

## SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, at Seend Community Centre.

**Present:** Mrs G A'Bear, Mrs T Carr, Mr T James (Vice-Chairman), Mr P Manning, Mr T Murch, Mr D. Nichols, Mr K Rigg, Mrs J Savage and Mr M Wiltshire.

Also present: Cllr J Seed, CBM PC Emily Thomas, Cllr J Hubbard and Mr R Schell, plus members of the public.

### Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mr J Padfield.

### Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

### Cllr Jon Hubbard – Chairman of Melksham Area Board

Cllr Hubbard thanked the Parish Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting. He said Parish Councils should not forget about the grants that the Area Board have available; they can give up to £1,000 for unmatched funding, plus up to £5,000 for matched funds. Cllr Hubbard went on to speak about the change of the community led youth model and how it will affect members of public. He thanked Seend for donating their old community bus, and said that it will be used it after Easter, running a service on evenings of youth club meetings, providing free transport to young people attending, although it will be dependant on volunteers. There are three youth clubs, in Atworth, Melksham and at Bowerhill in the new Pavilion. This will be co-ordinated so that meetings take place on different evenings. He mentioned the next Area Board meeting on 15 April in Semington, and advised that the Area Board alternates meetings between the town and local villages. Cllr Hubbard was asked how youngsters register their interest? Mr Schell said that the Youth Officer will send notices to parish magazines and it will be placed on Facebook. Cllr Hubbard mentioned LYN (Local Youth Network) that organises trips for young people, who don't need to pay, but take part in volunteering activities. Mr Murch said that he has names of young people in Seend who could be interested in these activities. Cllr Hubbard advised that on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a consultation meeting at the Assembly Hall in Melksham, to ask young people what activities they are interested in.

Cllr Hubbard went on to say that for 2014/15 a number of new networking groups have been set up; the community has to deliver what happens for three groups. The area needs to be more attractive for employers. The CATG will look at feedback from the economy group about roads. The wellbeing group will be looking at health and how they can improve services. Cycling and transport will be considered by the sustainable transport group. He said that the Area Board has ability to influence these issues. Cllr Seed added that Melksham Area Board works well and positively involves villages. The Chairman thanked Cllr Hubbard and Rhys Schell for attending.

### Police and Local Councillor's Matters

PC Thomas reported that in the last few weeks there have been no incidents in Seend. There has been a break-in at a stable in Great Hinton. On 26<sup>th</sup> March a quad bike was stolen from Poulshot, and there have been other break-ins in Worton and the surrounding area with tools being taken. She mentioned that Helen will be attending the fête.

Cllr Seed mentioned boundary decisions relating to potential housing sites. He said that Seend should decide if they want any smaller developments in the parish. On a personal note, he said there had been a cabinet re-shuffle and he has now taken on responsibility for council housing; there are 5,500 social houses in Salisbury and around the county. He said there may be areas in the village that people feel could be developed. There is a consultation map which had been circulated to Councillors, and it was important to recognise what are the local needs. Cllr Seed advised that the Parish Council could ask for a housing needs assessment. Mrs A'Bear asked about funding for production of a Parish Plan. Cllr Seed said that grants are only available for capital projects.

### Items for discussion from members of the Parish

Mr Bruce Talmage raised the issue of HGV traffic passing through Seend. He had sent an email to the Parish Clerk but had not received a response. He was concerned that this traffic is eroding the character of the village. Cllr Seed said that the problem is that a main A road runs through the middle of the village; these problems had been discussed in depth at the January Parish Council meeting, when a member of the Wiltshire Highways Department had been present, to discuss traffic management in the High Street. This had resulted in a proposal for intelligent reactive signs at the pinch point at the western end of the High Street. He added that it is not possible to put a weight limit on the road, and it would cost local companies many thousands of pounds in increased costs to take an alternative route.

Mr Murch said that the A365 is a designated trunk road and is more suitable for heavy traffic. Cllr Seed said that Melksham Oak School is situated on the A365, and parents of children at the school would prefer that heavy traffic didn't use this road; there will always be a balance of people that prefer that traffic used a different route, but it is not possible to get an enforced change. Mr Manning said that the problem is not specific to Seend it is a countrywide problem, and more effort was needed to educate drivers about speeding; he added that Dorset has undertaken a lot of work on the feasibility of road markings. Cllr Seed added

*S.P.*



that metro counts that had been undertaken did not indicate a significant problem, with an average speed of 34 mph being recorded.

### Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 had been circulated to all Councillors, and were taken as read. There were no amendments, and acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mrs G A'Bear, seconded by Mr P Manning. Agreed unanimously.

### Matters arising

**Winter Snow Preparations** – Abbi Gutierrez at Melksham Area Board had confirmed that it was in order to contact Poulshot and Bulkington Parish Councils to ask if they would be prepared to contribute towards the cost of a grit spreader, however, they cannot apply for grant funding towards any contribution. The Clerk to write to the parishes.

**Canal bridge at The Barge** – Email received from Mel Read, Senior Engineer, Highways & Transportation. The latest information is they have instructed the term maintenance contractor (BBLP) to undertake works to preserve the integrity of the carriageway until major maintenance is undertaken later in the year. The works due to be undertaken require a short term road closure which is currently being processed, once this has been communicated correctly BBLP can programme the works accordingly. As and when the works are programmed, notification in the form of advance signage and letter drops in the locality will be undertaken to assist with the communication process

**Neighbourhood Plan** – Mrs A'Bear advised that they had a very productive meeting, and a website seendparishplan.org was being built. The presentation will take place in June. Mrs A'Bear will host the next committee meeting. They are looking for funding for material from Awards For All to help with the production of the Parish Plan. They are producing posters, flyers and a banner for the Lye Field. The costing for about 25 corex boards is under £100. It had been agreed that it was best to wait until after the consultation to decide whether to produce a Parish or Neighbourhood Plan. There was a vote of thanks to Mrs A'Bear and Steve Vaux for all the work they are undertaking.

**Car parking Rusty Lane** – It was agreed to obtain two quotes for possible improvements to the surface of Rusty Lane.

**Notice board outside Post Office** – The Clerk to check with Mr Padfield on the progress of work to the notice board for outside the Post office.

**Footpaths** – Footpath 24 – Mr Wiltshire confirmed that the landowner was happy for the installation of a kissing gate to go ahead. The Clerk to contact the Footpaths Warden.

**Wiltshire House** – Email received from Steven Jenkins, the rear boundary wall is permitted development. The Clerk had spoken with Mike Milton, Agent (Milton Architects, Marlborough) with regard to the number of contractors' vehicles at the property, and parking on the verge. He confirms there has been a concerted push to complete the work, and it should take only another 3-4 weeks. Any damage to verges would be repaired and paid for by the contractors.

**K & A Canal** – Email to Wilts Council about Council Tax, and to Canals & River Trust about which months are considered 5 winter months. Wiltshire Council confirms that residents on canal boats only pay Council Tax if they are resident on a marina; others pay for a licence from the Canals & River Trust. The C&RT confirm that the five winter months are November to March inclusive.

**Seend Hill** – A reduction in the speed limit issue has been submitted to the Area Board.

**Bath BS** – A business savings a/c application has been made.

**Facilities for teenagers** – It was agreed to go back to the Lye Field when the issues with Mr Macdonald had been resolved.

### Parish boundary at Bowerhill

The email from Melksham Without PC had been circulated to all Councillors, and they discussed the proposals and MWPC's preferred option for joining back up to the existing boundary. Councillors were quite happy that a picnic area had been installed at the site, but were not in agreement with the change to the parish boundary. Mr Rigg proposed that Seend Parish Council opposes the proposed change because of the costs involved, seconded by Mr Murch. Eight in favour, one abstention. The Clerk to advise MWPC.

### Planning Matters

15/02539/FUL 88 Seend Cleeve  
Proposed rear single storey extension and hardstanding  
Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this application.

15/02279/FUL 3 School Road  
Double storey side extension  
Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this application.



15/01993/LBC 8 Weavers Cottages  
Replace first and second floor rear windows  
Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this application.

15/02064/LBC Moiety Manor, Spout Lane  
Structural repairs of the cross wing frame of the north elevation  
Councillors voted unanimously in favour of this application.

15/02004/FUL Hilltop, 19 Seend Cleeve  
Rebuild previously demolished detached garage, replace porch to front door, fence existing wall  
Councillors voted in favour of this application, with the proviso that the current breeze block wall is faced with stone, in keeping with other walls in the area.

### Correspondence

Email from Mr Hawkins concerning Bollands Hill, forwarding a response he has received from Mark Stansby at Highways. The Clerk to write to Mr Hawkins, to ask exactly what his proposals are for road changes at Bollands Hill.

Email received from Wiltshire Council to advise that, in future, there would be no funding for Parish Council elections.

### Financial Matters

a) There were four cheques for signature:

Seend Community Centre	£177.00	Room hire October – March
Mrs R E Fisher	£870.40	Clerk's salary January to March
HMRC	£206.80	PAYE
Mrs R E Fisher	£279.13	Clerk's Expenses October to March

On a proposal by Mr Nichols, seconded by Mr Wiltshire, which was unanimously approved, the cheques were duly signed.

b) A bank reconciliation to the end of February had been circulated to all Councillors; this showed the current bank balance standing at £15,838.88.

### Any other business

**Accidents in Seend** – Mr Manning said that he had received statistics from the Police with regard to accidents in the parish of Seend; however, these appeared to be inaccurate and contained pages of figures. There had been four accidents between Seend and the Smith's farm (Bell Hill) since January, and these were all unrecorded. The Clerk to write to the Police, via the Community Beat Manager.

**Footpath School Road to the Pelch** – this has now been cleared up.

**Ash die back** – It was noted that a number of ash trees in the village have been affected. The Clerk to write to the Tree Warden to ask if there are any plans to replace these trees.

**Trees along A361 from Seend Fork** – a number of dead trees are being worked on, and will be taken down.

**Cleeve House, brick wall** – it was noted that parts of the perimeter brick wall facing the A361 have fallen down and are unsightly. The Clerk confirmed that this wall is not listed.

### Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015, at Seend Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting was suggested as 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> May, to be notified in Spotlight.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.



CHAIRMAN