

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26th October 2021. This meeting was held in the Community Centre.

Present: Mrs Georgina A'Bear, Mrs Jackie Hamblin, Mrs Anita Heatley, Mr Terry James (Chairman), Mr William Lack, Mr Phil Springate and Mr John Williams
Also Present: Mr Andrew Kerby, Community Engagement Manager (SW) for Gigaclear Ltd, Councillor Tamara Reay, Sue Bond (Clerk) and 3 parishioners.

Agenda Item		Action
2021/160 Gigaclear Talk	<p>The Chairman welcomed Mr Andrew Kerby, Community Engagement Manager (SW) for Gigaclear Ltd. This is the company that is currently installing fibre broadband into the parish. Mr Kerby gave an interesting slide show and talk about the company and the installation plans for Seend.</p> <p>The company was formed in 2010 by a chap who was disappointed with the broadband coverage in his own village and vowed to do something about it. The company is owned by Infracapital and currently has some 43,000 customers. Fibre broadband offers the best broadband coverage offering speeds of around 900 without the buffering in normal periods of heavy use.</p> <p>How it is built. Firstly they have to work out if it is financially viable to install in a rural area, create a design and then carry out a validation to ensure the design matches the reality on the ground. Gigaclear employ contractors to do the actual fibre installation but always oversees the work. The contractors working in Seend Parish are Avonline who have been travelling from Wales each day. Once the cabling is laid in trenches, large access cabinets are fitted. Because they are powered, they can supply up to 400 homes. Sometimes existing overhead cables can be used. Connection pots are then installed which can then supply the fibre broadband to homes that request it. Whilst the cost of cabling and access cabinets is born by Gigaclear, if individual properties then want fibre broadband connected to their properties this will come at a cost.</p> <p>Mr Kerby talked about the potential disruption of the work. He said that usually letters are delivered to households warning them of the impending works. Mrs Heatley said that this had not happened with Dial Close. The reinstatement of any pavements and roads that have been dug up for the cable installation have to be inspected and signed off by a Wiltshire Council Highways inspector. Each reinstatement work is guaranteed for 2 years.</p> <p>Mr Kerby showed a map of where the cabling and cabinets would be fitted around the Parish. He anticipated that the installation work in the Parish would be completed by the Summer of 2022. The Clerk asked to be sent a copy of the map and whether a schedule of the work could be sent to her, which she could then put on the website and PC facebook page.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Kerby for coming.</p>	
2021/ 161 Apologies	Mrs Pam Akerman and Mr Martin Wiltshire	
2021/162 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	<p>(i) There were no changes of declarations to the Register of Interests, but Mr Springate and Mrs Hamblin both confirmed that they had completed their on-line Register of Interests.</p> <p>(ii) Mr Lack declared an interest in planning application PL/2021/09542.</p> <p>(iii) There were no requests for dispensations.</p>	
2021/163 Local Councillor's Matters	1. Councillor Reay reported that Wiltshire Council had just approved funding of £275,000 for their electrical vehicle charging initiative in an effort to bolster EV charging points in Wiltshire up to 2024. It was proposed that the council empowers, city, town and parish councils through a grant scheme to build on-street EVCPs on council owned land. Up to £2,500 per site with a total funding of £70,000. The council would then operate and maintain those EVCPs and will actively seek opportunities for home to street charging. As a parish council, Seend may want to consider installing a charging point, although she said that as the majority of residents had driveways where they charge their vehicles from their houses, it may not be	

	<p>priorities. You can complete the survey online. https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Z3J5RXN. You can request a paper format or send in your comments by emailing pcc-consultation@wiltshire.police.uk. This survey is open until 14 Nov. Debates and discussions at numerous events and stakeholder group meetings will be held during Dec and Jan and the final draft will be presented to the Police and Crime Panel in Feb.</p>	
2021/167 Highways and Rights of Way	<p>1. <u>Updates</u> – The Clerk said that there was still no date for the two metro counts, or when the work will begin on the crossing point between Inmarsh Lane and Spout Lane. The next CATG meeting is on 9th November and likely to be on-line. The Clerk to attend.</p> <p>2.1 <u>CLT request to extend the 30mph limit in Seend Cleeve</u> to include the new housing development. The Clerk said that the residents of New Buildings and Little Mitchells Farm had been sent a letter asking if they wanted to be included in the extension. Only 3 residents responded, all stating that they did not want New Buildings to be included.</p> <p>2.2 The Councillors then discussed where the 30mph should be extended to and it was agreed that the Barge bridge would be a good stopping point. It was also agreed that in order to get the Highway Improvement Request into CATG for the meeting on 9th November, that the two issues of extending the 30mph speed limit and canvassing Seend Cleeve residents on their views of reducing the speed limit to 20mph should be separated. And to wait to see the outcome</p> <p>2.3 <u>Resolution</u>: The Chairman proposed that a Highway Improvement Request form be submitted in time for the next CATG meeting requesting the extension of the 30mph limit to go as far as the Barge Bridge. And to wait to see the outcome of this request before seeking the views of Seend Cleeve parishioners on reducing the speed limit through the whole of Seend Cleeve. This motion was seconded by Mr Springate All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>3. <u>Rusty Lane</u> – Councillor Reay said that she had spoken with the Head of Countryside Management and a meeting was to be arranged with all parties. The Clerk said that she had also been contacted, and was sorting a date for a site meeting. The Clerk said that there had been no response from the landowner regarding the ditches.</p>	Clerk
2021/168 Neighbourhood Plan	<p>1. Mrs A'Bear said that she and the Clerk had prepared an assessment form in excel format that Councillors could refer to when considering individual planning applications and whether they met the criteria in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Councillors had been circulated with a copy of this individual assessment sheet.</p> <p>2. The Clerk had also produced assessment sheet to record all planning applications and whether they met the NP planning criteria, and to also record whether Wiltshire Council's planning team mentioned the NP in their Officers report.</p>	
2021/69 Planning	<p><u>New Planning Applications:</u></p> <p>1. <u>Application Ref: PL/2021/07830</u> Site Location: The Hatch, High Street Seend SN12 6NW Proposal: Works to make stable dry and usable as a storage area, including cladding the walls with insulation, placing of battens over the cobblestones on floor with wooden floor over, repairs to window and repair (or where necessary replace) any rotten/damaged boards in attic floor.</p> <p>1.1 The Councillors discussed this application at length, and had noted the concerns of parishioners who had submitted comments on the planning portal.</p> <p>1.2 Disappointment was expressed that work had begun before a planning application had been submitted, particularly as this was a grade II listed building. It was also noted that the neighbours had not been consulted.</p> <p>1.3 Concern was expressed that the stable block adjoins no1/2 Weavers Cottages by a single wall and consideration would be needed to ensure that nothing impacts on this which might cause damage. The side and back of</p>	

	<p>the property is attached to listed cottages in Weavers Cottages, which the application wrongly states as unlisted. The application suggests that the business is growing and this is evidenced by increased number of delivery lorries/vans and increase in staffing levels. Large lorries cannot enter the site to park and unload and they are parking precariously outside the property, blocking the entrance to Weavers Cottages but also having to park half on the A361 at a particularly dangerous pinch point in the village.</p> <p>1.4 This location has already seen many accidents due to the narrow road at the pinch point and the concealed entrance to The Hatch is in this immediate proximity. It is therefore not suitable for large lorries to be parking/unloading in an already dangerous location. As the business is growing, there is likely to be an increase in delivery vehicles as well as staffing vehicles and this will only add to the highway issues at this location.</p> <p>1.5 Mention was made that there might be bats in the vicinity, and that a bat survey should be undertaken.</p> <p>1.6 Resolution: Mrs Heatley proposed that the application should be opposed on the above grounds. This was seconded by the Chairman. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>2. Application Ref: PL/2021/08918 Site Location: Spout Lane, Seend SN12 6PF Proposal: self-build sustainable construction of 1.5-storey, 2-bedroom dwelling with off-road parking and garden space.</p> <p>2.1 The Councillors were generally in favour of this application. Mrs A'Bear said that going through the Neighbourhood Plan planning criteria for self builds, the plans did seem to meet the requirements. However, she expressed disappointment that the applicant did not refer to the Neighbourhood Plan and had not carried out a pre-application community engagement. She also said that on the application, at one point it was described as a self build and in another as market housing. This should be pointed out in the PC's response. Mrs Heatley said that consideration needs to be given to any security lighting not impacting on neighbouring properties.</p> <p>2.2 Resolution – The Chairman proposed, seconded by Mr Lack, that the application be approved with the above points mentioned. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>3. Application Ref: PL/2021/09705 Site Location: 10 Dial Close, Seend SN12 6NP Proposal: 1 x Silver Birch tree - fell 1 x Silver Birch tree - reduce by 4m 2 x dead trees – remove.</p> <p>3.1 Resolution: Mrs Heatley proposed that the application be approved with a condition that a tree be planted to replace at least one of the trees. This was seconded by Mrs Hamblin. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>4. Application Ref: PL/2021/09387 Site Location: 51 Sells Green, Melksham SN12 6PF Proposal: Proposed car port.</p> <p>4.1 Resolution: The Chairman proposed that this application be approved, seconded by Mrs A'Bear. All Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>5. Application Ref: PL/2021/09542 Site Location: The Close, Seend Manor, High Street, Seend SN126NX. Proposal: Cotoneaster (T1) - reduce vertically by 1.5 metres. Sycamore (T2) - crown-raise to 5 metres from ground level; strip ivy and crown-clean; reduce mid and upper crown lateral sections by maximum 4 metres to remove overhang from High Street and power lines. Lime (T3) - crown-raise to 5 metres from ground level. Beech (T4) - crown-raise to 4 metres from ground level; reduce mid and upper crown by maximum 4.5 metres laterally to mitigate heavy attenuation through suppression. Lawsons Cypress (G5) - fell all six trees within linear boundary group</p> <p>5.1 As this application was for Mr Lack's property, he was asked to leave</p>	
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	<p>the room when the application was discussed and voted on. An explanation had been circulated to the Councillors about why the cypress trees needed to be felled.</p> <p>5.2 <u>Resolution:</u> Mr Williams proposed that the application be approved, seconded by Mrs Hamblin. All Councillors voted in favour of the application being approved.</p> <p>5.3 Mr Lack was allowed back into the meeting.</p> <p><u>Applications outside of Seend Parish</u></p> <p>6. <u>Application Ref: PL/2021/07552 and PL/2021/07000</u> Site Location: The Lamb on the Strand Proposals: Demolition of existing outside dining facilities and play equipment and construction of new Alfresco dining areas, kitchen and pizza oven with servery/bar and entertainment stage. A new access corridor to bar areas of the Inn.</p> <p>6.1 Councillors noted that there were a large number of comments on the planning portal from concerned residents of Seend Parish as well as those from the Keevil and Great Hinton parishes, and therefore, whilst not in our Parish, felt there was a need to discuss the application and submit a formal comment.</p> <p>6.2 It was noted that the work had already begun prior to any planning approval, and that as this was a Grade II listed building, it was disappointing to see the long lengths of wooden fencing and garish illuminated signage that was totally out of character with the historic building and surrounding area.</p> <p>6.3 The application plans include a large outdoor eating area to include a pizza kitchen, bar, a covered seating area and a 14m² stage for live entertainment. The plans state that there will be outdoor seating for up to 70 covers. Concern was expressed that the car parking area was not sufficient to accommodate the extra numbers and that there was the potential to spill out on the main road. Access to the car park is currently through a narrow single width drive. Highway safety concerns were raised, as the pub is on a busy 50mph A road on a bend, and with no pavement.</p> <p>6.4 The proposed regular live music events would not be acceptable in this rural setting. Owing to the topography of the land, the loud music is likely to carry for a long way and present an intolerable noise level to residents in Seend Cleeve as well as the neighbouring residents.</p> <p>6.5 <u>Resolution:</u> Mrs Heatley proposed that the Parish Council submits a comment opposing the application on the grounds that the plans are out of keeping for the Grade II listed historic pub and its surroundings, on highway safety grounds and the potential impact of unacceptable noise levels on neighbouring residents and the open countryside. This was seconded by the Chairman. All Councillors voted in favour of opposing the application.</p> <p>7. <u>Application Ref: 21/02406/FUL</u> Site Location: Caen Hill Marina Proposal: The installation of 10 No. Camping Pods at Caen Hill Marina.</p> <p>7.1 Councillors decided that there was no need for the PC to comment on this application.</p>	
2021/ 170 Correspondence	<p>1. <u>The Wiltshire Community Environmental Toolkit</u>, created in partnership with Natural England, gives town and parish councils and community groups helpful tips and advice to create and improve habitats and the natural environment in their area. The toolkit is packed with information, ideas and resources to enable your communities to make a difference and create habitats that are rich in biodiversity. It features a comprehensive five-step guide that could help you find potential grant funding and deliver projects that have huge benefits for your local environment.</p> <p>A copy has been circulated to all Councillors.</p> <p>2. <u>Winter Resilience 2 day on-line training event.</u> The Clerk said that an</p>	

	<p>event is being hosted on the Wiltshire & Swindon Local Resilience Forum on October 27th and 28th 2021 around Community Resilience. All the details of how to join and the agenda can be found here: https://wiltshireandswindonprepared.org.uk/wiltshire-prepared The event is for town and parish representatives be they councillors, volunteers or flood wardens.</p> <p>3. <u>WALC Training</u>: A Planning Briefing for Local Councils (held remotely by Zoom) available to book on the WALC website - https://www.wiltshire-alc.org.uk/council_events/planning-briefing-for-local-councils-17th-november-10-am-1pm/</p>																																					
2021/171 Parish Steward	<p>The Clerk was asked to put a couple of issues onto the Parish Steward's Task Sheet for November:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bollands Hill – vegetation growth needed to be cleared from the flashing school warning. • Blue bus shelters to be cleaned. 	Clerk																																				
2021/172 Financial Matters	<p><u>Financial Matters</u>:</p> <p><u>1. Cheques for Signatures</u> The Chairman said that a late invoice had been given to him from John Tilley who regularly cuts the verge area at the top of Spout Lane and Horseponds area. This has been added to the list of cheques below.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Seend Parochial Church Council</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">£200</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Donation Church Restoration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Parochial Church Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£300</td> <td>Donation Churchyard</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Parochial Church Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£375</td> <td>Donation Spotlight</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Community Bus</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£400</td> <td>Donation for bus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Link</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350</td> <td>Donation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age UK</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 50</td> <td>Donation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BRAG</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 50</td> <td>Donation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizens Advice Bureau</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 50</td> <td>Donation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs S Bond</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£636.87</td> <td>Clerk Oct Salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Royal British Legion</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 20</td> <td>Wreath</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Camelot Media Ltd</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 25</td> <td>New PC email addresses</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr John Tilley</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£120</td> <td>Grass cutting of the grass verge by Horseponds</td> </tr> </table> <p>1.2 <u>Resolution</u>: Mr Lack proposed acceptance of the cheques. Seconded by Mr Springate. Mr Williams abstained from voting, but all other Councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>2. <u>Bank Reconciliation</u> to end of September 2021 - £ 37,778.57 (This includes the 2nd instalment of the Precept payment.)</p> <p>3. <u>Bank Checks</u> – Mrs A'Bear reported that she had carried out the quarterly checks of the bank statements and P&L and all was correct.</p> <p>4. <u>Sandridge Solar Community Benefit fund</u> – the Clerk said that this had not yet been paid and that she would chase it in November.</p>	Seend Parochial Church Council	£200	Donation Church Restoration	Seend Parochial Church Council	£300	Donation Churchyard	Seend Parochial Church Council	£375	Donation Spotlight	Seend Community Bus	£400	Donation for bus	Seend Link	£350	Donation	Age UK	£ 50	Donation	BRAG	£ 50	Donation	Citizens Advice Bureau	£ 50	Donation	Mrs S Bond	£636.87	Clerk Oct Salary	Seend Royal British Legion	£ 20	Wreath	Camelot Media Ltd	£ 25	New PC email addresses	Mr John Tilley	£120	Grass cutting of the grass verge by Horseponds	Clerk
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2021/173 Items for Note	<p>1. Mrs A'Bear said she had not seen anything in Spotlight about fireworks and the need to be mindful of neighbours with animals. She suggested that the Parish Council could put a note in time for next year. The Clerk said there had been discussions on the village facebook page about the availability of fireworks which don't make any noise.</p> <p>2. With the resignation of Mrs Vince, there was now a vacancy on the planning sub-committee and footpath liaison officer. Mr Springate agreed to join the planning sub-committee and Mrs Hamblin agreed to become the footpath liaison officer.</p> <p>3. Mrs Heatley said that she was happy to step in as Acting Chairman for the next couple of months and Mrs A'Bear was happy to be acting Vice Chairman.</p>																																					
2021/174 Date of next meeting	The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 21.38pm. The date of the next meeting is 30 th November.																																					

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Anita Heatley, Acting Chairman, Date: 30th November 2021