

SEMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present.

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

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

There was one member of the public present initially.

1. Apologies.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Parish Cllr. C Wade 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 March 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 10 April 2019 – appended to these minutes).

5. Community Policing.

PCSO Ledbury of the Community Policing Team had sent the Clerk the March 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

March showed 32 reported crimes for the beat area, against the average of 34 offences for this same month over the last two years. The four largest crime groups that accounted for 84% of ED12 crime are as follows:

- *Violence against the Person showed 13 reported crimes, compared to an average of 12.7 offences.*
- *Criminal Damage showed 9 reported crimes, compared to an average of 7.2 offences.*
- *Drugs showed 3 reported crimes, compared to an average of 2.1 offences.*
- *Public Order offences showed 2 reported crimes, compared to an average of 2.6 offences.*

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

March showed 16 reported crimes for the beat area, against the average of 11.9 offences for this same month over the last two years. All crime is showing as a crime exception as the number of incidents is higher than we would expect to see. The four largest crime groups that accounted for 100% of ED13 crime are as follows:

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- Violence against the person showed 9 reported crimes, compared to an average of 4.7 offences.
- Theft showed 4 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.9 offences. This crime type is showing as an exception. Having reviewed the offences, none of them are linked by location or MO.
- Criminal Damage showed 2 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.7 offences.
- Vehicle Offences showed 1 reported crimes, compared to an average of 1.8

LOCAL INFORMATION

ED13 Beat Code Monthly Report for April's Meeting 2019 - March Figures

Poulshot

No Reports.

Bulkington

1st Unknown persons have emptied IP's green bin into garden and stolen said bin – Bulkington.

Keevil

No Reports

Steeple Ashton

12th Unknown persons have slashed car tyres – Newleaze.

16th Assault – Newleaze

21st Poaching – Mudmead Lane

Great Hinton

No reports

Semington

1st Damaged to outer pane of conservatory glass by unknown persons - Semington
(Possibly air gun)

11th Violence against a person – ABH – High Street

17th Assault – Littleton

24th Threats to harm via text. – Semington

24th Attempt Assault – Semington

26th Male arrested – FTS for Police- Disqual and DUI – Semington

29th Vehicle stolen – Little Marsh.

Seend

7th FTS minor RTC (Wing Mirror damage) – High Street

18th RTC – Injury A361

18th Mini digger stolen

22nd ASB – loose animals –v-horse and rider – Broad Lane.

24th Car – v- Motorcycle leg injuries – A361

24th Theft of two bikes from driveway – Seend

29th ASB – Personal – Kennet and Avon Canal.

31st Car seized no tax – High Street.

On the 15th April we welcome back Inspector Andy Fee, who had been seconded to the Public Protection Department (PPD).

A/Inspector James Williams has recently been promoted to substantive Inspector, and so will be leaving the post of Sector Deputy Sergeant. We would like to take this opportunity to thank James for all of his work and support over the last 12 months, and wish him luck in his new post.

On the 1st April, we welcomed four new Police Community Support Officers to West Wiltshire CPT:

PCSO James Briant will join ET11 – Trowbridge Town Centre

PCSO Oliver Gilmour will join ET14 – Drynham and College

PCSO Leigh Holcombe will join ED11 – Melksham Town Centre

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Roger Coleman

Clerk to Semington Parish Council

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PCSO Josh Fish will join EG11 – Westbury Town

April will also see three new Community Coordinators join West Wiltshire CPT.

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

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

End of Report.

Cllr. Rimmer expressed his concerns that the number of reported incidents had significantly increased since the previous month and questioned if there was any action that the Council could take to ameliorate the situation. Cllr. Scott stated that he was particularly alarmed at the increase in 'violent' offences, such as 'assault' and 'violence against the person'.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Cllr. Seed commented that in his view the current situation was exacerbated by the failure of the Community Policing Model currently operated by Wiltshire Police and that there was very little visibility of the Community Police Team within the community it claims to serve.

The Clerk confirmed that the lack of visibility of the Community Policing Team was a recurring theme at many other Parish Council meetings. Cllr. Seed stated that he was a member of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel and suggested that the Clerk writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner expressing these concerns, especially those relating to Semington, copy to him, and he would ensure that it is brought to the attention of the relevant authorities.

Cllr. Bowyer stated that he has still to establish which Neighbourhood Watch signs required replacing.

6. Adjournment.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the members of the public to raise any matters of interest. He then reconvened the Parish Council meeting.

7. Wiltshire Council Report.

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

- The Roundabout (A361/High Street) – a new contract for the sponsorship of this roundabout is under discussion. Cllr. Scott stated that whilst he was in favour of this roundabout being 'tidied up' it was essential to maintain the trees and accompanying undergrowth occupying the centre of the roundabout. It was agreed that Cllr. Seed and Cllr. Robinson are to ensure that these key elements of the roundabout are retained.
- Bus Gate Camera – Wiltshire Council has confirmed that a camera is to be sited at the Bus Gate to assist in the enforcement of the 'No Entry' Gate.
- Bridleway 30 – This bridleway is to be closed at the Semington Brook bridge for six months.
- Local Government Boundary Review – The recommendations from Wiltshire Council are that a new Electoral Division comprising Steeple Ashton, Great Hinton, Keevil, Semington, Berryfields and Broughton Gifford is formed and is to be known as 'Melksham Rural West'. He confirmed that Semington would remain in the Melksham Community Area.
- Turnpike Close (Planning application 19/02290/VAR) – Cllr. Seed supported the Parish Council's view that these properties should remain 'affordable properties' with occupancy nominations from individuals with a local connection – as per the original Jephson agreement and confirmatory letter from Wiltshire Council at the time when the original planning permission was granted. He invited the Parish Council to consider whether or not

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to request him to 'call-in' this application if it were likely to be approved by officers under their delegated powers.

8. Planning.

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 applications were examined by the Parish Council and the Council **resolved** to send comments to Wiltshire Council as shown (in italics):

19/02442/FUL	23 St Georges Court	New external door in an external wall	New
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The Parish Council has no objections to this proposed development.

19/02759/LBC	23 St Georges Court	New external door in an external wall	New
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The Parish Council has no comment except to propose that the Wiltshire Council Conservation Officer is consulted regarding this application.

19/02290/VAR	1 – 12 Turnpike Close	Variation of Condition 08 of 07/02532/OUT to alter restrictions for the use of the building as solely for affordable housing.	New
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The Parish Council objects to this proposed development. The original Planning permission was granted on the basis that this was to be 'affordable' housing with occupancy restricted to those individuals with a demonstrable local connection. This fact was enshrined in the 'Jephson Housing Association Limited Nominations Agreement dated 12 August 2011 (between Jephson Housing Association Ltd and Wiltshire Council) and in a confirmatory letter from Wiltshire Council to Semington Parish Council dated 13 October 2010. The Parish Council strongly objects to any proposed change to this arrangement that may result from this proposed change to Condition 08 of Planning application 07/02532/OUT. These properties must remain 'affordable housing' with the previously agreed nomination arrangements.

The Parish Council Parish Council **resolved** to request Cllr. Seed to 'call-in' this application if it were likely to be approved by officers under their delegated powers.

c. There were no planning applications received after 4 April 2019.

d. 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.

9. Finance.

a. The Clerk reported that the current financial position at 10 April 2019 was as follows:

Lloyds A/C 2149025

Bank Statement	£	16,669.65
28 February 2019		
Total:	£	16,669.65

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Credits (1 March 2019 to 31 March 2019):

HMRC PAYE Month 11	£	128.80
Total:	£	128.80

Debits (1 March 2019 to 31 March 2019):

Clerk's Salary (February)	£	322.50
Clerk's Expenses (February)	£	12.26
Post Office (Stamps)	£	58.00
HMRC PAYE Month 12	£	129.20
Wybone Memorial Bench	£	533.99
Total:	£	1,055.95

Balance at 31 March 2019:

£ 15,742.50

Credits (1 April 2019 to 10 April 2019):

HMRC PAYE Month 12	£	129.20
Total:	£	129.20

Debits (1 April 2019 to 10 April 2019):

Clerk's Salary (March)	£	322.50
Total:	£	322.50

Balance at 10 April 2019:

£ 15,549.20

Minus Semington War Memorial Monies Remaining:

	£	434.49
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(Includes Donation of £38.50 from Mr R Heard - 14/11/18)

Parish Council Balance at 10 April 2019

£ 15,114.71

Lloyds A/C 7754288

Bank Statement 31-Dec-18	£	7,629.02
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Credits

09-Jan-19	Pennine Court	£	4.41
09-Jan-19	Interest	£	0.31
09-Feb-19	Interest	£	0.35
09-Mar-19	Interest	£	5.36
		£	5.36

Debits

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None

£	-
£	-

Balance at 10 April 2019:

£	7,634.38
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Total Balance in Hand at 10 April 2019:

£	22,749.09
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Payments to be authorised (10 April 2019).

Clerk's Salary (April) To be paid 1 May 2019	£	322.50
Office Expenses (March)	£	25.74
HMRC PAYE Month 1	£	128.80
SWAS - Defibrillator	£	2,160.00
TOTAL:	£	2,637.04

The Clerk confirmed that he had completed the Annual Return for FY2018/19 and that there were no matters arising. He added that it would be subject to an Internal Audit next week and that it would be presented to the Parish Council for approval at its meeting in May.

b. The Council **resolved** to renew the Defibrillator contract with South West Ambulance Service Trust for a further four years from 6 May 2019 at a cost of £1800 plus VAT (Total £2160).

c. In the absence of any information from the contractor, the Parish Council **resolved** to transfer £500 to the Tennis Court Maintenance Fund.

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

10. Highways/Environment.

a. Cllr. Rimmer reported that brambles had been dumped amongst the trees at Littlemarsh. He added that he had collected these and had piled them up and would use the Wiltshire Council app to request their removal.

Cllr. Robinson reported that five wooden pallets had been discarded near the path between The Turnpike and High Street – possibly originating from a Company that no longer occupies the site. Cllr. Smyth reported that in his village survey undertaken with Cllr. Scott he had observed that the 'arisings' at Wessex Close Play Area still remained uncollected. Councillors suggested that they are left as a wildlife habitat.

b. It was reported that there has been no further correspondence sent or received in relation to the Bus Gate, although Cllr. Seed had made reference to the installation of a camera (refer to Agenda item 7). Cllr. Robinson confirmed that he had discussed this subject with Cllr. Seed.

c. The Council **resolved** that an Information Board explaining the commemorative tree planting is to be installed in the Telephone Kiosk. Cllr. Rimmer agreed to provide possible wording and a photograph for this Information Board that he said he would send to all councillors for approval beforehand.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Cllrs Smith and Robinson for their work in establishing the Telephone Kiosk as a key feature in the village.

d. Cllr. Rimmer stated that the Bench that is to be placed near to the commemorative trees had been ordered and that delivery was expected within a week or so. He added that the provision of an associated plaque was in hand.

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11. Local Government Boundary Consultation.

The Parish Council noted that the proposed changes to the Electoral Division (refer to Agenda item 7) indicated that the Civil Parish of Semington remained within the Melksham Community Area. The Parish Council **resolved** that the importance of Semington remaining within this Community Area should be communicated to Wiltshire Council and to the Local Government Boundary Commission.

12. Semington Village Website.

Councillors confirmed that this remained a 'Work in Progress' and Cllr. Robinson agreed to contact the webmaster and to arrange a meeting with him to discuss the details of any proposed changes.

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

There was nothing reported.

14. Wilts & Berks Canal.

There was nothing reported.

15. Tennis Court and Wessex Close Play Areas.

- a. There were no matters raised.
- b. The Clerk re-stated that he has, yet again, contacted Wiltshire Council regarding the unserviceable play equipment – the 'Tornado' – at Wessex Close and that he was awaiting a reply from Idverde. He added that the recent reply from Idverde related to the wrong equipment – a fact pointed out to Idverde.

16. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Scott – a request from a parishioner for a waste bin at the rural end of Pound Land. To be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

Cllr. Bowyer – A number of dead pigeons had been observed in his garden. He was advised to contact RSPB for advice.

Cllr. Bowyer – There was evidence of individuals having used of Paths 14/17 as a toilet which was very unpleasant for walkers to witness.

Councillors commented that St Georges CE School at Semington was judged as 'one of the best performing schools in Wiltshire' by Wiltshire Council. The Clerk was asked to write to the Headteacher congratulating the school on this accolade.

17. Dates of Next Meetings.

- 15 May 2019 – Annual Parish Meeting, Annual PC Meeting and Ordinary PC Meeting.
- 12 June 2019 – Ordinary PC Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 10.07pm.

Brian Smyth
Semington Parish Council

15 May 2019

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ACTION TABLE – 10 April 2019

Action Serial	Meeting Date	Completion Date	Actionee	Action	Progress	Open/Closed	PCM 10/4/19 Agenda Item
2	12/12/18 Para 4	15/5/19	P Bowyer	Neighbourhood Watch Signs	In Hand	Open	5
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	Closed	9c
11	14/11/18 Para 13b	10/4/19	Clerk	Play Equipment (Tornado) Repair	WC contacted. Awaiting reply from WC contractor	Open	15b
18	13/2/19 Para10a	October 2019	Clerk	To put Grit Bins on Agenda (October)	In Hand	Open	TBA
20	13/2/19 Para 10a	10/4/19	Cllrs. Smyth, Scott	To survey village – Tasks for Parish Steward	Survey Completed	Closed	10a
23	13/2/19 Para 11	10/4/19	Cllrs. Robinson, Scott, Kasasian, Rimmer	To review website	In Hand. Now for Cllr. Robinson to arrange meeting with webmaster	Open	11
24	13/2/19 Para 12	13/3/19	Cllr. Robinson	To discuss Bus Gate with Cllr. Seed	Discussions held.	Closed	10b
26	13/3/19 Para 8c	10/4/19	All Cllrs	To review Local Government Boundary Review proposals	Comments agreed.	Closed	11
27	13/3/19 Para 10d	10/4/19	Clerk	To order Memorial Bench	Bench ordered and payment made.	Closed	10d
28	10/4/19	15/5/19	Clerk	Letter re. Community Policing to P&CC	New	Open	5
29	10/4/19	15/5/19	Cllr. Rimmer	To send Information Board proposal to all Cllrs.	New	Open	10c
30	10/4/19	15/4/19	Clerk	To send comments on LGDR proposals	New	Open	11
31	10/4/19	15/5/19	Cllr. Robinson	To arrange meeting with webmaster (Webpage content)	New	Open	12

Note.

Closed Actions will be removed from the next Action Table.