

## SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024. This meeting was held in the Community Centre.

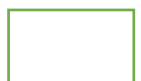
Present: Mrs Bridget Johnstone (Vice Chair), Mrs Pamela Akerman, Mrs Jackie Hamblin, Mr William Lack, Mr Paul Manning, Mrs Helen Robinson-Gordon, Mrs Debbie Savage, Mr Phil Springate, Mr Martin Wiltshire

Also Present: Cllr Tamara Reay, 4 Members of the Public & The Clerk

Agenda Item	Detail	Action
2024/217 Apologies for Absence	Mr Terry James, Mr John Williams	
2024/218 Declaration of Lobbying (i) Declaration of changes to the Register of Interests (ii) Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda (iii) Requests for Dispensation	(i) - There were no changes of declarations to the Register of Interests  (ii) - There were declarations of interest from Pamela Akerman regarding Berhills Farm PL/2024/09524 & PL/2024/09946 and Martin Wiltshire who declared an interest in JDH Gardening.  (iii) - There were no requests for dispensation.	
2024/219 Local He Councillor's Matters	Cllr Reay provided the following updates on local matters: <b>Storm Bert</b> The storm caused several severe flooding issues across the County. Flooding issues can be reported to Wiltshire Council via their MyWilts online reporting.  <b>Bus Service Improvements</b> Wiltshire Council has been awarded ~£7m by the Department for Transport to invest in the county's bus services for 2025 and 2026. This will allow the council to provide extended hours and increased frequency for some services such as the No49 that passes through Seend.  <b>Wiltshire Finance Budget</b> Wiltshire Council's budget for 2024/25 is approximately £486 million. Although a financial review at the end of Q1 projected a significant overspend for the year, at the end of Q2 the council has managed to reduce this to less than £1m through savings in Adult and Social Care Services.  <b>Wiltshire Local Transport Plan</b> The Local Transport Plan 2025 – 2039 (LPT4) goes out for consultation on Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov and ends Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan. There are webinars to introduce the plan. The first of these takes place on Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 6-7pm with a follow up session on Monday 13 Jan 2025, 6-7pm. You can sign up for these events by searching 'Wiltshire Local Transport Plan' and follow the online links to register.	
2024/220 Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 were circulated to all Councillors.  Acceptance of the Minutes of this meeting as an accurate record was proposed by William Lack seconded by Debbie Savage. Except for John Williams & Terry James who were not present at this meeting, all Councillors present voted in favour. A shortened version of this month's minutes to be placed in Spotlight.	Clerk



Agenda Item	Detail	Action
2024/221 Matters Arising Not Already on the Agenda	None	
2024/222 Items for Discussion from Members of the Parish	None	
2024/223 Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)	<p><b>Bell Crossroads</b> <u>Deployment of Speed Activated Junction Warning Signs</u></p> <p>LHFIG advised that works associated with the Collision reduction programme have been completed and a period of monitoring of personal injury collisions has been implemented. Whilst this monitoring is in progress the consideration of Vehicle Activated Signs will not be undertaken.</p> <p>The Clerk to confirm the end date for this monitoring period</p> <p><u>Replacement of Existing Bollards with a more Substantial model</u></p> <p>LHFIG are liaising with the Highways on the suitability of alternative bollards.</p> <p><u>Extension of Pedestrian Railings from School Road towards Dial Close</u></p> <p>LHFIG advised that an engineer has been assigned for this investigation and will feedback recommendations to the next LHFIG in January.</p> <p><b>Bollands Hill</b> The Clerk to request Highways reinstate the white lines on the newly tarmaced section of Bollands Hill adjacent Oriel House.</p> <p><b>The Stocks</b> Although previous requests for a speed limit reduction at this location have been rejected by LHFIG, Cllr Reay indicated she would support a new request and would be willing to consider as part of the consultation exercise for LPT4.</p> <p>The Clerk to share previous criteria provided by LHFIG and draft a new Highways Improvement Request for review by Councillors and Cllr Reay prior to submission in time for the next LHFIG meeting in January.</p> <p><b>Canal &amp; River Trust</b> There has been no further update from the Enforcement and Legal Teams.</p> <p>The next LHFIG meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> Jan. Cllr Reay &amp; Clerk to attend.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Reay/ Clerk</p>
2024/224 Speedwatch	<p>The Speedwatch team has been trying to undertake weekly speedwatch sessions but this has been hampered by adverse weather. The need for a lighter more mobile Speedwatch Indicator Device was discussed and the Clerk will identify the device used at Avebury and secure initial pricing for Councillors to consider.</p> <p>It was suggested the SID's could be turned 180° so that drivers do not get so use to seeing the devices from the same location.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Debbie Savage / John Williams</p>



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2024/225 Neighbourhood Plan / Wiltshire Local Plan	<p>The Clerk has formally advised Wiltshire Council of Parish Council's decision to review the Neighbourhood Plan, and a notice has been placed in Spotlight and on Parish Notice Boards for Volunteers to help with the review.</p> <p>The following Councillors agreed to form part of this review group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridget Johnstone</li> <li>• Helen Robinson-Gordon</li> <li>• Pamela Akerman</li> <li>• Phil Springate</li> </ul> <p>Helen Robinson-Gordan agreed to act as the Neighbourhood Plan Lead on behalf of the Parish Council and a parishioner indicated they would like to be part of the review group.</p> <p>It was agreed the Parish Council would wait to see how many other volunteers come forward as a result of the adverts placed in the Parish. The Clerk to update the Council's Facebook Page with a link to the Plan on the Council's Website.</p> <p>The group's initial aim will be to refamiliarise themselves with the Neighbourhood Plan and identify possible amendments. The group would meet to review Wiltshire Council's Local Plan after it is formally reviewed by the Secretary of State late 2025. The group should then be in a position to make recommendations as to what changes are required to the Neighbourhood Plan that both protect and benefit all communities within the parish.</p> <p>It was noted that it is not necessarily the Parish Council's responsibility to review the plan but it should be involved. The review needs members of the Community to take part.</p>	<p>Helen Robinson-Gordon</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2024/226 Planning Matters	<p>PL/2024/09286- The Appleyard, Spout Lane - Erection of wooden garage and carport over existing 2-bay car parking space</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Martin Wiltshire proposed this application is approved and seconded by Helen Robinson-Gordon. Except for Bridget Johnstone who abstained as she is a neighbour of the applicant, all Councillors present voted in favour.</p> <p>PL/2024/09524 &amp; PL/2024/09946 - Berhills Farm, Seend – Alterations, and change of use from agricultural to Domestic (C3)</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> William Lack proposed this application is approved. This was seconded by Paul Manning. All Councillors present voted in favour.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2024/227 Solar Farms	<p><b>Sandridge Solar</b></p> <p>Sandridge Solar have confirmed this year's benefit payment will amount to £1,433.68 and will be paid on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
2024/228 Devizes Area Board	<p>Pamela Akerman and John Williams attended the Area Board meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 202</p> <p>The next Area Board will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025</p>	<p>Pamela Akerman / John Williams</p>
2024/229 Items of Correspondence	<p>None</p>	



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2024/230 Parish Steward	<p>The Clerk to request the Parish Steward undertake the following work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leaves to swept up by Oak Tree on School Road</li> </ul>	Clerk																		
2024/231 Clerk Vacancy	<p>The Clerk has placed adverts in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spotlight and Parish Notice Boards</li> <li>• Wiltshire Association of Local Council's Website</li> <li>• indeed.com</li> </ul> <p>So far 9 applications have been received and interest has also been declared by a partner of one of our Parish Councillors. All Councillors who were present agreed that partners should be allowed to apply.</p> <p>As part of a new Clerk's future responsibilities, Councillors considered the concept of employing a Parish Handman to undertake small maintenance tasks such as cleaning bus shelters, weeding, cleaning and painting Parish Council assets. Rowde Parish Council has a such an arrangement. The Clerk to request further details from Rowde Parish Council.</p>	Clerk																		
2024/232 Financial Matters	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p>a. <b>2025-2026 Precept</b> The Precept meeting took place on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and after review of the Councils finances agreed the 2025-2026 will increase by £1,617. Whilst the increase is slightly larger than previous years, it is mainly driven by the anticipated Clerk changeover.</p> <p>Resolution: William Lack proposed the 2025-2026 Precept budget should be set at £23,851, seconded by Jackie Hamblin. All Councillors present voted in favour. The Clerk to inform Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>b. <b>Income</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Clerk advised that Lloyds Interest payment for this month amounted to £31.66</li> </ul> <p>c. <b>Payments</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="453 1480 1270 1715"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Reason</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mr C Stirland</td> <td>£762.45</td> <td>Nov Salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HugoFox Limited</td> <td>£23.99</td> <td>Hugofox - Parish Council Website - Nov</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JDH Gardening Services</td> <td>£168.00</td> <td>Allotments Hedge Cutting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr C Stirland</td> <td>£852.54</td> <td>Dec Salary (inc £57.33 Backpay</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HugoFox Limited</td> <td>£23.99</td> <td>Hugofox - Parish Council Website - Dec</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Resolution:</b> Phil Springate proposed acceptance of the payments that had been pre-authorised online by Pamela Akerman &amp; Debbie Savage. This was seconded by Helen Robinson-Gordon. With the exception Martin Wiltshire who declared an interest in JDH Gardening all remaining Councillors who were present voted in favour. Next month's online payment pre-authorisations will be undertaken by Terry James &amp; John Williams.</p>	Payee	Amount	Reason	Mr C Stirland	£762.45	Nov Salary	HugoFox Limited	£23.99	Hugofox - Parish Council Website - Nov	JDH Gardening Services	£168.00	Allotments Hedge Cutting	Mr C Stirland	£852.54	Dec Salary (inc £57.33 Backpay	HugoFox Limited	£23.99	Hugofox - Parish Council Website - Dec	Clerk
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	<p>d. Bank Reconciliation at end of November 2024, was £39,599.36 this excludes the delayed payment from Sandridge Solar of £1,433.68 that will be paid on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024</p> <p>e. Clerk Forthcoming Debit Card Payments – None</p> <p>f. Lloyds Bank – Move to a Community Account.</p> <p>Lloyds Banks like other High Street Banks have introduced charges for using their banking services. It means we will now have to pay a monthly fee for our banking of £4.25/month. As we have less than 100 bank transactions/month, we will incur no further charges.</p> <p>We have remained with Lloyds, primarily because until now they were the only High Street Bank that did not charge organisations such as ours for their services.</p> <p>Despite introducing this charge, they are still less than other providers particularly Unity Bank that has a service specifically for Parish Councils and was the parish council’s alternative possibility to Lloyds.</p> <p><b>Resolution:</b> William Lack proposed that the Parish Council remains with Lloyds Bank. This was seconded by Phil Springate. All Councillors present voted in favour</p>													
2024/233 Items of Note	None													
2024/234 Date of next meetings	<p>The Vice Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 8.40pm The next Parish Council meetings are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 1279 1289 1375"> <thead> <tr> <th>Meeting</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Time</th> <th>Venue</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Parish Council Meeting</td> <td>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan</td> <td>7.00pm</td> <td>Community Centre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Council Meeting</td> <td>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb</td> <td>7.00pm</td> <td>Community Centre</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Meeting	Date	Time	Venue	Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.00pm	Community Centre	Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.00pm	Community Centre	
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Terry James (Chairman)  
Date: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025

