

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

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

There were no members of the public present.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Councillor P Smith and from PCSO Ledbury.

2. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared by councillors.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 21 February 2018.

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

4. Community Policing.

PCSO Ledbury had sent a written report to the Clerk prior to the meeting that the Clerk had sent to all councillors. This report was a general report but included content specific to Semington and nearby villages that is reproduced below (in italics).

CRIME EXCEPTIONS

These figures are based on an evaluation of data, over a two year rolling period. Using this data we can predict what figure is the average that should be reported in a specific month, and what are the higher and lower parameters that we may expect. Figures outside of these parameters are classed as 'Crime Exceptions'.

*ED12 (Shaw, Whitley, Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Beanacre, Bowerhill, Berryfields)
February 2018 showed 23 crimes for this Beat Area against the average of 30.1 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within the data.
The three largest crime groups accounted for 87% of ED12 crime as follows;*

*Theft showed 9 crimes compared to the average of 7.8
Violence Against the person showed 6 crimes compared to the average of 11.2
Criminal Damage showed 5 crimes compared to the average of 6.7*

*ED13 (Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Keevil, Semington, Great Hinton, Steeple Ashton)
February 2018 showed 11 reported crimes across this Beat area against the average of 9.5 for this same month over the last 2 years. There are no exceptions within this data.
The three largest crime groups accounted for 72% of ED13 crime as follows;
Violence Against the person showed 4 crimes compared to the average of 3.6
Theft showed 3 crimes compared to the average of 3.6
Public order Offences showed 1 compared to the average of 1.5*

BURGLARY ARRESTS UPDATE

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Officers are investigating a series of burglaries in Trowbridge, Melksham, Bradford on Avon and Westbury areas which have all occurred in the last few weeks. In the majority of the burglary cases, offenders have entered a property via an insecurity (mainly the front door) or able to obtain front door/car keys via access through the letterbox

As a result, 4 males, 3 of them juveniles, were arrested on the 27th February in connection to the investigation. The CTT (Community Tasking Team) took on responsibility for coordinating the investigation. The update so far;

Two teenagers have been charged following a series of arrests relating to car key burglaries in west Wiltshire.

A 17-year-old from Warminster has been charged with aggravated taking a vehicle without consent, driving while disqualified and driving without insurance. He has been bailed and is due to appear at Salisbury Youth Court next month. He was also arrested on suspicion of burglary and has been released on conditional bail pending further enquiries.

A 17-year-old from Trowbridge has been charged with aggravated taking a vehicle without consent. He has been bailed and is due to appear at Salisbury Youth Court next month. He was also arrested on suspicion of burglary and has been released on conditional bail pending further enquiries.

A 16-year-old and 19-year-old, both from Trowbridge, who were arrested on suspicion of burglary, have been released on conditional bail.

WEEKLY TASKING MEETING

Inspector Andy Fee chairs a weekly internal “tasking meeting” where emerging community issues and concerns are raised and discussed for the whole West Wiltshire CPT area. From this meeting, priorities and actions are set and a tasking document produced. This involves developing strategies and the targeting of resources (including partner agencies) into tackling the issue or concern.

Currently there are no specific priorities highlighted for the Melksham rural area, however the general focus is for burglary, particularly Dwelling Burglary. Following several reports of confirmed and attempt burglaries in the wider West Wiltshire. Both high visibility and plain clothes patrols have been taking place during night time hours. This has led to a significant result as documented above

CSW - COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Every 2 weeks, 4 Community Speedwatch Schemes across West Wiltshire are selected by Leanne Homewood for CPT support (additional targeting, enforcement and patrols) to supplement the CSW team sessions. These are included in our weekly tasking document for action and update.

Currently there are no Melksham rural CSW schemes selected at this time.

OTHER INFORMATION

Police are still appealing for information following a report of a dog worrying sheep in Seend. On 12th Feb a large dark collie/German Shepherd type dog killed a Ewe that was carrying twins. Both the twins also died. Another sheep had to be rescued from a ditch but survived. Any information calls 101 and quote crime reference 54180013877

Poulshot

Report for February 2018

No reports

Bulkington

Report for February 2018

6th Non Injury RTC

6th Non Injury RTC on the Bridge.

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Keevil

Report for February 2018

- 1st Un-licenced pedlars in Keevil
6th Non-Injury RTC Keevil

Steeple Ashton

Report for February 2018

- 1st Stolen vehicle found in Steeple Ashton
22nd Report of large group of youths attacking an unknown male in the village playing field,

Great Hinton

Report for February 2018

No reports

Semington

Report for February 2018

- 5th Between the 2nd and the 5th a theft of a black tractor bucket TVO £1800 and a yellow striped tractor weight TVO £2500 were stolen from the Council depot.

Seend

Report for February 2018

- 3rd Suspicious male trying car doors in the early hours. Seend Cleeve
7th FTS RTC on A361 Seend. Wing mirror damaged.
9th/11th Lead piping stolen from a house in Seend.
12th Sheep attacked by unknown local dog causing the death of a ewe carrying two lambs which also died.
24th An illegal Hunt was reported at Sells Green, officers attended and spoke with huntsman. No evidence found to support the claim.
24th Report of a disturbance at The Barge INN
25th Road rage incident at Spout Lane, Seend

COMMUNITY MESSAGING

PLEASE SIGN UP! Community messaging to receive regular emails regarding crime updates, crime prevention advice and public appeals specific for your area. - <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

For a detailed breakdown of the crime in your area visit...

<https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/>

CONTACT US

THE CPT TEAM EMAIL - CPTWestWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Local Contact - PCSO Maggie Ledbury – maggie.ledbury@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Sector Inspector – Inspector Andy Fee – andy.fee@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Sector Deputy – Sergeant Gill Hughes – gill.hughes@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Community Coordinator – Pc Lee Pelling – lee.pelling@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Cllr. Smyth reported that a small copse had been felled at the Lansdowne site. During the subsequent Wiltshire Council Report, Cllr. Seed reported that the Wiltshire Council Enforcement Officer had been informed and that an officer from the team had inspected the site. A report was awaited. Cllr. Seed stated that he would keep the Parish Council informed.

The Chairman advised councillors that the Neighbourhood Policing AGM is to be held at Devizes on 7 July 2018.

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Cllr. Smyth stated that there had been an increase in the number of vehicles flouting the Bus Gate in recent months – twenty in January and thirty-two in February – and these numbers were obtained during the very limited patrol periods. The actual daily number would be very much higher. He commented that more disturbing were the number of parishioners ignoring the Bus Gate restrictions and that if left unchallenged, the benefit of the Bus Gate for the villagers of Semington would be lost. He added that the figures obtained so far for March emphasized this concern.

5. Adjournment.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the members of the public to raise any matters of interest and in the absence of a member of the public he immediately reconvened the Parish Council meeting.

6. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed gave a report on the following topics:

Salt Depot.

Wiltshire Council has indicated that it intends to retain this site and not to dispose of it. These sentiments accorded with the formal reply from Wiltshire Council received following the Parish Council letter to Wiltshire Council enquiring about the future of the site.

General Data Protection Regulations.

The new regulations that are to come into force on 25 May 2018 would be very onerous and burdensome to small parish councils and Wiltshire Council and the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils continue to work together to obtain clarification of this legislation. Additionally, the Leader of the Council, Baroness Scott, was raising this issue at Central Government level with the ministers involved and in the House of Lords. Meanwhile, the advice from Cllr. Seed was for the Parish Councils to take no action pending this clarification.

Planning.

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

18/01803/FUL	27 The Orchard	Two storey extension to side incorporating existing garage	NEW
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The Parish Council has no objections to this proposed development.

b. There were no planning applications received after 12 March 2018.

c. The Clerk reported that he had not yet received any correspondence from the Leader of the Council, Baroness Scott, regarding the failure of Cllr. Sturgis to engage with the Parish Council. The Council **resolved** that if no response is received within two weeks then the Clerk is to make a formal complaint to Wiltshire Council.

d. Cllr. Wade enquired about the status of the Hannick Homes proposed development and commented that he understood that Hannick Homes was still discussing the details of the development with Wiltshire Council. The Clerk was asked to contact Hannick Homes for an update on the current situation.

8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 19 March 2018 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement £ 18,950.13

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31 January 2018

Total:	£	18,950.13
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Credits (1 February 2018 to 28 February 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 10

£	118.40
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Total:	£	118.40
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Debits (1 February 2018 to 28 February 2018):

Clerk's Salary (January)

£	296.79
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Clerk's Expenses (December)

£	6.86
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SLCC Membership

£	53.00
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HMRC PAYE Month 10

£	118.40
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HMRC PAYE Month 11

£	118.40
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Clerks Expenses (January)

£	7.06
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Total:	£	600.51
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Balance at 28 February 2018:

£	18,468.02
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Credits (1 March 2018 to 19 March 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 11

£	118.40
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Healthcare 2000

£	100.00
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Total:	£	218.40
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Debits (1 March 2018 to 19 March 2018):

Clerk's Salary (February)

£	296.79
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R Robinson (Xmas tree donation)

£	28.00
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P Smith (T Box & Carols)

£	117.34
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Codewater Solutions

£	120.00
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Total:	£	562.13
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Balance at 19 March 2018:

£	18,124.29
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Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

£	375.99
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Parish Council Balance at 19 March 2018:

£	17,748.30
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Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement

£	7,625.26
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29-Dec-17

Credits

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

	£	0.32
Interest (Approx)		
Interest (Approx)	£	0.30
Interest (Approx)	£	0.28
	£	0.90
Debits		
None	£	-
	£	-
Balance at 19 March 2018:	£	7,626.16
Total Balance in Hand at 19 March 2018:	£	25,374.46

Payments to be authorised (19 March 2018).

Clerk's Salary (March)	£	296.79
Office Expenses (February)	£	9.10
HMRC PAYE Month 12	£	118.80
	TOTAL:	£ 424.69

Donations/Subscriptions to be considered (19 March 2018).

None	£	-
	TOTAL:	£ -

The Clerk asked the Council to note that Healthcare 2000 had made a donation of £100 to the Parish Council for the continuing display of the advertising banner at the Tennis Court.

b. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above.

9. Highways/Environment.

a. The Chairman stated that the Parish Steward had been informed about the need to clear moss/leaf mulch etc from the footpaths and that he understood that the next visit of the Steward was to be 23 March and 26 March – although the original visit programme had been interrupted because of the recent bad weather.

b. Cllr. Robinson gave a report on the road safety improvement works on the A361 and commented that it was already an improvement but that further work was required to complete the work as per agreed specification. He added that he was to review the progress of the work with Wiltshire Council, Mark Stansby over the next few days. Cllr. Wade expressed thanks to Wiltshire Council CATG for their steadfast support for this project and for its generous financial contribution. Councillors echoed this view.

Cllr. Smyth agreed to provide a short report on the project in the April edition of the Village Newsletter.

c. A report on the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk was deferred until the next meeting because of the absence of Cllr. Smith.

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d. Cllr. Oglesby reminded councillors that there was still a need to record where daffodils had been planted in the village in order to guide future planting and the Chairman stated that he would arrange for photographs to be taken as a record.

The Council noted the letter from a parishioner concerning overgrown trees at Pound Lane and Cllr. Rimmer stated that he would have a word with the occupier of the premises.

Cllr. Robinson confirmed that Wiltshire Council had agreed to regularly clear the A361 Layby (opposite to The Turnpike) of any fly-tipped rubbish.

Cllr. Smyth drew the attention of the Council to an article in Cllr. Wayman's Newsletter regarding the intention of Wiltshire Council to dispose of Play Areas and that this decision would directly affect the Play Area and Play Equipment at Wessex Close. There ensued a lengthy discussion regarding the benefit to the community of the Play Area – although there was speculation on the number of children using the Play equipment – and that a previous decision of the Council had been not to seek an asset transfer, largely because of the unquantifiable and potentially high cost to the Parish Council. The Council **resolved** to take no action at present regarding the Play Area and Play Equipment pending further, possible, action by Wiltshire Council. A possible solution suggested by Cllr. Oglesby was that the Parish Council could consider paying for the repair of the equipment if Wiltshire Council would agree to funding its continuing maintenance.

Councillors commented that a recent litter pick in the village largely undertaken by Cllr. Robinson had negated the need for a 'full' litter pick in the village and Cllr. Smyth agreed to assist a parishioner in a local 'clean up' of any remaining discarded litter.

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

Cllr. Wade confirmed that he had attended the CATG meeting held on 8 March 2018 at Melksham Fire Station and he gave a brief report on the proceedings. He commented that the CATG Budget for FY2018/19 was the same as that for FY2017/18 and that the various highway schemes for FY2018/19 had already been agreed.

Cllrs. Smyth and Wade commented on the need for dropped kerbs in the village and Cllr. Wade emphasized the need for a new footway in Pound Close to allow pupils at the St Georges School to have a safe path to use when arriving or leaving school because, at present, there is little option available than to walk in the road.

11. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported in respect of current developments.

12. Tennis Court.

Cllr. Scott requested that this Agenda item is renamed 'Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas'.

Cllr. Smyth agreed to refix the Healthcare 2000 banner with a cable tie.

13. Any Other Business.

The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the following:

Briefing Note 343 – Recycling Centre – Need for Personal Identification.

Briefing Note 342 - Changes to chargeable waste collection and disposal arrangements.

Briefing Note 341 - Public Space Protection Orders.

General Data Protection Regulations – to be implemented 25 May 2018.

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The Chairman stated that he had received confirmation from the incumbent of St Georges Church that the War Memorial that is in the churchyard was raised by public subscription and that its upkeep was a civic responsibility and not the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council. The Clerk stated that he would contact the War Memorials Trust for further information regarding ownership and to establish whether it is a Parish Council responsibility.

14. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the following meeting dates thus:

18 April - Ordinary PC Meeting

16 May - Annual Parish Meeting, Annual PC Meeting and Ordinary PC Meeting – see below.

13 June - Ordinary PC Meeting

18 July - Ordinary PC Meeting

No meeting in August.

Meetings will commence at 8 pm except for 16 May when there will be three meetings:

7.30pm - Annual Parish Meeting

8pm - Annual PC Meeting

8.30pm - Ordinary PC Meeting

The meeting concluded at 9.35pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

18 April 2018