



SEAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish Sue Doble

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Seavington Millennium Hall on Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 18.30.

Present: Cllr A Doble, Cllr C Reyland, Cllr N England, Cllr C Taylor, Cllr B Small, Mrs S Doble (Clerk)

Also Present:

There were 2 members of the public present.

Questions and comments from members of the public

A resident raised concerns regarding the perceived poor management of Somerset Council. They also asked whether the Parish Council's precept would follow Somerset Council's potential increase of up to 11%. Cllr Doble advised that the Parish Council sets its precept independently and determines the level required based on its anticipated expenditure.

Reports from Somerset Councillors (limited to 10 minutes in total)

There were no reports received from Somerset Councillors

3983 To receive and agree any apologies for non-attendance:

Apologies have been received from Cllr R Prendergast and Cllr Roundell Greene.

3984 Declarations of Interest: E.g. Shop and Community Land Trust (CLT).

Cllr Reyland declared an interest in planning update Appeal Start Notification APP/E3335/W/25/3374472 25/0811/PAMB

3985 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th December 2025.

MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th December 2025 as a correct record and signed.

Proposed Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Small

3986 Clerks Updates:

- **Rowdells Orchard**

The Clerk reported that a response had been received which did not fully address the questions raised. Somerset Council confirmed that, should the land be sold at market value, the sale would be subject to a user restriction under Section 33 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, limiting its use to community amenity purposes only. This correspondence was forwarded to the Parish Council's solicitor, who confirmed that this would be the preferable way to proceed. Somerset Council has subsequently been asked to provide a price for the Parish Council's consideration.

The Clerk further reported that additional correspondence had been received from Somerset Council advising that, should the Parish Council wish to proceed, Somerset Council would require an undertaking from the Parish Council to cover their legal and associated costs.

MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that, as it would be possible to return to this matter if required, the Parish Council should not pursue the matter further at this time.

Proposed Cllr Doble **Seconded** Cllr England

- **The Pensions Regulator Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from The Pensions Regulator. As the matter relates to staffing and HR, it was agreed that consideration of this item would be deferred until the end of the meeting, following the exclusion of the public.

Proposed Cllr Doble **Seconded** Cllr Small

- **Somerset Social Care and Support Booklets**

The Clerk reported that free Somerset Social Care and Support for Adults 2026 booklets had been requested. These have now been received and made available to the public in the Community Shop and Café and at the Millennium Hall for reference and collection by residents.

3987 Flood Warden/Village Flooding Updates:
It was reported that there is a Community Flood Meeting in Seavington Millennium Hall on Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 6pm
Cllr England requested that the Flood Warden's telephone number be added to the Parish Council page on the website.

3988 To receive updates on the Current Village Planning matters:
A. Application No 21/02654/FUL Erection of buildings to store and facilitate the construction of carnival floats (awaiting decision)
B. Appeal Start Notification APP/E3335/W/25/3374472 25/0811/PAMB Gummers Castle, Old A303, Seavington St Michael, Ilminster, TA19 0QB.

Members noted that the Appeal Start Notification APP/E3335/W/25/3374472 25/0811/PAMB has been allowed and prior approval granted.

Members were advised that at the area south planning meeting Application No 21/02654/FUL was approved.

3989 Resolutions (Inc Planning - when applicable):
A. To DISCUSS and RESPOND to Planning Application 25/03117/FUL Branston Potatoes, Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael, Ilminster Somerset. TA19 0QB - Erection of an Agricultural Potato Store and to extend the existing concrete yard to form an 8m wide access road and apron in front of the building along with a 1.2m wide pedestrian footway around it.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** to support this application.
Proposed Cllr England **Seconded** Cllr Small

B. To DISCUSS and RECEIVE INFORMATION on Application No 25/03060/DOC1, 25/03039/NMA, 25/03030DOC1 Land at Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael

- Discharge of Condition No 6 (Construction Traffic Management Plan) of Planning Application 18/02320/OUT
- Non Material Amendment to approved application 18/02320/OUT to add a phasing plan, for the purpose of splitting the associated CIL payment
- Discharge of Condition No 2 (Landscaping) of planning application 20/01232/REM

Members noted and were satisfied with the information received.

C. To DISCUSS and RECEIVE INFORMATION on Application 25/02676/DOC1 3 Council Houses, West Street, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0QU.

- Discharge of Conditions No 4 (HMMP) and No 5 (BGP) of Planning Application 25/00433/FUL

Members noted and were satisfied with the information received.

D. To DISCUSS and RESOLVE the budget along with the Precept for 2026/2027.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that having carefully considered the budget, Members agreed to set the precept at the same level as the previous year, resulting in no percentage increase. This decision was taken in light of Somerset Council's request to increase its precept by 11%, which would have a significant impact on residents.
Proposed Cllr Doble **Seconded** Cllr England

E. To DISCUSS and RESOLVE which quote to accept for the grass cutting of the playing field, play park area, hall gardens, and community shop garden.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** accept the quote from Parsons Landscape.
Proposed Cllr Small **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

F. To DISCUSS and RESOLVE which quote to accept for the Ranger Service within the villages.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** accept the quote from Parsons Landscape.
Proposed Cllr Small **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

- G. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** the Parish Council's response to complaints received concerning dogs and their owners' responsibilities, including relevant legislation governing behaviour. **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** that concerns had been raised with Cllr Small by four different dog owners regarding irresponsible dog behaviour in public spaces. Members noted that this matter is not a Parish Council responsibility. However, it was agreed that quotations should be obtained for signage for the playing field stating "Dogs must be kept on a lead". This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.
Proposed Cllr Doble **Seconded** Cllr Taylor
- H. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** the purchasing of a dishwasher for Seavington Millennium Hall. **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** that having received a grant application from Seavington Playing Field Association they would purchase a dishwasher for Seavington Millennium Hall.
Proposed Cllr England **Seconded** Cllr Reyland
- I. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** the purchasing of a salt spreader and salt/grit for the car park outside Seavington Community Shop and Café and Seavington Millennium Hall. **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** to purchase a salt spreader and salt/grit for the car park, it was felt that this was important for health and safety.
Proposed Cllr Small **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

3990 To receive any additional information (if any) on the following:

- A. SID's and Community Speed Watch – Cllr England
It was agreed that the SID would be relocated to Water Street once the post had been reinstated in an upright position.
- B. Highways issues – Cllr Taylor
County Councillors and National Highways held a meeting at the top of Davids Lane. The fallen tree reported to Somerset Council has been dealt with. Cllr Taylor has reported potholes within the villages to Somerset Highways.
- C. Ranger Scheme - Cllr Reyland
Members noted that the work undertaken by the Ranger on Sawpit Lane was well received by residents. However, it was agreed that the area requires further maintenance and will need to be revisited using a larger chainsaw to ensure that any remaining overgrowth or obstructions are properly cleared.
- D. Village Footpaths - Cllr England
Nothing to Report.
- E. Seavington Playing Field Association - Cllr Doble
Cllr Doble reported that the car park lights have been replaced. Residents have commented that the new lights are a significant improvement over the previous ones.
- F. Seavington Community Shop & Café – Cllr Taylor
It was reported to the Parish Council that the paid staff are to undertake domestic abuse training. The café requires a replacement cooker, and this is currently being sourced. Easter opening times were confirmed as follows: open on Saturday, and closed on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday.
- G. LCN – Clerk
The Clerk reported that the next LNC meeting is to be held on Wednesday 18th March at 18:30 in the Oak/Walnut Rooms at the Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne. The Clerk also reported that 3–4 spaces have been requested for Chapter 8 training through the LCN. Participation will be subject to the timing, location and the associated costs.
- H. Village Facebook Group – Cllr Small
Cllr Small reported that the Parish Council Facebook page is performing well and advised that the option of paid promotion on Facebook would be explored.

3991 Finance Matters:

- A. Balances:

Current Account: £484.82
Savings Account: £19,544.65
Reserves Account: £32,451.34

B. To note the items of expenditure that have been pre-approvingly paid.

13-Jan-26	13/01/2026	£8,178.23	£4,644.90	£309.00	£888.08	£505.60	£68.87	£4,068.28	£309.04	£188.00	£210.00	£22.99	£79.09	£4,899.60	£14.37	£2,722.79	£38.25	£3,662.33	£30,809.42		
Date	Brief Description of Supply	Ranger	Grass Cutting Playing Field	Meeting Venue Hire	Bins	Insurance	Maintenance	Assets Purchased	Subscriptions	Payroll	Audit	Website & Emails	Clerks Expenses	Clerks Wages	Clerks HMRC	SPFA Clerks Wages	Bank Charges	VAT	Total	Date Left Bank	
18-Dec-25	Bentham Ltd - Refund							£282.00											£56.40	£338.40	18-Dec-25
18-Dec-25	Seavington Village Shop & Café												£36.82						£3.90	£40.72	19-Dec-25
19-Dec-25	Lloyds Bank - Charges																	£4.25		£4.25	19-Dec-25
30-Dec-25	Mrs S Doble - Clerks Wages													£469.19		£238.83				£708.02	31-Jan-26
22-Nov-25	Seavington Millennium Hall			£1.00																£1.00	31-Jan-26
01-Jan-26	Seavington Millennium Hall			£28.00																£28.00	06-Jan-26
31-Dec-26	Parsons Landscapes Limited	£692.16																	£138.43	£830.59	08-Jan-26
06-Jan-26	Mrs S Doble - Mole Valley Farmers (Rock Salt)						£68.87												£13.77	£82.64	08-Jan-26
06-Jan-26	Mrs S Doble - Handy - Salt Spreader							£108.33											£21.67	£130.00	08-Jan-26

C. To agree and note the items of expenditure and approve payments since the last meeting.

3992 **Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 17th February 2026

Meeting Closed at 20:16

A discussion was held after the close of the meeting regarding the Pensions Regulator.