

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Tuesday 26th January 2021. This was undertaken using ZOOM with all Parish Councillors attending remotely.

Present: Mrs A'Bear, Mrs P Akerman, Mrs A Heatley, Mr Terry James (Chairman), Mr W Lack, Mr B Nicholls, Mrs C Vince and Mr J Williams and Mr M Wiltshire

Also Present: Sue Bond (Clerk), Councillor Jonathon Seed and Tamara Reay and one parishioner

Agenda Item		Action
2021/1 Apologies	Mr Paul Manning and Mr John Padfield	
2021/2 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 declarations of changes to the Register of Interests, (ii) Mr Wiltshire declared an interest in planning applications 20/10104/FUL and 21/00442/TCA. Mr Lack declared an interest in planning application 20/10104/FUL. (iii) There were no requests for dispensations.
2021/3 Local Councillor Matters	1. <u>Melksham Bypass</u> - Councillor Seed said that the consultation period had now ended. He was asked if it was possible to find out what the public response was to the consultation, but he said that this was not possible. The next phase will be the undertaking of the land surveys and to ensure that funding is in place. The next public consultation was likely to be in the Summer. 2. The next <u>Melksham Area Board</u> meeting is on 3rd February. He reported that Avon Needs Trees had applied for a £5,000 grant to go towards the purchase of the land in Seend. 3. <u>Local Plan Review</u> - this is out for consultation. Mrs Heatley asked whether our moving into the Devizes ward would have any bearing on the proposed number of houses to be built in the Melksham area. Councillor Seed said that he would investigate this. 4. <u>Park Farm</u> - Councillor Seed had no update on Park Farm, but would look into it.	Councillor Seed
2021/4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November had been circulated to all Councillors. Resolution: Acceptance of the Minutes as an accurate record was proposed by Mr Williams and seconded by Mrs Vince. All Councillors voted in favour.	
2021/5 Matters Arising Not Already on the Agenda	1. <u>Noticeboard for Rew Farm</u> - this had now been ordered. 2. <u>Kissing Gate</u> replacement on field behind The Manor. Mr Lack reported that Gaigers had this in hand and a new wooden gate would be fitted in the next few weeks. 3. <u>War Memorial</u> - This had now been professionally cleaned by James Long Masons. They had also corrected the initial of one of the WW1 soldiers which had been wrongly done when the war memorial was erected. 4. <u>Tree Replacement in The Lye</u> - the Clerk has had confirmation that a new tree will be planted shortly. 5. <u>Cross Parish boundary PROW</u>. Mrs Vince has not yet had a response from Keevil Parish Council.	
2021/6 Police Matters	Police report as follows: - Dec 20 - High Street, Seend, a walk-in burglary, car keys stolen (but not the vehicle) - police advice to keep external doors locked! 26 Dec 20 on Seend Fork - a car skidded on the ice - no other reports.	

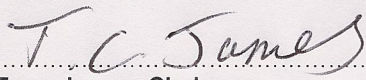
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	20 Jan 21 – fly tipping in Park Lane, Seend Cleeve – reported to police. During the summer, PCSO Janet Gould was putting up notices issued by the Rural Crime Inspector, on many footpath stiles but someone has been taking them down – these notices are to encourage good practice and respect for the farmer's fields and crops, for walkers and dog walkers using the fields and footpaths. During the current Covid pandemic, Wiltshire Police has a dedicated patrol car manned by PCSOs to attend any Covid breaches reported to Wilts Police and to patrol our area in recreational and public spaces to ensure people are adhering to the regulations. They are abstracted from their regular duties and take it in turn to carry out these patrols.	
2021/7 Neighbourhood Plan	1.1 <u>Examination Stage</u> - Mrs A'Bear reported that the Neighbourhood Plan was now in the examination stage. The NPSG had to choose an examiner out of a choice of 4. This needed to have the approval of the Parish Council, but because the deadline was between the November and January PC meetings, the decision had to be made, and a letter was sent by the Chairman on behalf of the PC approving the selection of 2 out of the 4. Mrs A'Bear said that they submitted 2 choices and Mr John Slater was appointed by Wiltshire Council. 1.2 The Councillors confirmed that they were happy with the course of action taken by the NPSG and the PC Chairman. 1.3 Mrs A'Bear said that the examiner had visited the Parish on 13th January and had come back to them with a number of questions for Wiltshire Council and the steering group. She said that a response had been prepared with the help of Place Studios. Wiltshire Council to produce their own response. 1.4 Mrs A'Bear said that the Parish Council also had an opportunity to further comment on two areas in the NP that Wiltshire Council had raised with regard to flooding and highway concerns. She had drafted a response and asked for Councillors feedback. As they had not seen the draft, it was agreed, that this would be circulated after the meeting for the Councillors approval. 2. <u>Neighbourhood Plan website</u> – Mrs A'Bear reported that she had renewed the domain and web-hosting for another year. 3. <u>Local Plan Review</u> – Wiltshire Council are undertaking a review of the Local Plan which is looking at the supply of housing in Wiltshire up to 2036. This is out for public consultation. In the review there is an expectation that there should be more housing built in rural villages. For Seend, there is a suggested 30 new homes to be built by 2036. 3.1 There are consultation events taking place at the end of January and early February. Mrs A'Bear and the Clerk will be attending the virtual meetings. The Parish Council will need to complete the survey in response to the consultation document "Empowering Rural Communities".	Clerk/Mrs A'Bear Clerk/Mrs A'Bear Councillors
2021/8 Highways	1.1 <u>CATG</u> – The Chairman said that he had attended the December meeting. He reported that our Highway Improvement Request for a high friction coloured surface across the A361 road between Inmarsh Lane and Spout Lane where there are already dropped kerbs would be considered by Highways and costings provided by the next CATG meeting in March. 1.2 An order to install new warning signs either side of the Seend Cleeve junction on the C20 has been placed with the contractors. It is hoped that this will be carried out by the end of January. 1.3 The next CATG meeting is on 4th March 2021. 2. <u>Metro Count, Bollands Hill</u> – This count took place over the week beginning 2nd November. The results showed the following: 7-day average speed was 42.1mph northbound and 41.8 southbound. Weekday average traffic both directions combined was 2,833 and 17002 for the week. The percentage type of vehicles was as follows: Cars and vans – 90%	

	Motorbikes/cyclists – 0.7% Lorries 2-axle - 8.3% Lorries 3-axle – 0.4% Lorries articulated - 0.6%	
2021/9 Planning Applications	Planning Applications discussed and comments submitted by planning sub-committee in December. The Chairman listed the planning applications that had to be commented on between the November meeting and the January one. All were approved by the planning sub-committee. 20/10539/FUL – Beech House – Tree work 20/10395/FUL – 22 The Lye – single storey extension 20/11308/TPO – 2 Somerset Close – Tree work 20/10880/TPO – The Stables, Cleeve House – Tree work. <u>New Applications</u> <u>2. Application Ref: 20/10746/LBC</u> Site Location: 1 & 2 Weavers Cottages, High Street, Seend SN12 6NN Proposal: Replacement of windows. No additional extensions or alterations to building. <u>2.1 Resolution:</u> Mrs Heatley proposed that this application be approved. Seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour. <u>3. Application Ref: 20/10104/FUL</u> Site Location: Seend Park, High Street, Seend SN12 6NZ Proposal:- New garage and improvement works to front drive within curtilage of Grade II Listed House. No alterations to the house. <u>3.1</u> Mr Lack and Mr Wiltshire declared an interest in this application so did not take part in discussions or vote. <u>3.2</u> Concern was expressed by a number of councillors about the size of the garage, and that the wooden design of the proposed garage was not in keeping with the style of the historic house. Having a first floor and pitched roof would extend the building above the garden wall height and would not be in keeping with the existing single storey building which will sit behind it. Whilst the Design and Access statement stated that there is “no removal of landscape”, the tree survey states that the proposed development conflicts with the root protection area of the trees and that one of the trees T5 would need to be removed. The tree survey also states that the garage be constructed with raised foundations to retain trees T4 and T6 and these trees would require a crown raise. It also states that some temporary tree protection will be required around trees T1-T4 and T6 and Tree group G7 before any work can commence. If construction access is required, ground protection boarding will be needed. The submitted photos do not show what it would look like from the main road and it was felt that it was too rustic and would detract from its situation. <u>3.3 Resolution:</u> Mrs Heatley proposed that the application be objected to on the above grounds. Mrs Vince seconded the motion. Mr Lack and Mr Wiltshire, having declared an interest did not vote. With one abstention, 6 Councillors voted in favour of the application being opposed. Motion carried. <u>4. Application Ref: 21/00403/TCA</u> Site Location: Seend View, 22 School Road, Seend, SN12 6NJ Proposal:- T1 - Prune Silver Birch tree back to boundary fence T2 - Prune Turkey Oak tree back to boundary fence. Remove large lowest limb back to main stem T3 - Prune Hawthorn tree back to boundary fence T4 - Prune Acer tree back to boundary fence T5 - Prune Turkey Oak tree back to boundary fence. Remove lowest large limb. <u>4.1</u> As there was some discrepancy with the application and location of the trees, Councillors could not discuss this application. The Clerk said that she was still waiting for further information from the assigned planning	Planning Sub-Committee

	officer. When clear, to be decided by planning sub-committee 5. <u>Application Ref: 21/00442/TCA</u> Site Location: Seend Lodge, High Street, Seend SN12 6NU Proposal: T1 Beech. Remove limb overhanging the neighbours chimney and remove major dead wood. 5.1 Mr Wiltshire declared an interest in this application so did not take part in discussions or vote. 5.2 <u>Resolution</u>: Mr Nicholls proposed the application be approved, seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour	
2021/10 Tree Matters	1.1 <u>Dial Close Copse of Trees</u> – The Clerk reported that getting approval from Wiltshire Council for the PC to undertake some tree maintenance work here was proving very difficult. The trees were on different strips of land either side of the pavement and were the responsibility of two different departments of Wiltshire Council: Highways to the left and Amenity & Open Spaces on the right. A number of conditions had to be met, one of which was to use WC accredited tree surgeon. The Clerk said that she was now waiting for a response from a Highways tree consultant with regard to the trees on the highway land. If approval was given, then a planning application would have to be submitted and the PC would have to choose from the other two tree surgeons, both of which are on WC list. 1.2 The Councillors discussed whether it was worth continuing with this project as it was clearly proving very problematic. It was agreed to wait to say what Highways say before making any further decisions. 2.1 <u>Avon Needs Trees</u> are applying for an Environmental Impact Assessment that will enable them to plant more than 2 hectares of trees on the land it is hoping to purchase in Seend. In order to succeed, it needs to show that their project has the support of the local community. The Clerk had circulated a draft letter of support to be sent from the Parish Council. 2.2 <u>Resolution</u>: Mrs Vince proposed that the Parish Council should give its formal support for the project and send in the draft letter. This was seconded by Mr Wiltshire. All Councillors voted in favour.	Clerk
2021/11 Correspondence	1.1 <u>Church Clock</u> – An email had been received from Mrs Anne Ewing, Secretary to the PCC of Seend Church. The PCC have applied for a faculty to repaint the clock face. They will be using Smiths of Derby to undertake the work. The cost will be in the region of £5,000 and are asking the Parish Council if it would like to make a financial contribution. 1.2 Councillors noted that an annual donation is made to church restoration but felt that as the clock was important to the community, it should make a contribution. It was suggested that money from the Sandridge Solar Community Benefit Fund could be used. 1.3 <u>Resolution</u>: Mrs Heatley proposed that the PC contribute £500. This was seconded by Mr Nicholls and all councillors voted in favour. 2. <u>Cost of Elections</u> – Since Wiltshire Council became a unitary authority in 2009, the Council has funded the 4-yearly election costs incurred by town and parish councils with the unitary elections. Cabinet are recommending the introduction of a scheme for recharging a proportion of the combined election costs of the elections to town and parish councils. If this is agreed, it is proposed that payment of any contribution is deferred until 2022-23 to enable town and parish councils to factor this in their precepting for 2022-23. 3.1 <u>Furlong Close, Rowde</u> – A residential home for vulnerable adults. A decision has been made by Hft and Wiltshire Council to close this home. There is a campaign to fight the closure. The Clerk had received a letter from a relative of one of the residents calling on the support of the Parish Council to oppose the closure. They had included a copy of the letter sent by Rowde Parish Council in support of the campaign. 3.2 <u>Resolution</u>: The Chairman proposed that the Seend PC should send a similar letter as well. Seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors approved.	Clerk

2021/12 Financial Matters	<u>Financial Matters:</u> 1. <u>Cheques for signature</u> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Water2Business</td><td>£60.51</td><td>Water Bill for allotments</td></tr> <tr> <td>James Long (Masons) Ltd</td><td>£900.00</td><td>Refurbishment of War Memorial</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mrs S Bond</td><td>£619.21</td><td>Clerk January Salary</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mrs S Bond</td><td>£120.62</td><td>Clerk expenses Oct to Dec 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Camelot Media Ltd</td><td>£100.00</td><td>Renewal of Councillor email addresses</td></tr> </table> 1.1 <u>Resolution:</u> Mrs Vince proposed acceptance of the cheques. Seconded by Mr Nicholls. All Councillors voted in favour 2. <u>Sandridge Solar Farm Community Benefit</u> The Clerk reported that the payment for 2020 was much lower than anticipated at £67.34 compared to previous years when it had been over £1,000. On enquiry, she discovered that the percentage had been much reduced and had been backdated. Whilst not disputing the percentage calculation for 2020, the clerk challenged why it had been backdated to 2017, as we had had written confirmation of the percentage rates at that time which should not now be changed. This has now been amended and is now in our favour, but the Clerk feels that this may now be an overpayment. She would email the Finance contact to further discuss. 3. <u>Bank Reconciliation</u> to end of December 2020 - £30,068.56 Bank Statements – Mrs A'Bear confirmed that she had carried out her quarterly check of the bank statements and bank reconciliation and that all was in order.	Water2Business	£60.51	Water Bill for allotments	James Long (Masons) Ltd	£900.00	Refurbishment of War Memorial	Mrs S Bond	£619.21	Clerk January Salary	Mrs S Bond	£120.62	Clerk expenses Oct to Dec 2020	Camelot Media Ltd	£100.00	Renewal of Councillor email addresses	Clerk
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2021/13 Items for Note	1. <u>Street Lamp top of Spout Lane</u> – Mr Wiltshire reported that this was now fixed. 2. <u>Blossom Hill</u> – Councillors expressed concern that there had been a lot of land slip from where the side of the hill had been dug out and that this was likely to be causing instability and that further land slip may occur. The Clerk to seek advice from Councillor Seed on whether Wiltshire Council should be made aware. 3. <u>War Memorial Centenary</u> – Mrs Heatley said that the planned commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the War Memorial due to take place on 8th February was now being postponed until September. 4. <u>Bus Shelter, The Lye</u> – This light was not working. The Clerk had contacted an electrician but had not yet had a response. To chase. 5. <u>Rusty Lane</u> – The Clerk said that she had reported the condition of this path through MyWiltshire and an email to the Rights of Way Warden.	Clerk Clerk															
2021/14 Date of next meeting	The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 8.59pm. The date of the next meeting is 23rd February 2021																


Terry James, Chairman

Date: 23rd February 2021