

**SEATON ANNUAL PARISH OPEN MEETING**  
**16th MAY 2018**  
**SEATON VILLAGE HALL 7PM**

Present:

Mr N Greenfield          Chairman

Mr D Coop

Mrs C Lammie

Mr R Clarke

Mrs Siobhan Machin

In attendance: Mr John Hill          Clerk

Two members of the public

**MINUTES**

**1. APOLOGIES:**

Mr J Lammie          County Councillor RCC

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

With one abstention, on a proposition by Councillor Greenfield, seconded by Councillor Clarke, the Minutes of the Annual Open Meeting of 22nd May 2017 were duly signed as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING:**

**Slurry trials on footpaths:**

Considering the bad reports previously received on the use of slurry treatment to refurbish village footpaths, the results of trials between 18-26 Main Street were better than expected but still not up to the required standard. Rutland County Council is looking therefore at using an alternative contractor.

**Dogs on the Playing Field:**

Following Councillor Lammie's research into the subject, Members had resolved that dogs should not be allowed on the Playing Field.

**4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chairman reported on actions taken by Seaton Parish Council during the year. Notes appended below.

**5. PARKING RESTRICTIONS & TRAFFIC CALMING:**

This is ongoing: White lines have been introduced in various parts of the Main Street to provide a visual hazard which has the effect of slowing traffic. Although these are not parking restrictions as such, people are often unsure and the tendency to park in these areas is reduced.

Councillor Clarke has spoken to residents in Thompson's Lane about parking their vehicles in places which can cause an obstruction. Reports from residents have confirmed that there has now been an improvement in this regard.

A further review of traffic warning signs in Seaton is on the agenda for the Annual Parish Council Meeting which follows this meeting.

**Verges:**

White posts have been introduced alongside some verges by the County Council in order to deter the incursion of vehicles and subsequent erosion of the verges.

**6. ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH:**

Councillor Greenfield raised two items on behalf of members of the public:

A resident requested extra bin facilities in the village to deposit dog excrement.

Members felt that there are enough black bins in Seaton which can be used for this purpose.

In response to a query about who is responsible for dealing with weeds immediately adjacent to walls aligning the footpaths, Members noted that this is the responsibility of the County Council.

A member of the public who rents an allotment pointed out that one plot is not being maintained and cultivated properly to the extent that there is a danger of weeds spreading to other plots. Seaton Parish Council's allotment representative, Councillor Coop will speak to the tenant in question about this.

*A resident had complained about someone in the village causing a nuisance with late-night garden bonfires. Whilst regrettable, it was thought that nothing could be done to prevent this activity.*

The meeting closed at 19.44 hrs.

**CHAIRMAN'S NOTES ON 2017/18 FOR SEATON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thanks to outgoing Parish Councillor and Chairman Jeremy Lang** who resigned last year.

**New Councillor Siobhan Machin** co-opted onto Seaton Parish Council.

**SPC web site:**

£854 grant received to meet set up and ongoing costs.

Work continued on **upgrading the surface of the Children's Play Area**, reducing the dependency on expensive bark and reseeded the grass where appropriate. Rotting boards have been removed and efforts increased to make the whole area clean, safe and attractive.

**New gate for the Playing Field** purchased and installed.

**The grass paths on the Allotments** have been mown by a volunteer for a trial period. Councillor Greenfield will write to Mr Philip Lindley thanking him for his efforts in this regard.

**Verges:** various measures are being introduced to prevent further erosion.

SPC has liaised with RCC with a view to **clearing blocked drains** and introducing a more rigorous and regular cleaning regime to obviate future problems.

SPC is preparing the way for compliance with the **new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force on 25<sup>th</sup> May this year**. This will include a data audit of the Parish Councils files and procedures.

**Precept:**

*2016/17 £3,500 – Financial reserves remain strong and adequate for forecast expenditure and the Precept requirement was reduced accordingly.*

*2017/18 £3,600 – Increased slightly to meet higher costs for the mandatory website and additional grounds maintenance charges.*

*2018/19 £3,600 – No increase necessary following budget review.*