

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

Wiltshire Council, Cllr. J Seed attended.

There were six members of the public present initially.

1. **Apologies.**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillors K Lockwood and P Smith.

2. **Declaration of Interests.**

There were no interests declared.

3. **Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14 September 2016.**

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

4. **Community Policing.**

In the absence of a representative from the Community Policing Team, no report was given.

5. **Adjournment.**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

The Chairman introduced representatives from Wiltshire Air Ambulance who gave a situation report regarding the planning application to locate the Air Ambulance at Semington.

The Chairman reconvened the Parish Council meeting.

6. **Wiltshire Council Report.**

Cllr. Seed gave a brief report on the following topics:

- None of the four licences available for 'fracking' in Wiltshire have been taken up.
- The Planning Inspector has refused permission for the Shurnold development (Planning application 14/11919/OUT) and this decision may well influence the decisions regarding the proposed large scale residential developments in Semington.
- Planning application 16/05783/OUT (the Richborough development) has been refused by Wiltshire Council.

The Parish Council **resolved** to thank Cllr. Seed for the support that he had given the Parish Council and the parishioners of Semington in respect of Planning application 16/05783/OUT.

7. **Planning.**

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

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
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16/05783/OUT	Land to the North of Pound Lane	The erection of 75 dwellings including 30% affordable homes, with ancillary public open space and play areas and access from Pound Lane (Outline Application relating to access).	Refused
16/06564/OUT	Land North of 554 Canal Bridge	Outline application relating to access – Erection of two detached dwellings and new access.	Pending
16/06956/OUT	Land North of St George's Road	Outline Application – All Matters Reserved (Residential development of up to 72 units)	Pending

b. There were no planning applications relating to Semington received after 5 October 2016.

c. The Parish Council **resolved** to express its thanks to all the parishioners who had contributed to the debate in respect of Planning application 16/05783/OUT by sending comments to Wiltshire Council.

Cllr. Scott gave the background to the application for Great Lees Field to be registered as a Village Green. He stated that public notices had been displayed inviting the public to notify Wiltshire Council of any objections to this proposal and that the Parish Council had been invited also to make any representations. There ensued a discussion on this subject and the Council **resolved** that it fully supported the application and that it had no objections to Great Lees Field being registered as a Village Green. Cllr. Scott abstained from the vote. Cllr. Scott added that a further application for Rights of Way to be established on Great Lees Field, and the field immediately to the west of it, was refused by Wiltshire Council.

8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 12 October 2016 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	11,330.73
31 August 2016		
Total:	£	11,330.73

Credits (1 September 2016 to 30 September 2016):

C Wade	£	27.09
HMRC PAYE Month 5	£	116.40
Wiltshire Council Precept (Part)	£	5,999.99
Total:	£	6,143.48

Debits (1 September 2016 to 30 September 2016):

Clerk's Salary (August)	£	290.94
Clerk's Expenses (July)	£	21.01
Clerk's Expenses (August)	£	16.38
HMRC PAYE Month 5	£	116.40
Village Hall Hire	£	450.00
R Robinson (Information Boards)	£	166.13
Total:	£	1,060.86

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Balance at 30 September 2016:

	£ 16,413.35
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Credits (1 October 2016 to 12 October 2016):

None

	£ -
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Total:

	£ -
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Debits (1 October 2016 to 12 October 2016):

Clerk's Salary (September)

	£ 290.94
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Total:

	£ 290.94
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Balance at 12 October 2016:

	£ 16,122.41
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Credits (1 October 2016 to 12 October 2016):

None

	£ -
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Total:

	£ -
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Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

	£ 375.99
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Parish Council Balance at 12 October 2016:

	£ 15,746.42
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Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement

31-May-16

	£ 7,601.21
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Credits

Interest

	£ 0.32
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Interest (Approx)

	£ 0.30
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Interest (Approx)

	£ 0.28
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Interest (Approx)

	£ 0.26
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Interest (Approx)

	£ 0.25
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	£ 1.41
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Debits

None

	£ -
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	£ -
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Balance at 12 October 2016:

	£ 7,602.62
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Total Balance in Hand at 12 October 2016:£	23,349.04
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Payments to be authorised (12 October 2016).

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Clerk's Salary (October)	£	290.94
Office Expenses (September)	£	19.17
R P Coleman HMRC/PAYE (Month 6)	£	116.40
TOTAL:	£	426.51

b. The Clerk reported that he had received the completed Annual Return for FY2015/16 from the External Auditor confirming that all matters were satisfactory and added that there were no matters that had to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council. He presented the Annual Return to the Chairman and Council to confirm this fact. On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked the Clerk for his conscientiousness.

c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including a donation of £500 to St Georges PCC.

9. Allotments.

The Council **resolved** that the proposed Management Committee for the allotments should comprise no more than four or five persons and that one of those persons is to be a Semington parish councillor. The Council further **resolved** that the Parish Council representative is to be Cllr. Wade. The Council decided that approval of planning application 16/01678/OUT and the consequent signing of the s106 Agreement would signal the need to commence the planning of the allotment gardens, their management and the respective tenancies. Cllr. Wade stated that, meanwhile, he would establish the names of likely tenants.

10. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Smyth stated that occupants of The Turnpike had cut back the overgrown vegetation in order to improve the visibility for motorists and pedestrians.

b. The Council noted that it had received a petition from a number of signatories in respect of car parking in High Street and councillors commented that at certain times of the week the number of cars parking in High Street do cause problems. The Council **resolved** that highway issues, including parking, are a matter for Wiltshire Council and the Clerk was asked to refer the matter, including the petition, to Wiltshire Council Highways Department.

c. Cllr. Wade reported that there had been a three car road traffic incident recently near to the crematorium in which one car was a 'write-off' and another was badly damaged. The Chairman reminded councillors that a record should be kept of all such accidents in order to demonstrate that additional safety measures were required for the A361 road. Cllr. Robinson agreed to keep such a record.

Cllr. Rimmer reported that he was still seeking a Christmas tree but, so far, without success. The Council resolved that a maximum of £250 be spent in acquiring such a tree and transporting it to Semington.

The Council **resolved** to thank Martin Costello for cutting back part of the hedge that runs alongside the footpath by the Village Hall.

Councillors commented that it appeared that only a short stretch of the A361 was resurfaced recently and that the limited work undertaken hardly justified closing the entire road between the roundabouts.

The Chairman stated that the red telephone box Semington was, according to British Telecom, surplus to requirements and that the Parish Council may wish to consider purchasing it and using it as a community facility. The Clerk was asked to contact British Telecom and to make enquiries.

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

There was nothing reported.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

The Clerk confirmed that he had made representations to the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group regarding representation on the Steering Group by Semington Parish Council and that was waiting for a further reply from the Chairman.

Cllr. Scott reiterated his view that such representation was essential and the Clerk was asked to pursue this matter.

13. Tennis Court.

Councillors reported that the hedge/brambles at the Tennis Court were very overgrown and required cutting back. Cllr. Robinson offered to inspect the hedge/brambles and to propose a solution.

14. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Rimmer reported that the Parish Council lawnmower had developed a fault and needed a repair. He agreed to make enquiries locally for someone with the necessary knowledge and skills.

Cllr. Smyth advised councillors of the inspection regime for the defibrillator to ensure that it remains in a serviceable condition.

Cllr. Scott reported that a number of parishioners had approached him to offer thanks to the Parish Council for the leadership it had shown regarding recent planning applications.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the date of the next meeting thus:

- 23 November 2016, commencing at 8pm – Ordinary PC Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.55pm.

R A Oglesby
Chairman, Semington Parish Council

23 November 2016