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 October 2026 at 18:30.

Present: Cllr A Doble, Cllr R Prendergast, Cllr R Reader, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Hughes and Mrs S Doble (Clerk)

Also Present:
There were 5 members of the public present.

Questions and comments from members of the public
A member of the public raised a query regarding a recent letter from a resident concerning a report that Councillors should not be approached whilst out in the village. It was clarified that this had been misunderstood and that the Parish Council had intended to encourage residents to respect Councillors' personal time when they are socialising or enjoying leisure activities. Residents are welcome to approach Councillors when they see them around the village. It was agreed that a clarification would be included in the next edition of the Seavington News.
A resident raised a query regarding footpath signage around the village, particularly the sign on the footpath from School Lane towards Lopen, beyond the metal gate. Following discussion, the resident was advised that this section of the footpath falls within Lopen Parish.
A question was raised as to whether vehicles declared SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) could be parked on the public highway. It was confirmed that SORN vehicles cannot legally be kept on a public road. The Parish Council confirmed that it was aware of the vehicles in question and had reported them to the relevant authorities. The Council will continue to report the vehicles until the matter is resolved.

Reports from Somerset Councillors (limited to 10 minutes in total)
There was no report from Somerset Councillors.

4065 To receive and agree any apologies for non-attendance:
Apologies have been received from Cllr Small.

4066 Declarations of Interest: E.g. Shop and Community Land Trust (CLT).
- No further declaration of interest where received.

4067 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on Tuesday 15th September 2026.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting both held-on Tuesday 15th September 2026 as a correct record and signed.
Proposed Cllr Doble **Seconded** Cllr Reader

4068 Clerks Updates:
- The Clerk reported Cllr England had resigned from the Parish Council with immediate effect.
- The Clerk advised that she is going to attend the Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day on the 21st October at Millfield School. Mrs S Reyland has confirmed that she will attend with the Clerk.
- The Clerk reported that an email had been received from the Senior Environmental Crime & Compliance Officer regarding the proposed Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). It was noted that the fully fenced play park would be included within the dog exclusion zone under the new PSPO. Seavington Playing Fields and Rowdells Orchard would be covered by the wider provisions of the Order, including requirements relating to dog fouling and dogs being kept on leads.

4069 Village Flooding Updates:
An email was received from a resident regarding gully clearing. The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted Lee Norman at Somerset Council and received confirmation that all gullies in Seavington are now scheduled for annual cleaning, with the exception of Water Street and a section of New Road, which are cleaned biannually. The annual gullies are due to be cleaned during the current financial year, and the works are still outstanding.

4070 To receive updates on the Current Village Planning matters:

A. Planning Application: **26/01357/HOU** Erection of a single-storey extension to modernise and enhance the internal layout of the existing bungalow of Dove Cottage Upton Lane Seavington St Michael Ilminster Somerset TA19 0PZ

- Members noted that application 26/01357/HOU has been approved

4071 Resolutions (Inc Planning – when applicable):

A. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** village maintenance issues and any necessary remedial works.

- Councillors discussed the matter and a suggestion was made to revamp the yellow path on the playing field. Quotes had been obtained from, which were higher than expected, although it was acknowledged that the cost reflected the length of the path, which is over 400 metres.
  MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** for Cllr Prendergast to review the matter and put forward a suggestion for consideration.
  Proposed Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Prendergast

B. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** concerns raised by a resident regarding alleged speeding through the village, deferred from the previous meeting, and agree any necessary action.

- Councillors discussed the ongoing concerns regarding vehicle speeds and noted that the issue is not currently being policed. It was suggested that the Community Speed Watch scheme be reinstated; however, this would require a volunteer from the village to coordinate and run the scheme.
  It was noted that it had previously been agreed to complete the necessary paperwork for Somerset Council to formally approve sites for the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). Councillors had been advised a few years ago that sites along New Road and Water Street would not be permitted; however, it was agreed that the Parish Council would submit the paperwork and try again.
  The possibility of installing bollards outside Falcon Close was discussed; however, it was noted that the road may not be wide enough to accommodate them.
  It was agreed to contact CLT to establish whether there were any updates regarding the installation of the footpath in front of Falcon Close.
  The use of road markings to create the visual effect of narrowing the road was also suggested as a potential traffic-calming measure.
  MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** to remove the SID (Speed Indicator Device) and place it in storage while the necessary paperwork is completed to formally establish approved sites for its future use. Once this process is complete, the Parish Council will be in a position to engage with Somerset Council and put forward suggestions for additional traffic-calming measures, such as road markings that may help to reduce vehicle speeds.
  Proposed Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Hughes

C. To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** the National Pay Award for the Clerk/RFO backdated to 1st April 2026.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the National Pay Award for the Clerk/RFO, backdated to 1st April 2026.
Proposed Cllr Taylor **Seconded** Cllr Prendergast

D. TO **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** the Clerks overtime of 2 hours (training courses - Making AGAR Digital Briefing and Elections Briefing for Clerks - Part 1) for the month of September 2026.
MEMBERS unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the Clerks overtime of 2 hours (training courses - Making AGAR Digital Briefing and Elections Briefing for Clerks - Part 1) for the month of September 2026.
Proposed Cllr Hughes **Seconded** Cllr Reader

4072 To receive any additional information (if any) on the following:

A. SID's and Community Speed Watch
   - Nothing to Report

B. Highways issues – Cllr Taylor
   Nothing to Report

C. Ranger Scheme – Cllr Prendergast
   - Cllr Prendergast raised a query regarding Greg's working hours and was advised that he works from 7.00 am to 3.00 pm.
   - It was noted that, after painting the window section of the telephone box black, Greg realised that this was incorrect and that the section would need to be repainted red.
   - The purchase of a defibrillator sign for the side of the telephone box was discussed. It was agreed that a replacement sign was not required, as larger defibrillator signs had recently been purchased for the top of the telephone box. It was further agreed that the existing sign would be removed and the affected area painted over.
   - The encroachment of the bank onto the pavement along the footpath from School Lane up the hill towards the bungalows was discussed. It was noted that the Parish Council does not have the facilities to undertake this work. As pavements and footpaths are the responsibility of Somerset Council, Cllr Taylor agreed to email Lee Norman to raise the matter.

D. Village Footpaths
   Nothing to Report

E. Seavington Playing Field Association – Cllr Doble
   Nothing to Report

F. Seavington Community Shop & Café – Cllr Taylor
   Nothing to Report

G. LCN – Clerk
   - An email has been received through the LCN about Highway Structural Maintenance provided by Somerset Council. It has been noted that earthworks will be delivered on Rooks Meade Lane this financial year.
   - The Clerk informed Members of the forthcoming online meetings - Crewkerne & Ilminster Local Community Network (LCN) Highways Working Group, Wednesday 13th January 2027, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Crewkerne & Ilminster LCN Active Travel Working Group, Monday 18th January 2027, from 10:00am - 11:30am.
   - The Clerk informed Members of a forthcoming reshuffle within the LCN. Chris Booth will be changing roles, with Alice Ginno-May taking over his position from November.

H. Village Facebook Group – Cllr Small
   Nothing to Report

I. Village Bier – All
   - The village bier was discussed, and Cllr Prendergast agreed to investigate whether it could be stored and used at St Mary's Church.

J. Play Park Inspections – Cllr Reader
   - Cllr Reader confirmed that he had carried out the play park inspection and that everything was found to be satisfactory.
   - The Wendy House was discussed. Cllr Taylor agreed to obtain the wood required for the roof. Cllr Prendergast would then carry out the roof repairs, after which Cllr Taylor would paint the Wendy House.

4073 Finance Matters:

A. Balances:

Current Account:	£49.10
Savings Account:	£22,283.60
Reserves Account:	£47,366.68

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

14-Oct-26

Invoice Date	Brief Description of Supply	Ranger	Grass Cutting Playing Field	Meeting Venue Hire	Bins	Play Park Inspections	Insurance	Maintenance	Assets Purchased	Grants	Subscriptions	Payroll	Training	Audit	Website & Emails	Clerks Expenses	Clerks Wages	Clerks Pension Contribution	PC - Pension Contributions	Clerks HMRC	SPFA Clerks Wages	Bank Charges	VAT	Total
		£7,174.60	£4,186.40	£168.00	£782.04	£1,785.00	£530.44	£110.28	£405.73	£0.00	£384.82	£252.00	£0.00	£315.00	£272.99	£348.95	£3,206.64	£0.00	£58.87	£0.00	£1,874.70	£25.50	£3,133.44	£25,015.40
16-Sep-26	Mrs S Doble - Clerks Mileage and Car Park															£17.65								£17.65
21-Sep-26	Lloyds Bank																					£4.25		£4.25
29-Sep-26	Mrs S Doble - X2 Connect Telecom Solutions								£81.20							£10.00							£18.24	£109.44
29-Sep-26	Mrs S Doble - Clerks Wages																£469.19	£9.07			£277.47			£737.59
29-Oct-26	Nest Pension - September																	£9.07	£6.80					£15.87
30-Sep-26	Parsons Landscapes Ltd	£989.60	£635.20																				£324.96	£1,949.76
01-Oct-26	Seavington Millennium Hall			£28.00																				£28.00
02-Oct-26	Whitefield Accountants										£100.00												£20.00	£120.00
24-Apr-03	Somerset Council				£338.00																		£67.60	£405.60

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

4074 **Date of next Meeting:** Tuesday 17th November 2026.

The meeting closed at 19:40