

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

Councillors B Smyth (Chairman), P Bowyer, R Oglesby, S Rimmer, W Scott, P Smith, 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 Parish Councillors M Kasasian and R Robinson and from Wiltshire Council Cllr. J Seed and PCSO Maggie Ledbury.

2. Declaration of Interests.

There were no interests declared by councillors.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13 February 2019.

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

4. Actions (Refer to Action Grid dated 13 March 2019 – appended to these minutes).

5. Community Policing.

PCSO Ledbury of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the February 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, together with additional elements from the report, 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 and Berryfields

February showed 24 reported crimes for the beat area, against the average of 33.3 offences for this same month over the last two years. The 5 largest crime groups that accounted for 92% of ED12 crime are as follows:

Violence against the Person showed 6 reported crimes, compared to an average of 12.4 offences.

Theft showed 6 reported crimes, compared to an average of 4.5 offences.

Criminal Damage showed 4 reported crimes, compared to an average of 7.1 offences.

Vehicle Crime showed 3 reported crimes, compared to an average of 2.5 offences.

Drugs showed 3 reported crimes, compared to an average of 2 offences.

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

February showed 4 reported crimes for the beat area, against the average of 11.7 offences for this same month over the last two years. The 3 largest crime groups that accounted for 100% of ED13 crime are as follows:

Criminal Damage showed 2 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.7 offences.

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Violence against the person showed 1 reported crimes, compared to an average of 4.4 offences.
Theft showed 1 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.8 offences.

Crime Updates of note

For a regular update of Community Impactive crimes please refer to the regular Community Messaging updates

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

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

ED13 Beat Code Monthly Report for March Meetings 2019
February's Figures

Poulshot

No Reports.

Bulkington

No Reports.

Keevil

No Reports

Steeple Ashton

No reports

Great Hinton

No reports

Semington

2nd

Unknown suspects have let all tyres down on vehicle – Semington area.

3rd

Criminal damage to metal gate – Semington Area.

Seend

4th

Unknown suspects have stolen a generator from a Barge in the last nine days – Seend

8th

Two vehicle RTC, elderly male passenger minor injuries. – Sells Green

Sector Inspector – Inspector James Williams – james.williams@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
Community Coordinator – Pc Charly Chilton – charlotte.chilton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Cllr. Wade stated that he had received a report of a firearm – presumed to be an air-rifle – being used against deer in a field with the shot damaging nearby property. He added that the police were also aware of this incident, although no action had been taken to date.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that he had nothing to report in respect of Neighbourhood Watch.

6. 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.

7. Wiltshire Council Report.

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

8. Planning.

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a. The Council noted the status of the following planning applications:

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|---|----------|
| 19/00363/FUL | Cliffords, 29 High Street | Re-roofing of existing garden summerhouse | Approved |
| 19/00562/LBC | Cliffords, 29 High Street | Re-roofing of existing garden summerhouse | Approved |

b. The following planning application was received after 7 March 2019. The Council examined this application and **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics):

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 19/02523/FUL | 15 Somerset Way | Ground and First Floor extension | New |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----|

The Parish Council has no objections to this proposed development.

c. Cllr. Scott reported that he had not yet been notified by Wiltshire Council that an Inspector had been appointed for the Village Green Enquiry or the date of the Enquiry.

Councillors agreed that the comments to be sent to the Boundary Commission in respect of the Local Government Boundary Review would be agreed at the next Meeting noting that comments had to be received by the Boundary Commission no later than 15 April 2019.

The Council **resolved** that it had no objections to the proposed diversion of the path as detailed in 'The Wiltshire Council Keevil 22 (part) Diversion and Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2019.

9. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 13 March 2019 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Bank Statement – 31 January 2019 | £ | 17,301.37 |
| Total: | £ | 17,301.37 |

Credits (1 February 2019 to 28 February 2019):

| | | |
|--------|---|---|
| None | £ | - |
| Total: | £ | - |

Debits (1 February 2019 to 28 February 2019):

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Clerk's Salary (January) | £ | 322.50 |
| Clerk's Expenses (January) | £ | 8.42 |
| SLCC Subscription | £ | 52.00 |
| HMRC PAYE Month 11 | £ | 128.80 |
| CodeWater Solutions | £ | 120.00 |
| Total: | £ | 631.72 |

Balance at 28 February 2019:

| |
|--------------------|
| £ 16,669.65 |
|--------------------|

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Credits (1 March 2019 to 13 March 2019):

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|---------------|
| HMRC PAYE Month 11 | £ | 128.80 |
| Total: | £ | 128.80 |

Debits (1 March 2019 to 13 March 2019):

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Clerk's Salary (February) | £ | 322.50 |
| Total: | £ | 322.50 |

Balance at 13 March 2019:

| | | |
|--|----------|------------------|
| | £ | 16,475.95 |
|--|----------|------------------|

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

| | | |
|--|---|--------|
| | £ | 434.49 |
|--|---|--------|

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

Parish Council Balance at 13 March 2019

| | | |
|--|----------|------------------|
| | £ | 16,041.46 |
|--|----------|------------------|

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement – 31 December 2019

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| | £ | 7,629.02 |
|--|---|----------|

Credits

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| 09-Jan-19 | Interest (Approx) | £ | 0.26 |
| 09-Feb-19 | Interest (Approx) | £ | 0.25 |
| 09-Mar-19 | Interest (Approx) | | £ |
| | | £ | 0.75 |

Debits

| | | |
|------|----------|----------|
| None | £ | - |
| | £ | - |

Balance at 13 March 2019:

| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| | £ | 7,629.77 |
|--|----------|-----------------|

Total Balance in Hand at 13 March 2019:

| | | |
|--|----------|------------------|
| | £ | 23,671.23 |
|--|----------|------------------|

Payments to be authorised (13 March 2019).

| | | |
|--|----------|---------------|
| Clerk's Salary (March) To be paid 1 April 2019 | £ | 322.50 |
| Office Expenses (February) | £ | 12.26 |
| HMRC PAYE Month 12 | £ | 129.20 |
| TOTAL: | £ | 463.96 |

b. The decision whether to transfer funds to the Tennis Court Maintenance A/C and the amount, if any, to be transferred was deferred until a subsequent meeting. The Chairman stated that he is continuing to seek this information from the contractor.

c. The Council **resolved** to make all the payments under 'Payments to be authorised' above including a payment of £58 for 100 x 2nd Class postage stamps to avoid the increase in postal

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charges to be introduced on 1 April 2019.

The Council indicated that it would support the renewal of the Defibrillator contract with South West Ambulance Service and that a formal proposition to agree the £1800 plus VAT fee would be put to the Parish Council at the next meeting. The current contract expires on 6 May 2019.

10. Highways/Environment.

a Cllr Smyth reported that the cuttings strewn across Pound Lane following hedge cutting and reported to the Parish Council by a parishioner had now been cleared away.

The Chairman stated that he and Cllr. Scott still had to survey the village for possible Parish Steward tasks.

Cllr. Scott stated that brambles from the 'church field' were very overgrown and that they were obstructing an adjoining footpath. It was agreed that the owner/tenant of the field will be contacted.

The Chairman stated that he and Cllr. Robinson had surveyed the footways in the village and had identified a length of High Street – footways on both sides of the road – especially from The Hunt Close to Pound Lane as being in a very poor condition. The footways were broken up in many places with grass growing in them. He added that he had reported these defects and the locations to Wiltshire Council, namely Rhys Schell (as previously requested by him).

Cllr. Oglesby stated that Cllr. Robinson and Mr Lee Norris continue to undertake litter picking in the village on a regular basis. Councillors commented that the litter picking was undertaken on a voluntary basis for the benefit of the community and the tidiness of the village, in comparison to some others, was largely due to their efforts. The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr. Robinson and Lee Norris.

b. The Clerk stated that although he had been requested to contact the Operations Manager, Wiltshire Air Ambulance owing to the difficulty in contacting him experienced by Cllr. Smyth, he had had a conversation with Wiltshire Police (Insp. James Williams) who had confirmed that Wiltshire Police were very unlikely to support the 'Enforcement Camera' project because of lack of police resources and had added that a similar project initiated by 'Bradford on Avon Bridge Watch' had also foundered for the same reason. The Clerk commented that in a discussion with Cllr. Smyth it was agreed not to press the Wiltshire Air Ambulance for financial support for this project until support from Wiltshire Police could be assured.

Cllr. Smyth stated that very recently he had managed to contact the Operations Manager and had discussed the issue of the Bus Gate and the subject of the 'Enforcement Camera' and although all the discussions were good-mannered no specific agreements resulted.

Councillors commented that the police presence at the Bus Gate had proved very successful in identifying errant motorists and motorcyclists and issuing them with a Fixed Penalty Notice (£100) and three points on their licence. The Clerk stated that he had very recently discussed this subject with Wiltshire Police Sector Inspector (Insp. James Williams) on behalf of the Parish Council and Insp. Williams was fully aware of the importance of the 'No Entry' Bus gate to the parishioners of Semington and to the Parish Council and gave an assurance that such random checks will continue.

c. The Council noted the reluctance of the Village Hall Management Committee to place further photos and memorabilia on the walls of the Village Hall and decided instead to investigate placing a Memorial Plaque explaining the Commemorative tree planting on the Information Board in the Telephone Kiosk.

d. Cllr. Rimmer stated that following extensive research into a suitable design of Memorial Bench, he recommended that the Parish Council purchased the following:

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A Decorum Bench (Product Code: DMS/5/WEB) at a cost of £380 plus £50 Delivery plus £14.99 for a set of Rawlbolts.

The Parish Council **resolved** to adopt the recommendation by Cllr. Rimmer. The Clerk asked that he be sent a proforma invoice from the manufacturer (Wybone) and that he would place the order and would arrange payment. Cllr. Rimmer confirmed that Wiltshire Council Highways were content with the proposed location of the bench. He added that it is possible that some form of associated Memorial Plaque may be mounted near to the Bench – the exact wording to be agreed.

11. Semington Village Website.

Councillors confirmed that the Working Group comprising Cllrs. Kasasian, Rimmer, Robinson and Scott had met and had reviewed the current website content. It was noted that Cllr. Robinson had also individually contacted the webmaster with various ideas for improving the website. Cllr. Scott gave a report on the findings of the Working Group and explained the possible improvements to it and gave an example of a 'home page'.

The ensued a general discussion on the website and possible changes to it and it was agreed that the Working Party would meet up with the webmaster to agree with him the changes considered necessary and to present this agreement to the Parish Council for endorsement.

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 and Wessex Close Play Areas.

a. The Chairman stated that he was awaiting receipt of information concerning possible future maintenance/repair costs.

b. The Clerk re-stated that he has contacted Wiltshire Council again regarding the unserviceable play equipment – the 'Tornado' – at Wessex and that he was awaiting a reply from Idverde.

15. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Wade – He had been unable to get an update on the proposed housing development from Hannick Homes.

Cllr. Wade – The path between Pound Lane and St Georges Lane (Path 9) could benefit from the addition of hardcore in order to improve its surface. He suggested that this may be a future project for the Parish Council.

Cllr. Oglesby – He enquired whether or not the damaged plant trough in the Village Hall Car Park should be replaced. Councillors answered in the negative.

16. Date of Next Meeting.

The Council noted the following meeting dates thus: 10 April 2019 and 15 May 2019

The meeting concluded at 10.02pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

10 April 2019

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ACTION TABLE – 13 March 2019

| Action Serial | Meeting Date | Completion Date | Actionee | Action | Progress | Open/ Closed | PCM 13/3/19 Agenda Item |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 | 12/12/18 Para 4 | 10/4/19 | P Bowyer | Neighbourhood Watch Signs | In Hand | Open | 4 |
| 7 | 12/12/18 Para 9d | July 2019 | Clerk | Put 'Bulbs' on Agenda (July) | In Hand | Open | TBA |
| 9 | 12/12/18 Para 13a | 10/4/19 | B Smyth | To obtain T Court refurbishment cost | In Hand | Open | 9b |
| 11 | 14/11/18 Para 13b | 10/4/19 | Clerk | Play Equipment (Tornado) Repair | WC & Manufacturer contacted. Awaiting reply from WC contractor | Open | 14b |
| 17 | 13/2/19 Para7 | 13/3/19 | Clerk | To contact Cllr. Seed- LGB Briefing | Complete | Closed | |
| 18 | 13/2/19 Para10a | October 2019 | Clerk | To put Grit Bins on Agenda (October) | In Hand | Open | TBA |
| 19 | 13/2/19 Para 10a | 13/3/19 | Cllrs. Smyth, Robinson | To survey pathways and report to WC | Complete | Closed | |
| 20 | 13/2/19 Para 10a | 10/4/19 | Cllrs. Smyth, Scott | To survey village – Tasks for Parish Steward | In Hand | Open | 10a |
| 21 | 13/2/19 Para10b | 13/3/19 | Clerk | To write to Air Ambulance – Camera Financial contribution | Complete | Closed | |
| 22 | 13/2/19 Para10d | 13/3/19 | Cllrs. Robinson, Scott, Kasasian, Rimmer | To decide on design of Bench | Complete | Closed | 10d |
| 23 | 13/2/19 Para 11 | 10/4/19 | Cllrs. Robinson, Scott, Kasasian, Rimmer | To review website | In Hand. Initial consultation complete. Now to discuss with webmaster | Open | 11 |
| 24 | 13/2/19 Para 12 | 13/3/19 | Cllr. Robinson | To discuss Bus Gate with Cllr. Seed | New | Open | - |
| 25 | 13/2/19 Para 12 | 13/3/19 | Clerk | To discuss Bus Gate camera with Wiltshire Police | Complete | Closed | 10b |
| 26 | 13/3/19 Para 8c | 10/4/19 | All Cllrs | To review Local Government Boundary Review proposals | New | Open | 8c |
| 27 | 13/3/19 Para 10d | 10/4/19 | Clerk | To order Memorial Bench | New | Open | 10d |

Note.

Closed Actions will be removed from the next Action Table.