

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2021. This meeting was held in the Community Centre.

Present: Mrs Georgina A'Bear, Mrs Pam Akerman, Mrs Anita Heatley, Mr Terry James (Chairman), Mr William Lack, Mrs Carole Vince, Mr John Williams and Mr Martin Wiltshire

Also Present: Councillor Tamara Reay, Mrs Jackie Hamblin, Mr Phil Springate and Sue Bond (Clerk)

Agenda Item		Action
2021/ 142 Apologies	There were no apologies	
2021/143 Declaration of Lobbying	<p>(i) Declaration of changes to the Register of Interests</p> <p>(ii) Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda</p> <p>(iii) Requests for Dispensation</p>	<p>(i) There were no changes of declarations to the Register of Interests.</p> <p>(ii) There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.</p> <p>(iii) There were no requests for dispensations.</p>
2021/144 Co-Option of Councillors	<p>The Chairman welcomed the two candidates Mrs Jackie Hamblin and Mr Phil Springate who had put themselves forward to be co-opted onto the Parish Council to fill two of the three vacancies.</p> <p>Mr Springate was nominated by Mr Williams and seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour of Mr Springate becoming a Councillor.</p> <p>Mrs Hamblin was nominated by Mrs Vince and seconded by Mrs Akerman. All Councillors voted in favour on Mrs Hamblin becoming a Councillor.</p> <p>Both signed their declaration of office which was counter-signed by the Clerk. New Councillor packs were given to them.</p>	
2021/145 Local Councillor's Matters	<p>Councillor Reay reported on a number of issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Climate Change Strategy Consultation</u> – she said that this draft paper on Wiltshire Council's climate strategy was out for public consultation with an on-line survey to complete. The deadline for comments was 17th October. 2. <u>Dezives Area Board – environmental and sustainability goals</u>. The Area Board had just passed a resolution that sought to explore the opportunities to make the Dezives community area more sustainable. There were a number of organisations in Dezives area that were already taking this sustainability programme forward. The Area Board was working on a programme of engagement with residents, parish councils and local organisations. In particular they were hoping to engage with some of the more rural parishes in the community area. 3. <u>Dezives Gateway Station Project</u> – the aim of this project is to open a railway station for Dezives that links Westbury and Pewsey and on to London. The draft Strategic Outline Business case has been presented to the Dept of Transport. Initial feedback has asked for more information on: the operational capacity, passenger demand and the capital cost. With regard to capital cost, there are 2 key infrastructure changes required at Westbury station and at Bedwyn Station where the turnback siding needs to be extended to become a passing loop so that it can be used by freight trains. 4. <u>Wiltshire Council Spending Review</u>. This is to be published soon and will include a Wiltshire Council Business Plan for the next 10 years. To have 4 themes: empowered people: resilient society, thriving economy and a sustainable environment. There will be a programme of consultation, and will be taken to Full Council for approval in February 2022, together with the 2022/23 Budget setting process. 5. <u>Former Bell Inn</u> – Councillor Reay said she had had discussions with the 	

	<p>Highways officers, and they had said that the collision data, which only recorded accidents where there were injuries, was not sufficient for the Wiltshire Council to take preventative action to protect the property. However, Wiltshire Council were likely to support the Parish Council and owner if they wanted to install some kind of protective barrier themselves at their own expense. Mrs Heatley asked how we should take this forward.</p> <p>Councillor Reay said that the Parish Council and owner should agree a course of action, ie the type of barrier they might use, such as planters or bollards, agree how to finance it, and then get Wiltshire Council to approve the proposal.</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Mrs Vince proposed that we explore all the options and once agreed on what type of protective barriers to install, then take the plans to Wiltshire Council for approval. This was seconded by the Chairman. All Councillors voted in favour of taking this course of action.</p> <p><u>School Travel Plan</u> – Councillor Reay said she had spoken with Wiltshire Council’s School Travel officer and hoped to get a copy of Seend School’s Travel Plan. She intimated that there might be funding available to get the crossing point near the top of Bolland’s Hill moved to a more suitable position with better visibility in both directions.</p> <p><u>Local walking & cycling Infrastructure plans</u> – There was a plan for the whole county and 3 further plans for the three main Wiltshire towns: Salisbury, Chippenham and Trowbridge. There was also a local Devizes Cycle plan and she suggested it might be possible to have a wider plan that linked the villages to the town.</p>	
2021/146 Minutes of the Previous Meetings	<p>1.1 The Minutes of the meetings held on 31st August had been circulated to all Councillors.</p> <p>1.2 <u>Resolution:</u> Acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting held on 31st August as an accurate record were proposed by Mrs A’Bear and seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour.</p>	
2021/ 147 Matters Arising Not Already on the Agenda	<p>Noticeboard, Seend Cleeve – still to be erected.</p> <p><u>School Access</u> – The Headteacher has agreed to meet with the Chairman to discuss the issue. A date of 4th October was agreed. Mrs Akerman, Mrs Hamblin and Mr Wiltshire to also attend.</p> <p><u>Bus Shelter by the Lye</u> – The Clerk reported that this had now been fixed. The electrician said that someone had push the light sensor switch thinking it was a button.</p>	
2021/148 Police Matters	<p><u>Incidents:</u> On 31 Aug, while on foot patrol, PCSO Gould was told that the three tables in the play area of The Lye Field had been upturned. When turned up the right way, it was evident that a hedgehog had been deliberately stood on until it was dead.</p> <p><u>Hedgehogs are protected by British law</u> under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 making it illegal to kill or capture them using certain methods. They are also protected under the Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996 prohibiting cruelty and mistreatment. They are also listed as a Species of Principle Importance in England under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Section 41.</p> <p>On 9 Sep, 9pm, the hinges on the three gates to the play area were deliberately snapped.</p> <p>On 19 Sep and again on 22 Sep a car was keyed on Bolland’s Hill, suspect unknown.</p> <p>Wiltshire Police has a new Fraud Protection Officer, PC Rachel Davies. She will be working with our Community Policing Teams publicising the latest scams, advising on how to avoid being defrauded and how to report it. Wiltshire Police has always had a Fraud Department but Rachel’s role is specifically dedicated to proactively making people aware of fraud so they can protect themselves and don’t become a victim in the first place. PC Rachel Davies can be contacted on 07971-922-435. Anyone who has been</p>	

	2. CPRE have organised a Neighbourhood Plan webinar to take place later in October. It was noted that it mentions Seend's Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs A'Bear may attend.	Mrs A'Bear
2021/151 Planning	<p>1. <u>Planning Application Updates</u></p> <p>1.1 It was reported that the planning application PL/2021/05283 for Blossom Hill had been approved by Wiltshire Council but with a number of conditions.</p> <p>1.2 Mrs Heatley asked Councillor Reay a general question as to why conditions placed on an original planning application could be removed so easily with a new application. This had been the case with the Blossom Hill application which now seemed to have overridden the conditions placed on the 2017 application. Councillor Reay suggested the Parish Council writes to the Cabinet member for Planning to raise our concerns. Councillors agreed we should do this.</p> <p><u>New Applications:</u></p> <p>2. <u>Application Ref:</u> PL/2021/07587 Site Location: Wesley Cottage, High Street, Seend SN12 6NW Proposal: Renew all windows with new double glazed.</p> <p>2.1 <u>Resolution:</u> Mr Springate proposed that this application be approved. Seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>3. <u>Application Ref</u> PL/2021/08469 Site Location: Cleeve House, Trowbridge Road, SN12 6PG Proposal: T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, - Conifers - Fell - Row of conifers that over the years have been topped and crown lifted a number of times, leaving a significant over hang over neighbours drive.. . T6, T7, T8 - Fagus, T9, T10 - Acer - 30% crown reduction to reduce the overhang over drive and neighbours boundary. - This is a group of 5 trees in close proximity to each other, forming 1 overall crown and will be treated as such.</p> <p>3.1 The Clerk had sought advice from the Tree Warden about this application in relation to the Area TPO placed on the whole of the Cleeve House grounds. It provided some useful information. Whilst in favour of the application Mrs Heatley said that question 4 on the application form stated that if they had ticked yes to the reason for the felling being diseased, that a written arboricultural report or other diagnostic information from an appropriate expert should have been given, but there wasn't one. She felt that this should be mentioned in the PC's response.</p> <p>3.2 <u>Resolution:</u> Mrs Heatley proposed that this application be approved. Seconded by the Chairman. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>4.1 <u>Planning Portal</u> – Mrs A'Bear said that the Comments Section on the new planning portal was confusing. When clicking on the tab for comments, it first shows the form, but you have to scroll down to any comments which only appear at the bottom after the comments form. She suggested it would be better if there was a separate tab for the comments form and a separate one for actual comments which would make them easier to find.</p> <p>4.2 <u>Resolution:</u> The Chairman proposed that we write to the Planning department to suggest that the two be separated. This was seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour. Clerk to action.</p>	Mrs Heatley & Clerk
2021/ 152 Wiltshire Council Climate Change Strategy Consultation	<p>1.1 The Councillors had looked at the consultation paper, and at the survey questions. It was agreed that it would be hard to complete the survey which required variations in answers from "Strongly Agree" to Strongly Disagree" as a whole Council and it might be better for Councillors to complete it individually. Councillor Reay, who is the portfolio holder in Wiltshire Council for Climate Change said that it would be good for the Parish Council to submit a response to the consultation even if it was a written letter rather than completing the on-line survey.</p> <p>1.2 Mrs A'Bear suggested that we could send a written response that was based on some of the environmental aspirations that were in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Clerk

	<p>1.3 <u>Resolution</u>: Mrs Vince proposed, and seconded by Mrs A'Bear, that a written response be submitted. All Councillors voted in favour. Mrs A'Bear and the Clerk to draft a response.</p>	Mrs A'Bear & Clerk
2021/153 Correspondence	<p>1. <u>Gigaclear fibre broadband installation works in Dial Close</u> – a resident had complained that there had been no notification of the works that had taken place in Dial Close to install the broadband cabling. They were also not very happy with the state the paths had been left in.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to contact the company to request that they notify the Parish Council and residents of any future work. It was understood that they were currently working in Cooks Close and would shortly be working in Rusty Lane. Concern was expressed as to how they would manage to keep the lane open for access and it was hoped that the work would take place during the school half term. Installation works will also take place in Seend Cleeve.</p> <p>2. <u>Lye Field Trustees</u> – a request to support their Area Board grant application for a new mower, and to ask if Wiltshire Council could add the hedge in Rusty Lane to their hedge cutting programme. As this hedge was on an unadopted road, the Chairman was not sure if Wiltshire Council would agree to this. The letter also outlined the maintenance work needed to improve the Pavilion. Councillor Reay suggested they could apply for a grant from "Together for Our Planet" national lottery grant scheme. The Clerk to let the Lye Trustees know about this possible source of funding. The Councillors agreed that the PC should support their application for an Area Board grant for a new mower.</p> <p>3.1 <u>Flytipping</u> – following on from the letter sent to some residents in Cooks Close and the Lye, a response had been received from a resident of Cooks Close. It raised the question of ownership and responsibility for the boundary stone wall between some of the Cooks Close gardens and the farmer's field. A Councillor suggested that this wall would once have belonged to Seymour Lodge to protect the orchard and that when the land was sold to the developer who built Cooks Close, that responsibility would have transferred to the properties, but unfortunately the deeds would not have made this clear.</p> <p>3.2 It was agreed that the ownership of the wall was not an issue for the Parish Council to get involved in, but to be resolved by the residents, housing association and the landowner. Clerk to respond.</p> <p>4. <u>Roman iron workings</u> – A resident has let the Parish Council know that following a survey of his land, magnetic returns have suggested that there may be evidence of a Roman building and Iron workings. An organised dig will take place next Spring.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2021/154 Parish Steward	<p>The Councillors had nothing to add to this month's task sheet.</p> <p>The Clerk asked that with Autumn and Winter approaching could the flood wardens keep an eye on the drains in their respective areas, and keep them clear of fallen leaves and debris.</p>	Flood Wardens
2021/155 Devizes Area Board Meeting Report	<p>1. Mrs Akerman and Mr Williams attended the meeting which was held using Teams. They gave a brief report of some of the more interesting items.</p> <p>1.1 Ash dieback - Mrs Akerman reported that there had been an interesting talk about ash die back and how this was a major issue for the Wiltshire Council, with 100,000 ash trees on the counties roadsides. Just 2 years from contracting the disease a tree could die and become a danger.</p> <p>1.2 National Grid's project of replacing pylons with underground cabling in the Bishops Canning to Roundway area was progressing well.</p> <p>1.3 It was noted that our request for a visible crossing point between Inmarsh Lane and Spout Lane was on the list of CATG highway projects.</p> <p>1.4 There were various Partner updates.</p> <p>1.5 The next Devizes Area Board meeting will be on 6th December and will be held in public.</p>	
2021/156 Queen's Platinum Jubilee	<p>Mrs Heatley said that as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations there would be beacon lighting across the country. They are hoping to</p>	

	<p>have 70 beacons in each county to mark the Queen's 70 years on the throne. The beacon that has been used in past Seend celebrations is still available and Andy Waylen has said that he would be willing to arrange it's use again. Mrs Heatley said that it would be quite a commitment if Seend were to apply to be one of the official 70, and that it might be better to organise a less formal beacon lighting. It was suggested that the PC write to the Community Centre to see what Jubilee Celebrations they might be organising and to ask if they would be willing to have the beacon in their grounds.</p>	Clerk									
2021/157 Financial Matters	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>1. Cheques for Signatures</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mrs S Bond</td> <td>£ 680.31</td> <td>Clerk September salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs S Bond</td> <td>£ 43.19</td> <td>Clerk's expenses July to Sept</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GW Shelter Solutions</td> <td>£3,188.40</td> <td>Repair of bus shelter.</td> </tr> </table> <p>1.1 The Clerk reported that this latest salary cheque contained the last back payment for the underpaid salary from the 2020-21 financial year and the amount would revert back to £636.87. This fulfilled the recommendation made in the Internal Auditor's report.</p> <p>1.2 Resolution: Mrs Vince Proposed acceptance of the cheques. Seconded by Mr Lack. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>2. Bank Reconciliation to end of August 2021 - £30,333.22</p> <p>3. VAT – The Clerk reported that the VAT refund for 2020-21 period had now been paid into our deposit account.</p>	Mrs S Bond	£ 680.31	Clerk September salary	Mrs S Bond	£ 43.19	Clerk's expenses July to Sept	GW Shelter Solutions	£3,188.40	Repair of bus shelter.	
Mrs S Bond	£ 680.31	Clerk September salary									
Mrs S Bond	£ 43.19	Clerk's expenses July to Sept									
GW Shelter Solutions	£3,188.40	Repair of bus shelter.									
2021/ 158 Items for Note	<p>1. Mr Wiltshire said that an overgrown hedge by the Stocks needed to be cut back. The Clerk to contact the owner.</p> <p>2. Mrs Vince said that this would be her last meeting as her house sale had gone through and she would be moving to Yorkshire before the next PC meeting. She was thanked for all her hard work with the Neighbourhood Plan and dedication to the Parish Council.</p> <p>3. Mrs Heatley asked about the impending road closure in Seend Cleeve. The Clerk said that the Seend Cleeve road near the Barge pumping station would be closed for 5 days from 11th October so that a drain could be connected. This had been mentioned on Facebook and in Spotlight, and it was noticed that road closure warning signs had been put up.</p> <p>4. Clerk Salary/hours – Mrs Heatley said that this was still being looked at.</p> <p>5. Precept Date – The sub-committee agreed a date for the Precept meeting. To take place on 8th November at 7.30pm.</p> <p>6. Community Centre Room hire rate – The Chairman said that he had successfully agreed with the Community Centre a reduction in the PC's room hire rate from £17/hr to £13/hr.</p>	Clerk									
2021/159 Date of next meeting	<p>The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 22.17.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting is 26th October 2021</p>										

.....
Terry James, Chairman, Date: 26th October 2021