

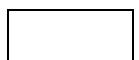
**SEEND PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024. This meeting was held in the Community Centre.

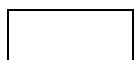
**Present:** Mr Terry James, Mrs Bridget Johnstone (Vice Chair), Mrs Pamela Akerman, Mrs Jackie Hamblin, Mr William Lack, Mr Paul Manning, Mrs Helen Robinson-Gordon, Mrs Debbie Savage, Mr John Williams, Mr Martin Wiltshire

Also Present: Cllr Tamara Reay, 5 Members of the Public & The Clerk

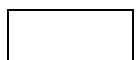
Agenda Item	Detail	Action
2024/177 Apologies for Absence	Phil Springate	
2024/178 Declaration of Lobbying (i) Declaration of changes to the Register of Interests (ii) Declaration of interest in items on the Agenda (iii) Requests for Dispensation	(i)-There were no changes of declarations to the Register of Interests  (ii) - There was declaration of interest from William Lack who declared an interest in PL/2024/08226  (iii) - There were no requests for dispensation.	
2024/179 CPRE Presentation	Nick Stokes a CPRE Trustee presented the award for Best Kept Village Competition in which Seend has won First Prize in the Kennet Area Large Village Section. The award was accepted on behalf of the village by John Williams who will seek permission for the certificate to be displayed in the Irene Usher Hall.  The donation will be used to help fund the Parish Council's contribution to the Lye Field Wild Flower Meadow.	
2024/180 Local Councillor's Matters	Cllr Reay provided the following updates on local matters:  <b>On Street EV Charging</b> Wiltshire Council will be undertaking a survey to develop on street parking solutions for residents that do not have Off-Street parking. The Clerk to circulate the questionnaire to Councillors.	Clerk
2024/181 Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2024 were circulated to all Councillors.  Acceptance of the Minutes of this meeting as an accurate record was proposed William Lack and seconded by Bridget Johnstone. All Councillors present voted in favour.  A shortened version of this month's minutes to be placed in Spotlight.	Clerk
2024/182 Matters Arising Not Already on the Agenda	None	
2024/183 Items for Discussion from Members of the Parish	None	



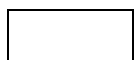
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2024/184 Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)	<p><b>Bell Crossroads</b>            Wiltshire Highways assessed this location as being the 24<sup>th</sup> worst vehicle accident location in the county. However, this is based on incomplete/inaccurate Police data which the Parish Council has challenged. According to Wiltshire Highways there were only 4 'Slight' injuries recorded by the Police between 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 (The review period). However, a Freedom of information request to SW Ambulance identified 3 'Serious' Injuries and 3 'Slight' Injuries potentially making the Bell Crossroads the most serious accident location in Wiltshire. Although Highways acknowledged this new information, they declined to review the situation unless the Wiltshire &amp; Swindon Road Safety Partnership agreed to include the additional information that has been supplied. The Clerk and Tamara Reay have separately approached the Road Safety Partnership and they have agreed to provide a response. It was also noted the current assessment does not correlate the potential impact speeds at the crash location or the potential number of pedestrians. For instance, vehicle impact velocities at or near the Bell Crossroads would be higher than a town center location. Conversely, rural accident locations will have a lower pedestrian count than a town center. Cllr Reay and the Clerk to pursue a review of the Crash Location assessment criteria.</p> <p>A key issue at the Bell crossroads is its lack of junction visibility particularly travelling north towards the junction up Bell Hill. A suggestion was made for the deployment of a speed activated advanced warning indicator installed on the approach to at the junction of Hay Lane with A4361 NW of Broad Hinton. The Clerk/Cllr Reay to make a request to LHFIG. Other suggestions included an additional Speed indicator device and a Freedom of Information Request to Wiltshire Council regarding the costs of repairing the Baldham Bridge.</p> <p><b>Bradley &amp; Rusty Lane</b>            Despite repeated requests for detailed plans and costings, neither have been forthcoming from Wiltshire Rights of Way Team. The Chairman asked Cllr Reay to obtain this information.</p> <p><b>Canal &amp; River Trust</b>            There has been no further update from Wiltshire's Enforcement and Legal Teams. The Chairman asked Cllr Reay to obtain an update on their progress.</p> <p><b>Spout Lane Parking</b>            The Chairman repeated the request to Cllr Reay for support in getting LHFIG to consider some form of Residents Parking to form part of the parking solution for this location. Bridget Johnstone advised that as a result of a metro count survey on Spout Lane between the A365 and Camping &amp; Caravan club, the average vehicle speed had been recorded at 22mph.</p> <p><b>Overnight HGV Traffic</b>            LHFIG rejected the Parish Council's request to prohibit overnight traffic through the village as this was outside the scope of LHFIG. The next version of the Local Transport Plan (LPT4) is about to begin consultation. Cllr Reay confirmed her Cabinet responsibilities include the review of LPT4 and she had previously agreed to discuss this issue with the Director of Highways &amp; Transport</p> <p>Various suggestions were made by parishioners regarding new metro counts to underpin the case for a review. Cllr Reay confirmed the consultation period for LPT4 is imminent and representations could be made to her.</p>	<p>Clerk /Cllr Reay</p> <p>Clerk/Cllr Reay</p> <p>Cllr Reay</p> <p>Cllr Reay</p> <p>Cllr Reay</p> <p>Cllr Reay</p>



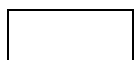
Agenda Item	Detail	Action
	<p>Although there were suggestions as to what and where traffic data should be collected, the Parish Council's experience is that unless it has been pre-agreed with Highways, any subsequent report / suggestion may be discounted. Those interested in undertaking such studies were advised to discuss with Cllr Reay and gain agreement through her with Highways that such studies would form part of the LPT4 review.</p> <p><b>Vehicle Pollution</b> LHFIG rejected the Parish Council's request to consider traffic pollution monitoring through the village as this was outside the scope of LHFIG. The Clerk subsequently approached Wiltshire Environmental Protection who advised traffic pollution levels had fallen considerably across the county and high air pollution locations such as Roses Roundabout, Devizes now met minimum pollution standards. With the advent of Electric Vehicles and cleaner vehicle engines, it is therefore likely that vehicle pollution at the High Street 'pinch point' will meet the minimum air pollution standard. However, they agreed to deploy a temporary (mobile) unit to see how serious the perceived air quality is at this location.</p> <p><b>Vehicle Noise Pollution</b> Concern was raised about the noise associated with some larger vehicle travelling through the village exceeding maximum permitted noise levels. It was noted some of this excess noise may be associated with empty vehicles and the poor state of the road surface in particular potholes and loose manhole covers. It was suggested that vehicle noise pollution should form a part of the LPT4 review.</p> <p>Cllr Reay confirmed that she would discuss all of these issues with the Director of Highways &amp; Transport and she would continue to work with Council officers to explore what options are available to improve the current situation</p> <p><b>High Street Flooding</b> A property on the High Street has become susceptible to flooding due to the buildup of new layers of Road Surface. The Clerk escalated this with Wiltshire Highways and requested an emergency gully/drain clean to help alleviate the immediate issue. Cllr Reay also visited the owner to review the situation. Cllr Reay reiterated that residents should report flooding issues on MyWilts reporting. Wiltshire has three high pressure jetting machines that can be deployed to resolve drainage issues. To report a blocked gully, please use <a href="#">MyWilts</a>.</p> <p>Cllr Reay to see if it's possible for the Parish Council to pay for additional gully cleans in this vicinity.</p> <p>The next LHFIG meeting is 10am 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The Chairman, Cllr Reay &amp; Clerk to attend.</p>	<p>Cllr Reay</p> <p>Cllr Reay</p> <p>Chairman/ Cllr Reay/ Clerk</p>
2024/185 Speedwatch	<p>Debbie Savage shared copies of the data collected from the new Speed Indicator Devices (SID's). She confirmed their presence has made a difference with average speeds recorded on the High Street falling. It was also confirmed the SID's will be a permanent installation within the village.</p> <p>Terry James thanked John and Debbie for identifying the SID locations.</p>	Debbie Savage / John Williams



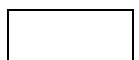
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2024/186 Neighbourhood Plan / Wiltshire Local Plan	<p>The Proposed Housing Needs Survey 2024 is being organised by Community First.</p> <p>Paul Taylor offered to assist in the review of the Neighbourhood Plan and will join Bridget Johnstone, Pamela Akerman and Phil Springate.</p>	
2024/187 Planning Matters	<p><b>PL/2024/07865</b> - The Brewhouse, Trowbridge Road, Seend - Replacement entrance door and erection of a garden shed</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> William Lack proposed this application is approved. This was seconded by Debbie Savage. All councillors present voted in favour.</p> <p><b>PL/2024/08226</b> - Seend Park, High St - 1 Lime x 2 - Crown raise to previous points. 4/5m from the ground</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Terry James proposed this application is approved. This was seconded by John Williams. Except for William Lack who had declared an interest, all remaining councillors present voted in favour</p> <p><b>PL/2024/08439</b> – Rose Cottage Farm, Sells Green – Retrospective provision of a workshop/storage building &amp; hardstanding</p> <p>The Parish Council is not aware of a change of use from Agricultural to Industrial and is concerned that the application has been made retrospectively without consultation with the Neighbourhood Plan. The building is significantly large in size and appears to be designed for Industrial use. The Parish Council believes only brief information has been supplied and is concerned as to the actual/future use of this facility.</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Terry James proposed the application is rejected on the grounds that it is retrospective, does not comply with the Neighbourhood Plan and lacks information including previous evidence that a change of use from agricultural to industrial use has been granted. This was seconded by Paul Manning. All councillors present voted in favour.</p> <p><b>PL/2024/08734</b> – 5 The Lye, Seend – Tree Works - Box Elder tree - Fell</p> <p><u>Resolution:</u> Debbie Savage proposed this application is approved. This was seconded by Paul Manning. All councillors present voted in favour.</p> <p>Planning Sub Committee Request for Pre planning meeting for industrial units near Turnpike garage</p> <p>Although it is not directly in Seend Parish the applicant would like the Parish Council to review the initial proposal prior to Planning being requested. The Clerk to arrange a meeting with the applicant and Planning Sub Committee.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2024/188 Sandridge Solar Benefit Payment	<p><b>Byde Mill Solar Farm</b></p> <p>A pamphlet detailing a proposed new Solar Farm has been circulated to some village residents. Further information and an opportunity to provide feedback can be found online at <a href="http://www.bydemillsolarfarm.co.uk">www.bydemillsolarfarm.co.uk</a> The consultation closes on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and there will be a drop in event at Poulshot Village Hall 1<sup>st</sup> October from 3pm-7pm. It's possible that if the farm is approved, the Parish Council may receive some community funding.</p>	



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	Concerns were raised regarding the prospect of more agricultural land being taking out of production and that the associated construction and maintenance traffic would be diverted away from Poulshot Village via Bell Hill and Bollands Hill. In addition, a question was asked regarding a financial provision to decommission the solar farm at the end of its service life and return the land to agriculture use. The Clerk to contact Byde Mill Solar.	Clerk
2024/189 Devizes Area Board	The Area Board took place on 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2024.  John Williams attended this meeting Cllr Reay  A presentation was given about the work of the Wiltshire and Swindon Road Safety Partnership. The Partnership has been created to help reduce the number and severity of personal injury collisions, particularly those resulting in death or serious injury.  The next Area Board will take place on 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Pamela Akerman / John Williams
2024/190 Items of Correspondence	None	
2024/191 Parish Steward	The Clerk to request the Parish Steward undertake the following work:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The two lay-bys in stocks to be tidied.</li> <li>• Treat weeds along the pavement by the Lye Field</li> </ul> The Clerk to request the removal of the Litter Pick sign from the Eastbound Bus Shelter at Sells Green.	Clerk  Clerk
1024/192 Wiltshire Independent Remuneration Survey	City, town, and Parish Councils can choose to pay their members an allowance, known as a 'Parish Basic Allowance (PBA)', to recognise the time and effort Councillors put into their parish duties. They may also make an allowance available to its Chairman. Previously Seend Parish Council has chosen not to pay a PBA.  <u>Resolution</u> Paul Manning proposed that the Parish Council should continue not to award a PBA to its Councillors. This was seconded by Terry James. All Councillors present voted in favour.	
2024/193 External Auditors Report 2023-24	<b>External Auditors Report 2023-24</b> The External Auditor's report was circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting. The report concluded that there were no actions required to be undertaken and that all relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have been met.  AGAR Sections 1-3 along with a 'Notice of conclusion of Audit' have been posted within the Parish between 10 <sup>th</sup> September and & 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2024. Copies of these documents are also available on the Parish Council's Website.	
2024/194 Financial Matters	<b>Financial Matters</b> <b>a. Income</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Clerk advised that Lloyds Interest payment for this month amounted to £22.68</li> <li>- Allotment Income £378.75 with £177.50 outstanding. The Clerk has sent reminder letters for outstanding payments</li> <li>- Precept £10,617.00 has been received</li> </ul>	



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	<p><b>b. Payments</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="459 338 1294 651"> <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>Salary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HugoFox Limited</td> <td>£23.99</td> <td>Parish Council Website</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seend Lye Field</td> <td>£500.00</td> <td>Wild Flower Meadow Project</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr C Stirland</td> <td>£94.59</td> <td>Expenses (July – Sept)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr S Vaux</td> <td>£43.08</td> <td>SID Locks x 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WH Smith</td> <td>£19.98</td> <td>Printing Paper</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PKF Littlejohn LLP</td> <td>£252.00</td> <td>External Audit</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Resolution:</b> William Lack proposed acceptance of the payments that had been preauthorised online by Pamela Akerman &amp; John Williams. This was seconded by Debbie Savage. Apart from Terry James who abstained as he did not support the Wild Flower Meadow, all remaining Councillors present voted in favour. Next month’s online payment pre-authorisations will be undertaken by Terry James &amp; Phil Springate.</p> <p>c. Bank Reconciliation at end of September 2024, was £41,691.55</p> <p>d. A draft copy of the 2025/2026 Precept was circulated to Councillors prior to this meeting. A date for the Annual precept meeting to be agreed.</p> <p>e. Clerk Forthcoming Debit Card Payments - None</p>	Payee	Amount	Reason	Mr C Stirland	£762.45	Salary	HugoFox Limited	£23.99	Parish Council Website	Seend Lye Field	£500.00	Wild Flower Meadow Project	Mr C Stirland	£94.59	Expenses (July – Sept)	Mr S Vaux	£43.08	SID Locks x 2	WH Smith	£19.98	Printing Paper	PKF Littlejohn LLP	£252.00	External Audit	Clerk
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2024/195 Items of Note	<p><b>Annual Precept Meeting</b> The Annual Precept Meeting will take place at 7pm Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. As Terry James will be unable to attend, Helen Robinson-Gordon agreed to attend. The Clerk to book the venue.</p> <p><b>Winter Fuel Allowance</b> A Councillor noted that with the potential removal of Winter Fuel Allowance for pensioners, they wanted to know whether the Church would be considering setting up a Warm Refuge as it did earlier this year at the Irene Usher Memorial Hall. If this was the case, could the Parish Council consider making a provision for a donation towards this initiative. The Clerk to contact the Church.</p> <p><b>Semington Canal Bridge</b> A Councillor noted that a number of vehicles are parking close to this bridge and therefore experiencing similar issues to those on Spout Lane. It was further commented that people may be living in vans at this location and hence a possible indicator of the shortage of affordable housing in Wiltshire.</p> <p><b>Rusty Lane</b> A Councillor reported that Wiltshire Council Rights of Way team have cut back the verges on Rusty Lane.</p>	Clerk  Clerk																								



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	<p><b>Tennis Club</b> A Councillor advised the Tennis Club has introduced a 'Pay on the Gate' system so that anyone can book a Court. The cost is £10/Court per hour and can be booked on line via Seend Tennis Club Website.</p> <p><b>Overgrown Verges</b> Councillors noted that the balance between creating eco-friendly verges and cutting them to maintain driver's sightlines and hence road safety is a fine balance. There was a general view that there appears to be a reduction in verge cutting at the expense of road safety across the county.</p> <p><b>Rowde Common</b> Councillors noted a concern regarding further sale of land adjacent Rowde Common and potential access in wet weather. A local landowner reported an offer he has made to Rowde Parish Council to undertake work within his land to construct a barrier by enlarging the drainage pond.</p>																	
2024/196 Date of next meetings	<p>The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 21.05 pm The next Parish Council meetings are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="435 891 1291 1016"> <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 29<sup>th</sup> Oct</td> <td>7.00pm</td> <td>Community Centre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual Precept Meeting</td> <td>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov</td> <td>7.00pm</td> <td>Community Centre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Council Meeting</td> <td>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov</td> <td>7.00pm</td> <td>Community Centre</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Meeting	Date	Time	Venue	Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	7.00pm	Community Centre	Annual Precept Meeting	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7.00pm	Community Centre	Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7.00pm	Community Centre	
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Terry James (Chairman)  
Date: 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024

