



# 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 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.30pm.

**Present:**

Cllr A Doble (Chair), Cllr J Pendleton, Cllr P Parsons, Cllr C Reyland, Cllr C Taylor, Cllr J Roundell Greene, Mrs S Doble (Clerk)

**Also Present:**

There were 6 members of the public present.

**Questions and comments from members of the public**

A resident asked about Rowdells Orchard and the up keep of the grass cutting and tree pruning. As the Parish Council do not own the Orchard and therefore it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain. The Orchard is used a lot by residents. The Parish Council was asked if a working party is formed could they prune the trees, the public were advised that permission would need to be gained from Somerset Council and should anyone hurt themselves doing work Somerset Council are liable. Cllr Roundell Greene suggested that the Clerk email Steve Fox (or herself and she would pass it on) and he will respond regarding responsibility and liability. Once this is gained a working party may be sorted.

A resident has asked about flooding in Upton Lane. He has stated that obviously Somerset Council is responsible for the drains but has asked who is responsible for the drainage ditch at the top as it is full of rubbish. It is thought that the ditch belongs to a local farmer. Cllr Parsons has indicated that there is a pipe which runs past St Rumon's at the top of Upton Lane and said that this pipe is small in diameter. She went on to say that it is quite likely to be full of silt and even if it was cleared it will fill up again. The resident also stated that all the surface drains in Upton Lane are blocked. Cllr Roundell Greene will ask the Highways Officer to come and have a look.

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

The Somerset Councillors are invited to give short oral or written reports on matters affecting Seavington Parish. Members of the public, as well as Councillors, may ask questions or make comments on matters raised.

Somerset Cllrs report has been received and uploaded onto The Seavingtons website.

3 Members of the public and Cllr Roundell Greene left the meeting at 7.10pm

**3759 To receive and agree any apologies for non-attendance:**

Apologies were received from Cllr Dance.

**3760 Declarations of Interest:** E.g. Shop and Community Land Trust (CLT)

There were no further declarations of interest.

**3761 To receive and approve minutes of the Parish Council from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Members unanimously **RESOLVED** the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 as a correct record and signed.

**Proposed** Cllr Pendleton **Seconded** Cllr Reyland

**3762 Chairman's Announcements:**  
Nothing to report

**3763 Clerks Updates:**  
Nothing to report

**3764 To receive updates on the Current Village Planning matters:**

- A. Application No 22/03382/REM** Reserved Matters for the approval of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of planning consent 19/01070/OUT; Outline application for residential development together with the formation of vehicular access to plots. **(pending)**
- B. Application No 22/03141/HOU** Removal of two pitched roofs, raising of the eaves, and the construction of one new roof to allow a replacement second bedroom on the first floor. Thyme Cottage, Old A303 Seavington St Michael, Ilminster. **(pending)**
- C. Application No 21/02654/FUL** Erection of buildings to store and facilitate the construction of carnival floats **(update)**
- D. Application No 22/00610 Land at Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael (pending)**
- E. Application No: 23/02010/S73A** – S73A application to vary condition 9 of planning approval 20/00732/FUL for Increase and variation of feedstock (to include additional farm, dairy waste, by-products and farmyard manure) and the installation of a dome on the digestate storage tank to the existing on-farm Anaerobic Digester (AD) plant.
- F. Application No: 23/02185/FUL.** Erection of a single dwelling and creation of associated access and parking. Alterations to existing access to serve Kelvin Cottage. **(awaiting decision)**

Members **NOTED** that there was nothing to report on any of the Planning Applications

**3765 Resolutions (Inc Planning – when applicable):**  
**A.**

**3766 To receive any additional information (if any) on the following:**

- A.** SID's and Community Speedwatch - Cllr Pendleton  
Nothing to report
- B.** Highways issues - Cllr Pendleton
  - Ditches/Gullies in Water Street – The ditches and gullies in Water Street are part of the Flood Alleviation Scheme. The Ranger has reported to the Council that she has been clearing the ditch, as well as the drain at bottom of Water Street that runs into Rooksmead.
  - Water Street – Some drains in Water Street have been covered with hedge cuttings. Clerk to ask residents to clear up cutting in Seavington News.
  - Cllr Pendleton has been in regular contact with Lee Norman at Highways. Lee Norman has confirmed that Somerset Council has changed contractor for pot holes as the previous contractor was not completing any works satisfactorily.
- C.** Ranger Scheme - Cllr Reyland  
The Ranger has been clearing ditches in the villages and has advised that she may require some help.
- D.** Village Footpaths - Cllr Reyland  
New grip strips have been fitted to the bridge on the footpath from Seavington St Michael Church to Lopen. Cllr Parsons asked if the handrail could be replaced on bridge between St Marys Church and Rowdells Orchard.
- E.** Cherry Tree Site Planting - Cllr Reyland  
Nothing to report
- F.** Seavington Playing Field Association - Cllr Doble  
It has been agreed by Trustees that the boilers are to be replaced, the work is due to be done on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- G.** Seavington Community Shop & Café - Cllr Parsons  
The Community Shop is very keen for the Bier to be used to display craft work or fruit and veg.
- H.** LCN - Cllr Pendleton
  - Discuss the Warden Scheme proposed by Ilminster Town Council.  
The Ilminster Town Council Warden Scheme to be discussed under the Precept heading later

in the meeting.

- The next LNC meeting on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at Donyatt. Cllr Pendleton and The Clerk went to Shepton Beauchamp meeting to see what their view was regarding the precept.

**I. Defibrillators in the two villages – update regarding training course.**

Nothing to report on the training course. It was discussed about adding a label inside the box with What3words as a location should there be an emergency. Cllr Doble to give Cllr Pendleton the What3words location.

**J. Volunteers and the free strimming course that the Parish Council has in hand with Somerset Council.**

Nothing to report

**3767 Finance Matters:**

**A. Balances:** Current Account: £3,911.61 & Savings Account £18,955.41 (£19.56 increase due to bank interest received).

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

Date	Suppliers VAT No	Brief Description of Supply	Payment Type/Chq No	Reference	Invoice No	Ranger	Meeting Venue Hire	Insurance	Grass Cutting Playing Field	Grants	Subscriptions	Clerk Wages	Clerk Additional Wages and Payroll	SPFA Clerk Wages	Clerk Training	Defibs	Website & Emails	Sundries	VAT	Total	Reconciled
12/12/2023	GB372851186	Wlx.com Ltd	DD	57	1.09E+09												£171.96		£34.39	£206.35	✓
08/12/2023		Seavington Millennium Hall Hire	BACS	58	231208		£24.00													£24.00	✓
08/12/2023		Seavington Millennium Hall Hire	BACS	59	240107		£24.00													£24.00	✓
27/12/2023		Clerks Salary	BACS	61								£326.00		£349.64						£675.64	✓

**C. To agree and note the items of expenditure and approve payments since the last meeting. Members NOTED there were no payments which needed to be approved since the last meeting.**

**D. To look at and set the budget along with the Precept for 2024/2025, this will also include a discussion regarding Council Tax.**

After a lengthy discussion Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to increase the precept by 66.7% Clerk to complete precept forms with help from Cllr Doble and send to Somerset Council by 31<sup>st</sup> January.

**Proposed** Cllr Pendleton **Seconded** Cllr Taylor

**3768 Date of next Meeting - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Parish AGM - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Parish Council AGM - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

Meeting closed at 8.13pm