



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 21st October 2025 at 18.30.

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

Also Present:

There were 3 members of the public present.

Questions and comments from members of the public

The Parish Council was asked if there were any updates from FWAG following the recent meeting held in the village. Cllr Doble confirmed that he had spoken with a FWAG representative recently, who will follow up with colleagues and report back in due course.

A resident also raised concerns about the regular maintenance of the drains on West Street, noting that the work appears to be incomplete. Cllr Roundell-Greene confirmed she will look into this matter. It was additionally suggested that the drain covers may be seized, and the Parish Council will contact Somerset Highways to investigate further.

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

- **Flooding on Barrington Main**

Cllr Roundell-Greene reported that Shepton Beauchamp Parish Council continues to push for a meeting with National Highways regarding persistent flooding by the bridge on Barrington Main. She also reported that National Highways are responsible for three flood-prone areas — Barrington Main, Martock, and South Petherton — and highlighted the ongoing difficulty Somerset Council faces in getting National Highways to accept responsibility for these issues.

- **Yeovil Hospital Maternity Unit**

Following sustained campaigning, it was confirmed that the maternity unit at Yeovil Hospital is to reopen.

- **Somerset Planning Update**

The 12-week prioritisation period for Somerset Planning has ended. It was confirmed that approximately 20% of the backlog has been cleared.

- **Sunday Car Parking Charges**

A public consultation is being launched regarding Sunday car parking charges across Somerset.

- **Somerset Council Budget**

Cllr Roundell-Greene confirmed that Somerset Council has started work on the budget for the next financial year.

18:43 - Cllr Roundell-Greene left the meeting.

3953 To receive and agree any apologies for non-attendance:
No apologies have been received

3954 Potentially Co-Opt a new Councillor & to complete necessary paperwork and forms.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that Richard Prendergast to be Co-Opted as a Parish Councillor for Seavington St Mary, the relevant paperwork was completed.
Proposed Cllr Reyland **Seconded** Cllr Small

3955 Declarations of Interest: E.g. Shop and Community Land Trust (CLT).
• Cllr Taylor declared that she has personally paid to become a member of the Seavington

Community Shop and Café.

- 3956 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025 as a correct record and signed.
Proposed Cllr England **Seconded** Cllr Small
- 3957 To receive and approve the minutes of the extra-ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd September 2025.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 23rd September 2025 as a correct record and signed.
Proposed Cllr England **Seconded** Cllr Reyland
- 3958 Clerks Updates:
- The Clerk reported that she has received an email from Somerset Council regarding the value of Rowdells Orchard. Unfortunately, they do not have a valuation on the land and therefore were unable to help. In the meantime, the Clerk has spoken to Greenslade Taylor Hunt and Symonds & Sampson to obtain quotes for a market appraisal:
 - Greenslade Taylor Hunt: £250 + VAT
 - Symonds & Sampson: £450–£500 + VATIt was also noted that a more formal valuation, such as a RICS Red Book valuation, would cost significantly more. An Email was sent to the Solicitors asking how to proceed. Solicitors then advised to agree a figure that we would accept were the Parish Council sell it to a third party in the future. The Clerk has asked for three quotes from Solicitors, Amicus Law Solicitors who failed to quote. Milford & Dormor Solicitors and Berensens Solicitors in Chard. Berensens have been the most helpful and replying by return. **Cllr Small will ask Amicus Law Solicitors for a quote. The Councillors agreed a value of £10,000.**
 - Somerset Council have sent out guidance regarding future planning applications which apply to application made to the Planning Department.
 - Clerk has received an invoice from Somerset Council for the bin emptying.
- 3959 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. (awaiting decision)
 - B. Application No 21/02654/FUL Erection of buildings to store and facilitate the construction of carnival floats (awaiting decision)
 - C. Application No 22/00610 Land at Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael (awaiting decision)
 - D. Application 25/01888/HOU Replacement of existing single storey extension, with new part two storey and part single storey side extension to existing property. 1 West Street Corner, West Street, Seavington St Mary, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0QU (awaiting decision)
 - E. Application 25/02072/FUL – Re-roofing of existing factory including the installation of solar PV panels together with the erection of a screening structure to existing water tanks externally. Branston Potatoes, Upton Lane, Seavington St Michael, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0QB
- Members noted that application 22/03382 has been refused; application 25/01888 and 25/02072 have been approved.
- 3960 Resolutions (Inc Planning - when applicable):
- A. To DISCUSS and ELECT a new Vice Chairman for Seavington Parish Council.
 - **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Reyland is elected as the new Vice Chairman for Seavington Parish Council.
Proposed Cllr England **Seconded** Cllr Taylor
 - B. To DISCUSS and ELECT a Councillor to take on social media responsibilities.
 - **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Small is elected to take on social media responsibilities.
Proposed Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Doble

- C. To DISCUSS and APPROVE the Clerks overtime of 1 hour and 16 minutes for September 2025.
 - **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Clerks overtime.
Proposed Cllr Reyland **Seconded** Cllr England
- D. To DISCUSS and APPROVE the signing of the agreement with Somerset Council regarding the placement and use of SID's within the parish.
 - MEMBERS agreed to investigate whether Greg from Parsons Landscapes holds a Chapter 8 qualification, which would enable him to assist with moving the SIDs. Cllr Doble will contact some other local councils to explore the possibility of organising a joint training course locally. It was also agreed that the SIDs should be utilised more effectively, and that a rota involving local residents could be established to assist with relocating them to different positions within the village.
- E. To DISCUSS and APPROVE the IT Policy.
 - **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the IT Policy.
Proposed Cllr Small **Seconded** Cllr Reyland
- F. To DISCUSS and APPROVE the Grant Policy
 - **MEMBERS** unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Grants Policy.
Proposed Cllr Reyland **Seconded** Cllr England

3961

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

- A. SID's and Community Speed Watch – Cllr England
 - Cllr England will move SIDs sometime this week.
- B. Highways issues – Cllr Taylor
 - It has been confirmed by Somerset Council that the drains on the Village Car Park drains are not Somerset Council and they are Parish Council responsibility.
 - The Chairman and Clerk had a meeting with Lee Norman of Somerset Council
 - Drains/gullies along New Road – he could clearly see where they had been missed and will chase the contractor.
 - Drain Scott Hill – These were jetted in June, there was covers which are seized and couldn't get up, these have been added to a separate list and work force.
 - Drain outside Middlefield Barn – completely clear with a large pipe connecting. Lee has looked at the flood report and has confirmed it empties within tolerance; the reason it would back up is basically due to the floods and nowhere for the water to go.
 - Boxstone Hill potholes – Lee has agreed to ask for this to be checked again by a superintendent. These have now been marked for repair.
 - Residents pipe on Scotts Hill – Lee Norman has requested a photo of water coming out of it in bad weather.
- C. Ranger Scheme - Cllr Reyland
 - Cllr Reyland reported that the ranger will clear around the memorial ready for Remembrance Sunday.
 - The Clerk has received an email from a resident asking about the cleaning of the village stones. The Councillors advised that it is already scheduled for the Ranger to clean the village stones in the spring, as it was advised that doing so in autumn or winter would be pointless due to weather conditions.
- D. Village Footpaths - Cllr England
 - Cllr England is pleased to report that the new footpath in Seavington St Mary is being used by residents.
- E. Seavington Playing Field Association - Cllr Doble
 - The quiz night raised £472.62 which is being split equally between the Community Shop and the SPFA.
- F. Seavington Community Shop & Café – Cllr Taylor
 - The Community Shop will put the money from the quiz toward the sound proofing required.
 - They are obtaining quotes from builders for the soffit and fascia boards.

- The Shop is currently not covering its monthly costs, showing a shortfall of £175.00 last month. However, overall, their financial position remains stable.
- They are reviewing their energy costs and are considering switching to an induction cooker, which could help reduce overall expenses.
- Amanda Jaggars has been co-opted as the Safeguarding Lead. She has identified several areas that require attention, including: the need for an exit sign on the toilet door, the installation of a brightly coloured toilet seat for disabled users, and staff to undertake training to better support vulnerable individuals – for example, offering assistance with using payment cards.
- Santa is visiting on the 13th December 2025.

G. LCN – Clerk

- LCN Highways meeting this Thursday 23rd October via zoom.

H. Village Facebook Group

- Nothing to Report.

I. Village Flooding

- The Flood Warden and the Parish Clerk attended the Taunton Racecourse meeting and reported that a significant amount of information and contacts were shared. The scope of the task is too large for one person to manage alone, so The Flood Warden will be asking for volunteers to form a working group.
- The Parish Council is to supply tea, coffee and biscuits for the flood resilience meeting.
- Cllr England attended the meeting at Lopen but confirmed that there was little of relevance from Seavington’s perspective.
- Cllr England continues to advocate for the field at the bottom of Water Street to be used as a flood mitigation area by landscaping it to allow controlled release of flood water. It was noted, however, that the field already floods naturally and retains water. Additionally, the land would need to be purchased before any landscaping could take place, making the overall cost to the village potentially substantial.

3962 Finance Matters:

A. Balances:

Current Account: £502.25
 Savings Account: £31,525.62
 Reserves Account: £32,402.32

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

Date	VAT No	Suppliers	Brief Description of Supply	Payment Type/Chq No	Reference	Invoice No	Ranger	Grass Cutting	Meeting	Bin	Insurance	Maintenance	Assets	Subscriptions	Payroll	Training	Audit	Website & Emails	Stationery	Sundries	Clerks Wages	Clerks HMRC	SPFA Clerks Wages	Bank Charges	VAT	Total			
14-Oct-25			14/10/2025					£5,409.59	£3,944.50	£224.00	£0.00	£505.60	£0.00	£0.00	£309.04	£125.00	£0.00	£210.00	£22.99	£14.50	£108.88	£3,176.27	£1.84	£1,686.90	£25.50	£1,967.09	£17,731.70		
17-Sep-25	440 498250	PKF Littlejohn LLP		BACS	30	SB20252083																				£42.00	£252.00		
19-Sep-25		Lloyds Bank - Charges		Direct																							£4.25	£4.25	
19-Sep-25		Seavington Millennium Hall		BACS	31	250923			£14.00																			£14.00	
28-Sep-25		Mrs S Doble - Clerks Wages		BACS	32																£553.11		£291.69					£844.80	
02-Oct-25		Seavington Millennium Hall		BACS	33	251005			£56.00																			£56.00	
30-Sep-25	131 505120	Parsons Landscapes Limited		BACS	34	18371	£692.16	£847.50																				£307.93	£1,847.56
14-Oct-25	220 430231	Tesco - Stationery		D/Card	35														£4.08									£0.82	£4.90

- C. To agree and note the items of expenditure and approve payments since the last meeting.**
 To approve the Clerks milage expenses – travel to and from Taunton Race Course for the Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Clerks milage expenses.
Proposed Cllr Small Seconded Cllr Reyland

3963 Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 18th November 2025

Meeting Closed at 19.46