



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF Seend Parish Council

Meeting Type: Full Council, Tuesday 27th January 2026

Time: 18.30 – 20.30

Venue: Irene Usher Hall, Seend, Melksham

(Meeting convened in accordance with **Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972**)

1. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairman declared the meeting open at **18.30**, having confirmed that the meeting had been **properly convened** in accordance with **Schedule 12, paragraph 10 of the Local Government Act 1972**.

2. PRESENT

Councillors Present:

- Cllr Savage (Chair)
- Cllr Cllr Bridget Johnstone (Vice Chair)
- Cllr Paul Manning
- Cllr Pamela Akerman
- Cllr Jamie Halliday
- Cllr Phil Springate
- Cllr William Lack
- Cllr Helen Robinson – Gordon
- Cllr Mavrick Drewett
- Cllr Steve Drewett

In Attendance:

- Proper Officer / Clerk – Hayley Bell

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

- None all Cllr Present

Council considered the apologies in accordance with **Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972**.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST



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In accordance with:

- **Sections 28–34, Localism Act 2011**, and
- **The Council's Code of Conduct**,

Councillors were invited to declare **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)** and **other interests**.

- No declared an interest.

5. DISPENSATIONS

No dispensations were requested under **Section 33, Localism Act 2011**.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on **2nd December 2025** be approved as a **true and accurate record**, in accordance with **Schedule 12, paragraph 41, Local Government Act 1972**. Proposed Cllr Halliday Seconded Cllr Akerman

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with:

- **Section 1, Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**, and
- **Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014**,

members of the public addressed the Council on the following matters:

- Concerns raised regarding the replaced bollard; the resident wrote to MP Brian Matthew, and since the Wiltshire Council has replaced it. However, note that the reflective bands and location were not as requested.
- Speed Indicator Device request to relocate it to face the high street.
- Gully down Bell Hill to Seend Cleve is full, they have been reported on my Wilts app and to date no outcome. <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>
- Concerns regarding Wiltshire and Dorset Fire Service potential cuts and the impact on service provision. <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/news/statement-re-proposed-fire-station-closures/>
- Home Fire Safety Visit, sometimes referred to as a Safe & Well Visit, is a completely free service offered by Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service to help keep our communities safer in their homes. The Home Fire Safety discussion will cover topics such as:



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- Using electricity safely
- Cooking safely
- Making an escape plan
- What to do if there is a fire
- Keeping children safe
- Good practice – nighttime routine and other points relevant to you
- Identifying and discussing any further support you may need if necessary

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits/safe-and-well-referrals/>

8. Wiltshire Councillor Tamara Raey

Wiltshire Council are currently presenting a draft budget which will see proposed cuts.

- Waste programme being considered for general household waste every 3 weeks.
- Recycling centres to close without an alternative.
- Community Transport funding for the link scheme, which is used by some of our most isolated and vulnerable residents.
- Parish Steward funding is being cut by £800,000; this is a vital service for parish councils who rely on their support.
- Wiltshire Council budget meeting is on February 24th at Wiltshire Council, please see the link below.
- <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/15997/Wiltshire-Council-publishes-its-2026-27-budget-proposals>
- Raised information on the Vision Zero
<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/15780/Wiltshire-and-Swindon-Road-Safety-Partnership-underlines-its-commitment-to-road-safety-and-Vision-road-Zero>
- Seend Head Road is breaking up; works are programmed.
- Pavement pinch point has been raised with the highways
- Blocked Drain at Weavers Cottage has been reported

Clerk to write to the Leader of Wiltshire Council to raise concerns, proposed by Cllr Lack and seconded by Cllr Savage.

9.

9.1 Chairman's Announcements

Congratulated Irene Usher and the Seend Community Centre on their recent grant awards to upgrade.

Place studios have been asked to provide a quote to review the Seend Neighbourhood Plan.



Request for councillors to provide a bio for the new website

LHFIG will no longer fund white gates; the chair is discussing with local councils and seeking specifications to enable further conversations and quotes. Village name plates are £330.00 each, proposed by Cllr Lack and Cllr Savage

The Chairman provided a report in accordance with accepted council practice as set out in *Local Council Administration*.

9.1 Clerk's Report

The Clerk, as **Proper Officer under Section 270(3), Local Government Act 1972**, presented a written report to be noted by councillors.

9.2 Councillors Updates

Cllr Savaged asked for requests for the SID by Rose Cottage.

Volunteers are still required for speed watch, please contact Cllr Savage.

Cllr Akerman congratulated everyone on the success of the sids and the improvements they have made.

Cllr Manning issues with the drainage near Williams Timber and the impact of the overflowing. Potholes continue from Marsh Farm to Bill Hill, report to My Wilts App. Raised concerns over the swing gate at Love walk, pictures and what three words to be sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Springate raised concerns over the vehicles parked on the yellow lines by the Barge Inn. Clerk to raise concerns with the police, Cllr Springate to provide photos and what three words.

Cllr Halliday is arranging community first aid courses. Thank you to resident Mark Wood, who will run the courses. Dates to be set, and the Clerk will promote on social media and spotlight.

Cllr Johnstone raised an opportunity for Seend to enter the Country Life Magazine awards, <https://livingheritage.unesco.org.uk/get-involved/eoi>

Cllr Robinson – Gordon discussed the mud on Row Lane, Newlane Bridal Way is flooded.



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Cllr Lack raised concerns that the white lanes need redoing on Bollards Hill. Request for a horse signs, Cllr Halliday to provide what three words.

Cllr Williams confirmed from 7 speed watch sessions of half an hour each from December – January, there were 2112 vehicles 4 which were over the speed limit

10. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

10. Policies and Allotments

RESOLVED: To adopt policies with changes to the new logo added and date of approval, Community Engagement, Complaints, Equal Opportunities and Publication Scheme. Cllr Drewett and Cllr Manning

RESOLVED: not to increase allotment rent fees for 2026 – 2027; the council will review in September 2027. Cllr Lack and Cllr Springate.

(Proposed, seconded, and voted upon in accordance with **Schedule 12, Local Government Act 1972**.)

11. FINANCE

11.1 Payments

RESOLVED:

The payments listed are approved under **Section 150, Local Government Act 1972**.

The Clerk reminded councillors to please check the invoices against the payments to ensure due diligence.

12. NO CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **24th February 2026** at **18.30**, Irene Usher Hall

14. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at **20.35**

SIGNATURE

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman: _____ Date: _____



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