

SEATON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
15th SEPTEMBER 2021
VILLAGE HALL SEATON 7pm

Present:

Mr D Coop Chairman
Mrs Siobhan Machin
Mr R Clarke
Mrs C Lammie
Mr N Sale

In attendance:

Mr John Hill Clerk
County Councillor Mr A Brown
One member of the public

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES:

None.

2. CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR:

Following the formal procedure, no election had been called to replace Mr N Greenfield and members were therefore free to co-opt a replacement. Councillor Clarke proposed Mr Nick Sale; this was seconded by Councillor Coop and all were in favour. Mr Sale then completed the Acceptance of Office Declaration and will send his Register of Interests form to the Monitoring Officer at Rutland County Council. The Chairman welcomed him onto Seaton Parish Council.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

On a proposal by Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Coop, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 26th May 2021 were duly signed as a correct record with the approval of all present.

5. MATTERS ARISING (NOT ON THE AGENDA):

None.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

External Audit of 2020/21 Seaton Parish Council Accounts:

The External Auditors have signed off the above accounts without comment.

Accounts update:

Petty Cash	£97.39 (-£10 for this meeting)
Current Account	
Nationwide	£5863.86 + interest
West Brom	
Deposit Account	£65.14 + interest

Payments:

Members approved the following **retrospective payments** on a proposition by Councillor Sale, seconded by Councillor Lammie:

HMRC PAYE Tax	£95.00
Information Commissioner – Data Protection Fee	£40.00
Petty Cash top up	£72.00
Biffa – grass cutting services	£390.38

And a **new payment** on a proposition by Councillor Coop, seconded by Councillor Machin:

PKF Littlejohn – external audit fee for 2020/21 accounts	£ 240.00
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Change of signatories:

The Clerk informed members that there are significant doubts on the future of the Parish Council's Current Account status with Nationwide. It was therefore agreed to defer the updating of signatories until the position becomes clearer.

7. THOMPSON'S FIELD:

Play area inspection & resurfacing: Following an inspection, Councillor Lammie reported that the grass is still growing on the newly laid mulch surface. **Councillor Coop agreed to spray the area with suitable weed killer.**

Councillor Lammie reported that there are Moles in the field again. **The Clerk was asked to instruct 'Black Velvet' to clear the field of Moles as soon as possible.**

The question of devising a suitable occasion for a formal thankyou to Nic Greenfield for his outstanding efforts in connection with the playing field upgrade was discussed. This will be taken forward.

Members decided to defer the issue of a possible pitch for Petanque until the next financial year when the likely extra costs could be considered.

Resident Cathy Wootton's contractor has not yet been in touch regarding access from the playing field to her garden.

Members agreed to undertake an inspection of the trees on Parish Council land by Spring 2022 in order to determine possible necessary works.

8. CLIMATE ACTION COMMUNITY NETWORK:

Councillor Coop gave an update on this initiative recently launched by Rutland County Council following its declaration of a climate emergency. It is looking for each community to come up with ideas to address this 'emergency'. Various groups, including the Parish Council, will come together for this purpose with someone chosen as 'Community Champion'. David Coop, who has agreed to be that Champion, has attended two meetings so far, each full of ideas if fairly chaotic. **He will report back on the outcome of further meetings and the ideas generated, such as planting trees, etc. In the meantime, Councillors Coop and Clarke will look at the possibilities of fruit trees and hedges in suitable areas of the SPC playing field and also consider the field area adjoining 1-4 Uppingham Road.**

9. HIGHWAYS:

Verges: Residents have expressed disquiet about the lack of cutting of roadside grass verges. There has been a change of policy recently at RCC. **County Councillor Andrew Brown will look into this and report back.**

Traffic issues:

Rutland County Council is going through the formal procedure with regard to the speeding traffic issues at the west end of the village raised by residents. This will commence shortly with traffic speed monitoring. **The Clerk will check up on progress before the next SPC meeting.**

Councillor Clarke will follow up on white line removal with RCC Highways Department.

Resident Mr Jeremy Lang has reported on the unnecessary speed of agricultural vehicles through the village; **Councillor Clarke will raise this issue with a local farmer.**

10. ALLOTMENTS:

Path grass cutting: Councillor Coop reported that this is generally satisfactory and tenants are cutting the grass between visits from SPC's contractor Biffa who will carry on with the cutting schedule agreed at the beginning of the season.

11: DEFIBRILLATOR GUARDIAN:

The Parish Council has received a communication from a representative of the Ambulance Service looking for a nominee from the village as 'Defibrillator Guardian'. This name is then added to the Service records for the 999 call 'Circuit' and gives reassurance that a specified person is responsible for regularly checking that the equipment is in good working order.

Councillor Lammie said that, due to the proximity of her home to the site of the defibrillator, she could carry out this duty.

12: SPC WEBSITE:

Councillor Coop has taken over responsibility for the SPC website from Nic Greenfield. No formal training is required. There was a discussion on whether the site should include more commercial content; advertising events at the Public House for example.

Members felt that the inclusion of the requested 'Register Office near you' link would not be appropriate as the site is not meant to be a register of local services.

13. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS – 2nd JUNE 2022:

Possibilities for this event were discussed: **Councillor Clarke will deal with the Beacon;** a village event is envisaged involving the Church, Parish Council and Village Hall Committee as organisers. **Councillor Coop will liaise with the Chair of the Village Hall Committee.**

14. TRAINING:

Councillor Coop is booked in for Chairmanship training, **the Clerk will send details of Parish Councillor training to Councillor Sale.**

A refresher course in CPR was suggested, **the Clerk will obtain details from County Councillor Brown's contact.**

15. PLANNING – WORKS TO LAND OFF UPPINGHAM ROAD:

Councillor Clarke reported that works seem to be underway on this land, which has remained derelict for some years, without the benefit of Planning Permission.

County Councillor Brown, who is on the Planning Committee, will follow up on this and liaise with Mark Longhurst in the Planning Department.

16. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following items were tabled:

Connect Bus – new booking App;

Bus Improvement Plan - consultation

17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th January 2022, 7.00pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 20.35 hrs.

DRAFT