

**SEATON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019**  
**VILLAGE HALL SEATON 7pm**

Present:

Mr N Greenfield      Chairman

Mr D Coop

Mr R Clarke

Mrs C Lammie

Mrs Siobhan Machin

In attendance:

Mr John Hill              Clerk

Three members of the public

**MINUTES**

**1. APOLOGIES:**

None

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Tabled:**

RCC: 2019/0940/CAT No TPOs for tree work 5 Drury's Lane;

2019/0953/CAT No TPOs for tree work 3 Drury's Lane

Nick Sale attended the meeting to raise the subject of the potential availability of faster Broadband for the village.

Rutland County Council has approached the Village Hall Committee offering a scheme to connect fibre Broadband to community buildings. Whilst not necessarily having an immediate direct benefit for village hall users, the contractors would connect anyone within 200 metres free of charge. Beyond 200 metres a £500 connection grant per property is available. This would to some extent 'futureproof' Broadband provision for Seaton. In principle, the Village Hall Committee has expressed an interest with a view to taking out a contract in the short term.

This can be promoted on the SPC website.

With his experience of the digital industry, Nick Sale expressed surprise that SPC data is backed up only to a hard drive rather than 'the Cloud'.

The Clerk recapped that, when enquiries were made of Cloud providers, they had stated that no guarantee of security for the data could be given. Insofar as private data for members of the public might be at risk, it had been decided not to use this facility. After discussion, views were expressed that the risk was small. It was suggested that the LRALC be consulted on this before making a decision. **The Clerk will make enquiries.**

#### **4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

On a proposal by Councillor Greenfield, seconded by Councillor Clarke, the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 13th May 2019 were duly signed as a correct record with the approval of all present.

#### **5. MATTERS ARISING (NOT ON THE AGENDA):**

##### **Call & Connect bus service:**

Councillor Greenfield had organised an event with Rutland County Council at which there was a briefing on two systems: The Call Connect with low costs but a limited range and the Voluntary Car Transport Scheme which is reasonably flexible in terms of destination and has only a modest charge attached. Attendees at the event suggested that Seaton should be added to local buses routes with destinations to include the markets and Doctors' surgeries.

#### **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

##### **Accounts update:**

Petty Cash	£60.09 (-£10 for this meeting)
Current Account	
Nationwide	£3119.87 + interest
West Brom	
Deposit Account	£5561.99 + interest

##### **Payments:**

Members approved the following payments on a proposition by Councillor Greenfield, seconded by Councillor Lammie:

##### **Retrospective:**

Robin Clarke - voucher for audit services	£25.00
2Commune – Website services & licence	£330.00
Farm Signs Children's play area safety signs	£104.78
Playsafety – Play area annual inspection	£99.00
Biffa – Grass cutting services	£354.24
Information Commissioner registration fee (GDPR)	£40.00
HMRC 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter tax (PAYE)	£92.25
Rutland County Council - election costs	£161.69

##### **New payment:**

HMRC 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter tax (PAYE)	£92.25
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Councillor Clarke reported that he would be obtaining the usual voucher for hedge trimming by Tylers.

#### **7. GDPR UPDATE:**

The Clerk is continuing to follow the '12 Steps to Compliance' guide for the General Data Protection Regulations including clearing the files of any unnecessary personal data. The annual fee has been paid to the Office of the Information Commissioner. The Clerk reminded members that they are required to have a separate e-mail account exclusively for Parish Council business and, where a digital device is shared, a separate Login for the Parish Council.

## **8. THOMPSON'S FIELD:**

**Play area resurfacing, equipment maintenance and update:** Councillor Lammie reported, following an inspection of the play area on 28<sup>th</sup> September, that the groove under the swing seats is getting deeper.

The small play items are exposed to the point where the concrete base is showing through.

Councillor Greenfield has been looking into raising funds for the work that is required, about £8,000 in the first instance. Feedback from Rutland County Council on the 'Wellbeing' grant (£2,000 possible so far) indicates a preference for new equipment that will benefit the community in terms of improved health and wellbeing outcomes. Maintenance should be paid for out of money raised through the Precept process. The Council discussed this and the Clerk advised that, in general terms since the Precept will affect every household, the amount of extra local tax raised needs to be reasonable and proportionate to the number of residents benefitting. He therefore advised consulting residents for any substantial scheme before committing to a big increase in Precept. A village-wide survey will facilitate this. A maildrop, together with the website, newsletter and noticeboard can be used for the purpose. The Council agreed this and proposed to consider other potential sources for grant aid such as Augean, Mick George and the Big Lottery in addition to local fundraising events.

### **Councillor Greenfield to action.**

Although, following a small survey, an interest had been shown in a Petanque area, this will be left for the time being.

The £500 donation by John Mulheron of Harringworth was discussed. **The Clerk was asked to send a courtesy letter to Mr Mulheron explaining the current position.**

## **9. HIGHWAYS ISSUES:**

### **Roadside hedge trimming:**

Letters have gone out to residents, as directed at the previous meeting, concerning various problems caused by overhanging hedges including at the pinch point at the eastern end of Main Street. Work has been carried out as a result by most households with the exception of 6 Moles Lane which is currently unoccupied. Rules for this, such as those publicised by Kent County Council, have been placed on the SPC website. A seasonal reminder will be sent out to the households involved each year.

### **Verges:**

**The Clerk will contact Rutland County Council** advising that the verge has not been cut and a street light is out adjacent to 4 Thompson's Lane.

### **Drains:**

The drain area around Peake House has been refurbished but is badly overflowing. There is still a problem in Church Lane. Members believe that the drains need clearing out on a more regular basis.

### **Road junction at Glaston:**

**The Clerk will send contact details** for Glaston Parish Meeting to Councillor Clarke to address the restricted egress view at the A47 junction with Seaton road.

### **Parking outside the George & Dragon:**

Members discussed the issue of dangers posed by vehicles parked at, or near to the George & Dragon Public House and various ideas for remediation. A Seaton Parish Council contribution to the provision of a layby in Church Lane was thought possible but will be deferred until the next financial year.

The health requirements of a local resident and the periodic parking by George & Dragon staff make a permanent solution difficult. **Councillor Clarke will liaise with the County Council Highways department.**

#### **10. POWER TO THE EX 'PHONE BOX:**

It had been reported previously that the light is not on in the ex 'phone box but invoices for the electricity are still being received.

The Clerk has checked the kiosk and established that there is a live supply but the lamp has failed. Because this is an unmetered supply, the Parish will still be charged. Western Power is prepared to isolate, temporarily, the kiosk free of charge in order to facilitate lamp replacement. Permanently disconnecting the power supply to the Kiosk would cost £3-400.

Members agreed to retain the power supply at about £35pa and **the defective lamp will be replaced by the Clerk.**

#### **11. TREE RISK MANAGEMENT:**

Rutland County Council's Forestry Officer Stuart Kidd has quoted £328.29 (Ex VAT) to carry out a Risk Assessment on the trees on Seaton Parish Council land, together with providing an ongoing schedule of assessment.

On a proposition by Councillor Greenfield, seconded by Councillor Machin, Members agreed to commission this work. **The Clerk will contact the Forestry Officer to give the go ahead.**

#### **12. DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING:**

**Councillor Greenfield** has secured a training provider for Defibrillator use training and **will circulate a proposed programme for an evening event at the village hall.** Voluntary contributions to the cost will be requested but on a proposal by Councillor Greenfield, seconded by Councillor Coop, Members agreed that the Parish Council would underwrite any shortfall up to £50.

#### **13. LOCAL AWARDS:**

Certificates have been prepared and an award obtained in preparation for the event in mid November.

#### **14. TRYON TRUST:**

Councillor Greenfield has placed the rules for accessing this fund on the SPC website. Names of suitable possible recipients can be put forward or individuals can apply. Direct Parish Council involvement in that process is not appropriate.

#### **15. ALLOTMENTS:**

##### **Tenancies:**

The Clerk reported that all the main plots are currently occupied and the majority of tenants have paid this year's rental.

Councillor Coop indicated that one plot may become vacant at the year end. It was suggested that this could be used as a community plot, possibly involving the children of the village.

**16. COVER FOR CLERK'S ABSENCE:**

The Clerk will be away from 17<sup>th</sup> November until 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Councillor Clarke will coordinate any Planning issues.

Urgent post will be delivered to Councillor Greenfield for distribution and/or action.

**17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020,  
7.00pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21.25 hrs.