SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30th November 2021. This meeting was held in the Community Centre.

Present: Mrs Georgina A'Bear, Mrs Pam Akerman, Mrs Jackie Hamblin, Mrs Anita Heatley (Acting Chairman), Mr William Lack, Mr Phil Springate and Mr Martin Wiltshire

Also Present: Councillor Tamara Reay and Sue Bond (Clerk).

Agenda Item		Action
2021/175 Apologies	Mr Terry James and Mr John Williams	
2021/176 Declaration of Lobbying (i) Declaration of changes to the Register of Interests (ii) Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda (iii) Requests for Dispensation	(i) There were no changes of declarations to the Register of Interests. (ii) Mr Lack and Mr Wiltshire declared an interest in planning application PL/2021/09983 (iii) There were no requests for dispensations.	
2021/177 Local Councillor's Matters	1, Melksham Bypass Cabinet Meeting – This took place on 30th November. The proposals need to pass a number of key benefit/cost ratios to go forward to the next stages. There will be a further non-statutory public consultation next year. 2. School Meeting – Councillor Reay met with the head teacher of Seend school. She is enthusiastic about discussing projects that would encourage children to walk to school. Their current travel plan is very dated. Another meeting will be arranged in the New Year to discuss further. 3. Rail Service cuts – this is minuted under correspondence.	
2021/178 Minutes of the Previous Meetings	The Minutes of the meetings held on 26th October had been circulated to all Councillors. Resolution: Acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th October as an accurate record were proposed by Mr Lack and seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour.	
2021/ 179 Matters Arising Not Already on the Agenda	1. Councillor vacancies - Having advertised Mrs Vince's resignation in line with the democratic process and no-one has come forward to request an election, we can now go ahead and get a replacement by co-option. The 2 vacancies have been advertised in Spotlight, Facebook and on the noticeboards 2. Platinum Jubilee – The Community Centre has confirmed that they will be having a barbeque on the evening of the 2nd June before the beacon lighting. The Clerk said she had put a piece in Spotlight asking for suggestions as to how the parish should celebrate the anniversary. 3. Gigaclear Cable installation works – The Clerk reported that we now have a Gigaclear contact covering our area that she can liaise with. They are currently working in Spout Lane. Very little notice was given about the road closure, and the residents of Spout Lane were not notified. The Clerk has complained about this and asked again that we be given advance notice of any impending works. The contractors have destroyed the grit bin in Spout Lane and the Clerk is chasing them get to get it replaced.	
2021/180 Police Matters	1. Incidents: 30 Oct - Accident A361 at Bell crossroads. 30 Oct - Accident – A365 on bend near Broad Lane. 2. There were no crimes reported for Seend during November. However, there were car break-ins in some surrounding villages but some of these were due to the vehicles being left unlocked so police advice is to lock	

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	vehicles, don't leave car keys in easy reach of burglars eg. by the front/back doors and don't leave valuables in the vehicle.	
2021/181 Highways and Rights of Way	1. CATG - Crossing Point: Highway Improvement Request for high friction surface across A361 between Spout Lane and Inmarsh Lane has been put into the priority group of top 5 schemes. So the work will now be scheduled in, but no date set. Highway Improvement Request for extension of 30mph to include new housing development. Chairman of CATG Dominic Muns, is in support of this request, but has suggested that this should only be progressed once the housing development has been built. He suggested that the request be taken off the CATG list for the time being, and put back on once the houses are built. But he cannot see why this request cannot be approved. 2. Highways Meeting – this has been set for 17th December at 2pm and to include Councillor Reay, Highways sub-committee Councillors and Mrs Carol Dickinson of the Bell. 3. Metro Count in High Street – This was put in the wrong place and should have been further west. The metro count will be repeated in the correct place. 4. Rusty Lane – A site meeting took place with the Clerk and 3 Councillors and the Rights of Way and Countryside Management department of Wiltshire Council. Chris Clark and Paul Millard. They acknowledge that the lane is in need of repair and would hope to undertake the repair in the next financial year. They estimate the cost to be around £3,000-£4000 and will take around 2-3 days. However, the PROW budget is very limited. There has been an increase in the number of Mywilts rights of way reports because more people are reporting problems with the RoW network. Only around 10-15% of jobs are being done. Staff resources and budgets are limiting what can be done. Mrs A'Bear asked whether it would help if the Parish Council were to contribute to the cost of the repair and whether this would enable the work to be done more quickly. They confirmed that this may help. 5. Correspondence – Following the recent accident at the top of Bollands Hill a resident asked again whether further safety measures such as a stop sign and /or slow sign could be installed. This has been previously discussed with the Highways Traffic Engineer but did not meet the criteria. It was agreed that this could be discussed with our County Councillor at our Highways meeting on 17th December. 6.1 Stocks to Seend Path – The Clerk said that she had got a quote from JDH Gardening for cutting the grass verge along the Stocks to Seend path. She suggested that it might be a good idea to get it cut this side of Christmas as it was getting rather long, and it was not known if Wiltshire Council contractors were going to cut it. It is regularly used by residents walking to the main village. 6.2 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that we get JDH gardening to give it a single cut in the next few weeks. And, before the end of the financial year, to further discuss it being cut more regularly during the summer months, This was seconded by Mrs Hamblin. All Councillors voted in favour.*	* Mr Wiltshire abstained.
2021/182 Neighbourhood Plan	1.1 WALPA - Mrs A'Bear said that, following her attendance at a recent Neighbourhood Plan workshop organized by Wiltshire CPRE she had spoken with Malmesbury Town Council who have set up an umbrella group called the Wiltshire Area Localism and Planning Alliance (WALPA). They are a group of Wiltshire Councils and Neighbourhood Planning Groups with the shared interest of promoting Neighbourhood Planning and local decision making in planning and related matters, and defending the operation of Neighbourhood Planning and related decentralised decision making and governance by sharing ideas, representing residents and using the collective influence of the group for the benefit of our communities. 1.2 Mrs A'Bear thought that it would be beneficial for Seend to join the group. 1.3 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that Seend Parish Council should join WALPA. This was seconded by Mr Springate. All Councillors voted in	

	favour. 2.1 Seend Neighbourhood Plan website and the PC website. Mrs A'Bear said that the NP website domain was up for renewal next January. She asked about migrating all the Neighbourhood Plan documentation on to the Parish Council website. She had got a rough estimate from Camelot Media, who currently host and manage the NP website, for undertaking the transfer. It would cost in the region of £250, but there may be additional costs for its ongoing management. 2.2 Resolution: Mrs Heatley proposed that Camelot Media be asked to undertake the transfer of everything on the Parish Plan website onto the PC website and for Mrs A'Bear to check the feasibility of it and how it would work. This was seconded by Mrs Akerman. All Councillors voted in favour of taking this course of action.	Mrs A'Bear
2021/183 Planning	Planning Matters 1. Planning Applications Updates The following two planning applications: PL/2021/09921 Brow Cottage and PL/2021/10255 17 Dial Close were discussed and responses agreed by the planning sub-committee as the deadline for comments was before the next PC meeting. Both were tree planning applications and the sub-committee approved both applications. New Planning Applications 2. Application Ref: PL/2021/10298 Site Location: Hill House, Seend Hill, Seend SN12 6RU Proposal: T1 - Ash Tree to be felled due to it getting to large and slight signs of Ash dieback. 2.1 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that this application be approved. Seconded by Mrs Hamblin. All Councillors voted in favour. 3. Application Ref: PL/2021/09983 Site Location: Seend Park, High Street, Seend Proposal: Application for a new pool building and garage facility (Resubmission of PL/2021/06163) 3.1 Councillors agreed that this was a much improved application as the applicant had taken on board the comments from the Conservation Officer and taken advice from the Neighbourhood Plan regarding type of building materials. There was some concern that there would need to be some hedge removal to accommodate the new building which was not mentioned in this application nor in the previous application for the garage (21/01416/FUL). It was felt that this should be mentioned in the PC's response. 3.2 Resolution: Mrs Heatley proposed that this application be approved, seconded by Mr Springate. Mr Lack and Mr Wiltshire declared an interest so did not contribute to the discussion and did not vote. All other Councillors voted in favour of this application being approved. 4. Application Ref: PL/2021/10088 and PL/2021/10422 (LBC) Site Location: Church Lane Corner, High Street, Seend SN12 6NR Proposal: Single storey rear extension, new windows and internal alterations to former gate lodge. 4.1 It was agreed that whilst the materials to be used and the design of the extension contradicted the recommendations in the Neighbourhood Plan, it was felt that the design was sensitive to the heritage of the building, and was not pretending to be something it was not. It was showing the distinction between the old and the new. 4.2 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that this application be approved, seconded by Mr Springate. There was one abstention, but all other Councillors voted in favour. 5. Application Ref: PL/2021/10552 Site Location:2 Bradley View, Bath Road, Seend SN12 6RH Proposal: Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of	

	replacement single storey extension. 5.1 Resolution: Mrs A'Bear proposed that this application be approved, seconded by Mrs Hamblin. All Councillors voted in favour. 6. Application Ref: PL/2021/10743 Site Location: 7 The Stocks, Seend SN12 6PL Proposal: 2 storey rear extension 6.1 Resolution: Mr Springate proposed that this application be approved, seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour. 7. Application Ref: PL/2021/10839 Site Location: 30 Dial Close, Seend SN12 6NP Proposal: Magnolia T1- Fell due to close proximity to building and low amenity value. 7.1 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that as this is in a Conservation Area this application be approved, but request that a replacement tree be planted somewhere on the property. This was seconded by Mrs Akerman. All Councillors voted in favour.	
2021/ 184 Correspondence	1. Parking in Spout Lane – a resident has asked if double yellow lines could be put on the road on the south side of the bridge, as there had been a number of cars parking on the grass verge. The Clerk said that the cars belonged to canal boat owners and were no longer there as the boats had probably moved on. The stretch of road would not meet the criteria for having double yellow lines and as the problem was intermittent, the Councillors felt that no action should be taken. Clerk to respond 2. 1The Pavilion – a letter from the Secretary of the Lye Recreation Field Trustees to let the PC know that "*May 2023 will be the50th anniversary of the opening of the Pavilion. In the background we have been working on obtaining funds for Pavilion improvements. The chief of these improvements has to be the replacement of the electrical system. The current system is aged and no longer fit for purpose, being short on power outlets, efficient lighting and water heating. As we propose to make major changes to the electrical system we have asked Wiltshire Council to include us in the investment they are proposing to help rural parishes fund the installation of electrical vehicle charging points.*" 2.2 Councillor Reay said she is very supportive of this initiative and is aware of the Lye Field's Trustees request. 3.1 Railway cut in services A letter from Mr Graham Ellis, Melksham resident and co-ordinator of 6 rail users Groups in the area, has written to the Parish Council. He writes: "*Through trains from London to Trowbridge and Bradford-on-Avon are being withdrawn next month. The direct service to Warminster is being reduced to just one a day. Other service reductions by both South Western Railway and Great Western Railway next month effect Tisbury, Grateley, Salisbury, Dilton Marsh and Westbury. Most of the trains withdrawn have been very busy and offer through journey opportunities, journey time choices and crowd-busting capacity into Clapham Junction and Waterloo, into Bath Spa and Bristol, and onward journeys within the county. For example, seven services are lost from Salisbury to Warminster and on via Westbury, each day.* *3.2 "There has been no consultation on the change and a strong letter of protest has been sent formally by Wiltshire Council amongst many other complainants, who see this as a perverse step. It's an odd thing to do at a time when people should be encouraged to use greener public transport in lieu of private cars where appropriate. With Wiltshire's Bus Service Improvement Plan looking to improve connections from the buses (which provide a lifeline in many of our parishes) into our trains, it's not much good if the trains people want are not there!"* 3.3 He is calling on Parish Councils and individuals to write to their MP and to sign the on-line parliamentary petition. Councillor Reay was aware of some of the cuts but not the extent of them. She will look into this further.	Clerk

	3.4 Councillors asked the Clerk to put the details on our website and Facebook. 4. Green Space in The Lye – a letter from a concerned resident about the number of cars parking on the green space. As this is a recognised Local Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan, the Clerk was asked to contact Aster who own the green, and ask them to replace the missing posts which will stop drivers parking there. And to write to the residents surrounding the green to advise them the green area is not to be parked on. 5.1 Tree Warden and Platinum Jubilee suggestions – A resident has asked if the Parish Council can appoint a Tree Warden, not necessarily a Councillor but anyone from the Parish who has a good knowledge of trees. This resident has asked the same question in the past and it had been agreed then that there was no need as the PC were able to get advice from Wiltshire Council's Tree Warden. The Clerk was asked to write back and ask why the resident feels there is a need for one, and what they would be expected to do? 5.2 The same resident has suggested that it would be good if the PC would consider a substantial tree planting effort as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. He said that we should recognise the Platinum Jubilee with an outstanding feature somewhere in the village for all to benefit from. 5.3 The Councillors mentioned how difficult it was to come up with a location to plant 25 tree to commemorate the soldiers who died in the WW1, so it would probably be just as difficult to find a location to plant a 'substantial' number of trees to commemorate the Queens Jubilee as he suggests. 5.4 Councillors said they could consider the idea of bulb planting around the parish and to see if any locations came to mind for planting a tree, as well as any other commemorative seats, etc.	Clerk Clerk Clerk
2021/185 Parish Steward	1. The Clerk said she had been notified that our Parish Steward had now left the employment of Ringway and that whilst a permanent replacement is sought, Ringway will use their existing resource to cover our area. 2. It was noted that a Parish Steward had been clearing the leaves in the High Street, which we presume is in preparation for the Royal visit to Seend Church.	
2021/186 Sandridge Solar Community Benefit Payment	1.1 The Clerk reported that we had now received this year's Community Benefit Payment - £1,179.57. 1.2 An advert had gone in Spotlight some time ago asking parishioners for suggestions for what the money should be spent on. 1.3 Flags: The Churchwarden Len Murray had asked for funding for the purchase of 2 new flags for the Church. 1.4 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that some of the money should be used to purchase the flags on behalf of the Church. This was seconded by Mrs Akerman. All Councillors voted in favour. Clerk to order 2.1 There was some discussion as to whether the inscription for the re-dedication of the War Memorial could be paid using Solar money. Some Councillors felt this did not meet the criteria of a community benefit. But as the Parish Council was responsible for the War Memorial, that payment should instead come out of the PC's general reserves. 2.2 Resolution: Mr Lack proposed that the Parish Council pay for the engraving of the stone marking the 100th anniversary of the War Memorial and the re-dedication service that was attended by HRH. This was seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour. 3. It was agreed that, as there had been no other suggestions, further discussions on what the remainder of the Solar money should be spent to take place early next year.	Clerk
2021/187 Precept	1.1 The Precept budget meeting took place on 15th November with five Councillors on the Precept budget committee. The Clerk had prepared a mid-year budget spreadsheet, to show how current expenditure was on	

	track with expectations and where there were likely to be overspends. Each budget heading was discussed with recommendations for some increases to cover inflation and others to remain the same or be reduced. 1.2 The Councillors went through the budget headings and the proposed amounts. The Precept budget committee recommended only a very modest increase to £20,406.00 Some budgets were reduced and others increased. 1.3 Resolution: Mr Springate proposed that the Precept budget for 2022-23 should be £20,406. This was seconded by Mrs Akerman. All Councillors voted in favour.	
2021/188 Financial Matters	Financial Matters: 1.Cheques for Signatures The Defibstore £ 96.00 Replacement Defib pads Mrs S Bond £636.87 Clerk Nov Salary Seend Community Centre £114.75 Room hire July to Oct. Mrs S Bond £636.87 Clerk Dec Salary (Post dated) James Long (Masons) Ltd £708.00 Inscription for the Re-dedication on the War Memorial. 1.1 The Clerk said that the invoice for the Defibstore had already been paid as there was an urgent need for a replacement pad for the Community Centre defibrillator. As allowed in the Standing Orders, this had been agreed and the cheque signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman. 1.2 Resolution: Mrs Akerman proposed acceptance of the cheques. Seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour. 2. Bank Reconciliation to end of October 2021 - £ 35,301.93 3. Mrs A'Bear asked if the Clerk could prepare a budget for the January meeting so the amount of likely general reserve can be checked.	Clerk
2021/189 Items for Note	1. Devizes Area Board is on Monday 6th December and will be on-line. Mrs Akerman and Mr Williams to listen in. 2. Drain in Spout Lane, outside no 51 needs to be cleared by the Parish Steward. Clerk to email Highways. 3. Parking in Seend Cleeve – Mr Springate said that there were so many vehicles parking on the road, particularly at the bottom end of the Cleeve, which was making it difficult to pass oncoming traffic. 4. Re-dedication of the War Memorial – 2nd December. 5. Clerk Vacancy – the Clerk said that the notice had gone in Spotlight and on the PC website. It will also be put on the noticeboards and facebook. There may be a need to advertise the vacancy in the local press, but that this can be considered in January.	Mrs Akerman & Mr Williams Clerk
2021/190 Date of next meeting	The Acting Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 10.20pm. As there is no meeting in December, the date of the next meeting is 25thJanuary 2022	

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Anita Heatley, Acting Chairman, Date: 25th January 2022