

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2018 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

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

There were two members of the public present initially.

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk handed out a copy of the latest Semington Rights of Way Map to each councillor.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from PCSO Maggie Ledbury.

2. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared by councillors.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14 November 2018.

The following amendment was agreed:

Para 9b, 5th Para: Delete 'design'. Insert 'creation'.

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

The Chairman stated that he had requested the Clerk to include an Action Grid with each set of minutes to enable better tracking of Actions. An example of such a Grid was distributed at the meeting which councillors agreed would be suitable.

4. Community Policing.

PCSO Ledbury of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the November monthly report that he had subsequently sent to all councillors. The Clerk read out that part of the report that dealt with local issues and this is reproduced below (in italics):

CRIME EXCEPTIONS DATA

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, Berryfields

November showed 39 crimes for the beat area, against the average of 33.9 offences for this same month over the last two years. The largest three crime groups that accounted for 74% of ED12 crime are as follows :

Violence against the Person showed 14 reported crimes compared to an average of 12.7 offences.

Theft showed 8 reported crimes, compared to an average of 4.6 offences.

Criminal Damage showed 7 reported crimes, compared to an average of 7.5 offences.

ED13 – Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Keevil, Semington, Great Hinton, Steeple Ashton

November showed 15 crimes for the beat area, against the average of 11.5 offences for this same month over the last two years. The largest three crime groups that accounted for 80% of ED13 crime are as follows :

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Vehicle Offences showed 5 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.7 offences.
 Violence against the Person showed 4 reported crimes, compared to an average of 4.2 offences.
 Burglary showed 3 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.8 offences.

ED13 Beat Code Monthly Report for any December Meeting 2018

November's Figures

Poulshot

No reports

Bulkington

No reports

Keevil

23rd Vehicles have been entered and theft of diesel, and other items.

Steeple Ashton

22nd Items stolen from a van – Newleaze

25th Poachers arrested – Steeple Ashton

26th Tools stolen from a van over the weekend – High Street.

29th Dwelling burglary via insecure door – Newleaze.

Great Hinton

No reports

Semington

12th Theft of trailer TVO £2000 from Salt Depot

19th Criminal damage to door of van, no entry gained –
Highfield Close.

24th Vehicle entered and money, wallet and medication stolen.

26th Vehicle seized – no insurance – Little Marsh

Seend

12th Report of a male taking photos of school children
after getting off of bus.
(Incident resolved no offences committed).

20th Theft of a generator from a barge – Seend Cleeve.

21st Male arrested for attempt robbery at Seend

30th Cash Fraud via a customer – Seend.

For a detailed breakdown of the crime in your area visit... <https://www.police.uk/wiltshire/>

Sector Inspector – Andy Fee – andy.fee@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Sector Deputy – Sergeant James Williams – james.williams@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Community Coordinator – Pc Charly Chilton – charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Cllr. Scott observed that some of the Neighbourhood Watch signs in the village were very faded and needed replacing. It was agreed to ask Cllr. Bowyer to check all the existing signs and to establish the procedure for obtaining replacements.

5. Adjournment.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the members of the public to raise any matters of interest. Following contributions from the public he reconvened the Parish Council meeting.

6. Wiltshire Council Report.

Cllr. Seed stated that his report concentrated on the Bus Gate. Cllr. Seed stated that he had written to and had talked to the Wiltshire Council Senior Highways Officer regarding the proposed installation of an enforcement camera at the Bus Gate and had received some support for the proposal. He commented that it would be necessary to establish how the collected data is to be used in the enforcement process and that it was now necessary to discuss the proposal with Wiltshire Police. Cllr. Seed proposed that he and Cllr. Smyth raised the subject of the enforcement

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camera at a convenient moment with the police and Air Ambulance officials who would be present at the forthcoming Air Ambulance Opening Ceremony which Cllrs Seed and Smyth would also be attending. Cllr. Seed also recommended that the CATG and the Melksham Community Area Engagement Manager is alerted to this proposal and that it is registered as an 'issue'. – Cllr. Robinson noted this comment and Cllr. Seed added that he would keep Melksham Without PC informed.

7. Planning.

a. There were no planning applications received after 5 December 2018.

b. Cllr. Scott stated that the Village Green application for Great Lees Field is progressing, albeit slowly. He explained that it appeared that recent litigation had resulted in the failure of an application for Village Green status when the land in question was in the Settlement Area and although this decision by the High Court is now the subject of an Appeal, it has, he believed, resulted in delays to the hearings for other Village Green applications, including that for Great Lees Field. He added that it was generally believed that the decision regarding Settlement Areas did not apply to that land presently identified in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Sites (SHLAA Sites) – noting that Great Lees Field was such a SHLAA Site, although not in the Settlement Area.

c. The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the recently issued 'Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan Update – Briefing Note No. 374'.

8. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 12 December 2018 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	18,904.25
31 October 2018		

	Total:	£ 18,904.25
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Credits (1 November 2018 to 30 November 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 7	£	128.80
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	Total:	£ 128.80
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Debits (1 November 2018 to 30 November 2018):

Clerk's Salary (October)	£	322.50
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HMRC PAYE Month 8	£	129.20
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Clerk's Expenses (Sept & Oct)	£	14.57
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Village Hall Hire		
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	Total:	£ 466.27
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Balance at 30 November 2018:

	£	18,566.78
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Credits (1 December 2018 to 12 December 2018):

HMRC PAYE Month 8	£	129.20
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	Total:	£ 129.20
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Debits (1 December 2018 to 12 December 2018):

Clerk's Salary (November)	£	322.50
Downview Nurseries (Xmas Tree)	£	157.00
Village Hall Hire	£	490.00
Total:	£	969.50

Balance at 12 December 2018:

	£	17,726.48
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Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

(Includes Donation of £38.50 from Mr R Heard -
14/11/18)

	£	434.49
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Parish Council Balance at 12 December 2018

	£	17,291.99
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Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement 30-Jun-18	£	7,627.14
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Credits

Interest (Approx)	£	0.32
Interest (Approx)	£	0.31
Interest (Approx)	£	0.30
Interest (Approx)		
Interest (Approx)		
Interest (Approx)		

	£	1.87
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Debits

None	£	-
	£	-

Balance at 12 December 2018:

	£	7,629.01
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Total Balance in Hand at 12 December 2018:

	£	24,921.00
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Payments to be authorised (12 December 2018).

Clerk's Salary (December) To be paid 1 January 2019	£	322.50
Office Expenses (November)	£	27.59
C Wade	£	7.96
R Robinson (£40.00 + £4.89 + £3.32 + £10.99))	£	59.20
HMRC PAYE Month 9	£	128.80
TOTAL:	£	546.05

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

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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9. Highways/Environment.

a There was nothing reported.

b. The subject of the Bus gate Enforcement camera and the associated actions were addressed under Agenda item 6.

c. Cllr. Rimmer confirmed that he had written to Wiltshire Council regarding the installation of a bench near to the existing bus stop opposite to the Crematorium to mark the commemorative oak trees and had received a positive reply. The Council **resolved** that such a bench and an appropriately worded plaque to be affixed to the bench be purchased and installed. However, approval for the cost of the bench was to await the presentation to the Parish Council by Cllr. Rimmer of a number of costed options – i.e. types of benches and associated costs.

The Parish Council **resolved** that it would not purchase a Memorial Stone.

d. Cllr. Wade confirmed that the Christmas Tree had been erected as planned.

Cllr. Oglesby reminded councillors that there was an intention to plant more daffodil bulbs. Councillors commented that there appeared to be a sufficient number of daffodils throughout the village and that, in any case, the preferred planting season had now passed. Cllr. Rimmer proposed that more bluebells be planted to enhance the current collection at Littlemarsh. This proposal received support from other councillors and the Parish Council **resolved** to purchase more bluebells and for them to be planted in February/March.

Cllr. Smith requested the Clerk to include the subject of bulb planting as an Agenda item at the July Parish Council meeting.

Cllr. Robinson confirmed that he had received many comments regarding the proposed content of the Telephone Box Information Board for which he was grateful. The Council **resolved** to agree the wording now on the Information Board and that it should be erected in the Telephone Box.

10. War Memorial.

The Chairman reported that following receipt of a letter from a parishioner stating that it had previously been agreed that the name 'Hancock' would be added to the War Memorial – a view unknown to the Parish Council – he stated that the Parish Council could not go against the family's wishes. The Chairman added that it would support the family's wishes but that the application process and any associated costs would not be the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Cllr. Smyth stated that he had met informally with the two parishioners who had each spent considerable time researching the subject of whether or not certain names (William Henry John Hancock and Frank Braden Farmer) should be added to the memorial and following a detailed discussion, one of the parishioners had agreed to take the project of adding these names to the War Memorial further, including undertaking further research and completing the application process. The Chairman added that because the War Memorial is now a church artefact (the church had registered it as an historic monument) a faculty would have to be sought from the Salisbury Diocese.

The Parish Council **resolved** the following:

'The Parish Council supports the parishioner to undertake the research necessary to add the names of William Henry John Hancock and Frank Baden Farmer to the War Memorial and to undertake the application process to effect their addition to the War Memorial'.

The Clerk was asked to advise the Rector of St George's Church and a direct relative of one of the names involved of this support from the Parish Council.

The Parish Council **resolved** to thank the two parishioners who had already undertaken the extensive research.

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

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Roger Coleman
Clerk to Semington Parish Council

Chairman's Signature _____

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There was nothing reported.

The Chairman reminded Cllr. Robinson to raise the subject of Bus Gate Enforcement camera at the next CATG meeting.

12. Wilts & Berks Canal.

Cllr. Robinson stated that he was unable to attend the 'Canal and River Trust User Group' meeting at Bradford on Avon on 21 November.

13. Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas.

a. The Chairman reminded councillors of an action from the September 2018 meeting – 'The decision on the allocation of funds to the Tennis Court Maintenance Fund was deferred until a subsequent meeting pending receipt of information indicating possible maintenance/repair costs'. Cllr. Smyth stated that he had contacted the relevant contractor and was awaiting a reply. He stated that he would contact the contractor again.

b. The Clerk stated that he has contacted Wiltshire Council regarding the unserviceable play equipment – the 'Tornado' – at Wessex Close and Wiltshire Council had confirmed that the Parish Council could pay for its repair. Wiltshire Council had previously stated that it would remove any unserviceable equipment and would not pay for any repair. The Clerk stated that he had been in contact with Ludus – the manufacturer - and had been told that it was likely that the bearings had failed. He added that, following an invitation from Wiltshire Council, he had contacted Idverde (Wiltshire Council Play Area/Equipment contractor) for confirmation that they would repair it and the cost involved. He commented that he was awaiting a reply.

It was stated that there was still the cut bracken to be removed from the Play Area.

14. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Oglesby stated that the future of Seend Post Office was uncertain and until that was settled he could not comment on the future of the Semington Post Office that is located in the Village Hall.

The Clerk handed out a copy of the Clerks & Councils Direct and the Wiltshire Wildlife Magazine.

The Clerk drew the attention of Council to 'Service Devolution and Asset Transfer to Towns and Parishes – Briefing Note No. 373.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the following meeting dates thus:

- 9 January 2019
- 13 February 2019

The meeting concluded at 10.00pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

9 January 2019

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ACTION TABLE – 12 December 2018

Serial	Meeting Date	Action No.	Completion Date	Actionee	Action	Progress	Open/ Closed
1	12/12/18 Para 3	1	14/12/18	Clerk	To provide Action Grid	Complete	Closed
2	12/12/18 Para 4	2	9/1/19	P Bowyer	Neighbourhood Watch Signs	New	Open
3	12/12/18 Para 6	3	14/12/18	B Smyth	Enforcement Camera	New	Open
4	12/12/18 Para 6	4	Next Melksham CATG	R Robinson	Enforcement Camera & Register as 'an issue'.	New	Open
5	12/12/18 Para 8b	5	14/12/18	Clerk	To make Payments	Complete	Closed
6	12/12/18 Para 9c	6	9/1/19	S Rimmer	Bench- Costed Proposalss	New	Open
7	12/12/18 Para 9d	7	July 2019	Clerk	Put 'Bulbs' on Agenda (July)	New	Open
8	12/12/18 Para 10	8	14/12/18	Clerk	To write to Rector/Parishioner	Letter written to Rev. Rees.	Open
9	12/12/18 Para 13a	9	9/1/19	B Smyth	To obtain T Court refurbishment cost	New	Open
10	12/9/18 Para 12	10	9/1/19	All Cllrs	To View & Review Website content	New	Open
11	14/11/18 Para 13b	1	20/12/18	Clerk	Play Equipment (Tornado) Repair	WC & Manufacturer contacted. Awaiting reply from WC contractor	Open