



SEAVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish **Sue Doble**

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The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th March 2026, immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting in Seavington Millennium Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting will start at 6:00 pm.

Due to circumstances beyond the Parish Council's control, last month's report was unfortunately not published in the Seavington News. As some of the matters discussed are of particular interest to residents, we have included key items from our January meeting in this report. We hope this will keep the community fully informed about recent decisions, updates, and ongoing initiatives affecting Seavington.

Please note that Parish Council reports are now available online on the Seavingtons website.

January Parish Council Meeting

Planning

The long-running application for buildings to store and build carnival floats (Application No. 21/02654/FUL) has now been approved, following a recent Area South Planning meeting. Planning conditions can be viewed on Somerset Councils website.

The planning appeal for Gummers Castle, Old A303, has been allowed, and prior approval granted.

Councillors discussed a new planning application at Branston Potatoes, Upton Lane, for an agricultural potato store and improved

access, and agreed to support the application (this application has since been approved).

Precept

When setting the budget for the coming year, Councillors carefully considered the Parish Council's finances and future commitments. After detailed discussion, it was agreed to keep the precept at the same level as last year, despite Somerset Council's proposed 11% increase, helping to minimise the impact on household bills during a time of rising living costs.

Ranger & Grass Cutting

Good news on village services — quotes for grass cutting and the ranger service have been accepted from Parsons Landscapes, who carried out this work last year. The Ranger has already been active on Sawpit Lane, and residents have expressed their appreciation for the work done so far.

Seavington Playing Field Association

Cllr Doble reported some welcome improvements at the Playing Field. The car park lights have been replaced, and residents have commented on how much better the new lighting is.

February Parish Council Meeting

New Councillor Announcement

We are delighted to give a warm welcome to Cllr Claire Hughes to Seavington Parish Council and look forward to working with her.

Village Flood Update

It is with regret that the Parish Council reports that Trudy Smith has resigned as Flood Warden. We thank her for her dedication and hard work and wish her well.

It was noted that no Seavington residents attended the recent flood workshops at the Millennium Hall, which were open to our village and neighbouring communities. We encourage residents to take part in future workshops, as they provide valuable information and guidance to help keep our homes and village safe from flooding.

Dogs

In light of recent incidents and to align with neighbouring areas, "For The Safety and Comfort of all Users, Please Keep Your Dog on a Lead" signage will be installed on the Playing Field. Two signs will be erected: one at the edge of the main car park near the dog waste bin, and one at the top entrance by the overflow car park. Installation is expected to be completed, where possible, by the beginning of April.

It has been observed that dogs are entering the fenced children's play area, which is a designated dog exclusion zone. Please ensure that your dog is not taken into this area, no matter how friendly your pet may be.

Ranger Activities

The Ranger has been actively maintaining and clearing drains in Davids Lane and Church Street to ensure water flows freely and reduce the risk of flooding. These regular maintenance activities are vital for keeping our parish safe and well-kept.

In addition, arrangements are being made for a suitably qualified operative from Parsons Landscapes to carry out chainsaw work in Sawpit Lane, helping to manage trees and hedgerows for safety and continued enjoyment of the local environment.

Village Footpaths

The Rights of Way Officer from Somerset Council, in collaboration with the farmers at Manor Farm, has proposed replacing the gates on their land. This improvement will make our footpaths easier and safer to use, encouraging everyone to enjoy the beautiful walks through the village and surrounding countryside.

Parish Councillor Details

Contact information, responsibilities, and phone numbers for all Parish Councillors can be found on the village website at www.theseavingtons.org. Residents with questions or concerns about Parish matters are encouraged to contact a Councillor directly or get in touch with the Clerk via email.