by the Ramblers Association.

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

It was noted that the Area Board meeting was being held tonight (15 June).

Cllr. Robinson stated that he would be contacting Cllr. Seed in respect of the need for a safe pedestrian crossing near to the roundabout on the A361 road and that he intended to pursue it via the CATG.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

13. Tennis Court.

There was nothing reported except that the net appeared to be usable although a little frayed at the bottom and that the hedge alongside the tennis court was badly overgrown and needed cutting back.

14. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Rimmer stated that it was necessary to give some thought to the acquisition of the Christmas tree and that a notice in the Newsletter would highlight the matter.

Cllr. Oglesby reported that there is an Open Day at the Independent Living Centre on 6 July.

Cllr. Smyth reported that Janet Sweetman of 'Dementia Aware' has started to attend the Coffee Mornings and that her presence was very welcomed.

Cllr. Smyth reported that the recent Cream Tea and Treasure Hunt was very successful and on behalf of the Parish Council he thanked everyone who was involved.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the date of the next meetings thus:

- 20 July 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.
- 14 September 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.
- 12 October 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.55pm.

R A Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

20 July 2016