

SEAGRY PARISH COUNCIL

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8th January 2026

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a **Meeting of the Seagry Parish Council**, which will be held on **Tuesday 13th January 2026** in **The Goss Croft Hall, Upper Seagry SN15 5HD** commencing at **7.30p.m.** The Press and Public are welcome to attend the Meeting.

Yours faithfully,



Vivian A Vines MBE SLCC
Parish Clerk

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

(Agenda Items for decision are marked as such)

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the Meeting is given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: an opportunity for members of the public to address the Council on any Council matter before the formal meeting commences. (Limited to 10 minutes)

REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLOR, PARISH COUNCILLORS & COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: an opportunity to put questions and receive information from the Wiltshire Councillor, if available, and Council delegated representatives for other organisations and functions. (Limited to 10 minutes)

1. **APOLOGIES:** To receive and agree Apologies received from Council Members. **(For Decision)**

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** To note Declarations of Interests in accordance with Seagry Parish Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders including any Dispensations required under the Code of Conduct. **(to note)**

3. **MINUTES:** To receive, consider and confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting/s

Council Meeting 11th November 2025. **(see attached Draft Minutes) (For Decision)**

4. **PLANNING:**

Planning Applications: To make observations on Planning Applications received. Prior to the consideration of any Planning Application, the opportunity will be given for Applicants and their Representatives and any other interested parties to address the Council. (Limited to 3 minutes each person)

There are no planning applications to consider at the time of Agenda publication. **(to note)**

Planning General: To receive notification of any Planning Decisions received and any amendments and updates. To receive notification and consider any other Planning related matters, including appeals and enforcement issues.

- a) Wiltshire Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document Update (DPD).

Notification was received that Wiltshire Council were re-commencing the process following the deferment of a decision and as part of the review they had re-opened their “call for sites” giving the opportunity for landowners to submit sites for assessment and potential allocation in the revised DPD. The Council considered this at the last Council Meeting and determined that there were no suitable sites within the Parish that could be suggested, as Seagry is an un-sustainable location.

At the time of Agenda publication there are no further updates. **(to note)**

- b) PL/2025/06615 – Full Planning Permission
Proposed Erection of building comprising 4 No. flexible B8 storage and distribution and/or Class E (g) Commercial, Business and Services units and erection of building for mixed agricultural and equestrian workshop, storage and estate office and stables, all following demolition of existing B8 storage building and site remediation, together with associated parking, servicing, drainage, infrastructure, biodiversity net gain and landscaping and alterations to existing vehicular access
Building at Seagry House, Off Henn Lane and Startley Road, Upper Seagry SN15 5HD
For Thala Family Investments Ltd

The Council considered this planning application on the 9th September 2025 and submitted comments including further comments on revisions to the application. At the time of Agenda publication there are no further updates. **(to note)**

- c) Notice of Acceptance of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) under Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 Lime Down Solar Park.

Notification was received that proposals (EN010168) for Five Solar Array Sites, etc. was submitted to the Secretary of State on the 19th September 2025 and was accepted for examination on the 17th October 2025. Hard copy details could be viewed at Malmesbury, Chippenham, Corsham, Melksham and Yate Libraries. Representations and PINS Registration was required by 23:59pm Friday the 9th January 2026. The Council previously discussed this large scale proposal and submitted comments and the Clerk registered their interests within the required timescale to allow them to comment further as the examination proceeds. **(to note)**

- d) PL/2025/04856 – Full Planning Permission
Change of Use from Holiday Accommodation to Independent Dwelling
The Anchorage, Nables Farm, Scotland Hill, Upper Seagry SN15 5HB
For Mr Andrew Jackson
Approved with Conditions 17th November 2025

There are no further planning matters to consider at the time of Agenda publication. **(to note)**

5. FINANCE: To note any financial matters, any receipts and payments made

- a) **Payments to make (For Decision)**

Black Nova Designs. Website Hosting etc 26/27. Inv 29880	03.01.26	£ 112. 80
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- b) **Payments made since last Meeting** The following payments have been made since the last Council Meeting. **(to note)**

Mr R Tucker. Grass cutting. Inv 07	08.11.25	£ 100.00
Mr R Tucker. Grass cutting Seagry Allotments Inv 07	08.11.25	£ 20.00
Mr R Tucker. Grass cutting. Spitfire Memorial Inv 07	08.11.25	£ 120.00
Public Works Loan Board. BACs loan payment	16.12.25	£ 2,601.16

- c) **Receipts (to note)**

There have been no receipts since the last Council Meeting.

d) **Bank Account Balance/s (to note)**

Lloyds Account No. 00454316	28 th November 2025	£ 51,045.87
Lloyds Account No. 00454316	31 st December 2025	£ 48,439.96

e) **Council Budget:** To consider the Council Budget and Budget proposals for the Council Year 2026-2027 and required Precept

The Council is required to submit any Precept requirement to Wiltshire Council by the 20th January 2026. The Council set their Precept requirement at £24,000.00 in 2025/2026 to retain the capital budget provision and to cover spending proposals.

The Council should always be mindful of the Government's views on the future of Local Government spending and the possibility that Parish Councils may one day be considered under capping and referendum requirements but there are no proposals being suggested at the present time.

The Council is reminded that a significant proportion of the Precept is required for the Public Works Board Loan repayments towards The Goss Croft Hall totaling £5,202.00. The Council's Budget this year assumed a surplus of £5,144.00 with the capital set aside being £3,000.00.

The estimated outturn for the year with no allowance for the capital set aside, including above normal spending and the agreed increase in Clerks salary suggests a potential surplus of around £2,659.00 plus the Capital reserve set aside (budgeted at £3,000.00) potentially leading to an overspend situation for the year of £341.00. Obviously, the set aside could be reduced this year but the Council has sufficient funds to accommodate any overspend.

The Council will need to consider that Wiltshire Council will be continuing to reduce services and whether there will be a need for the Parish Council to carry out some of the tasks for the local community's benefit and in addition Wiltshire Council may well ask for further Parish Council financial support for any works proposed within the Parish, such as LHFIG Area Board requests. At the present time there is little room in the Council's budget that can support significant extra Revenue spending, without increasing the Precept. The Council has previously discussed a forward business plan and this should be taken into consideration.

Wiltshire Council Financial Planning has provided 2026/2027 Tax Base details, to assist the Council with their Precept setting requirements. **(see attached)**

Should the Council retain the existing £24,000.00 Precept using the new (179.28) Tax Base this would result in a £133.87 Band D charge. To compare, a Seagry Band D property last year paid a £131.77 Band D charge, the Tax Base being (182.13)

Council Members will need to agree suggestions for the forward Revenue Budget, which could review local services such as Rights of Way maintenance/Improvements/signage and also any potential savings they may wish to make. An allowance needs to be made for retaining the grass cutting contract. The Council has also discussed taking over the responsibility for the Spitfire Memorial. It would be prudent to retain a small budget to cover any Election costs that may occur although the £1,500.00 set aside for this has left a good balance in the forward budget to cover the Parish Council Election charges in 4 years time. Of course there may be the potential for member resignations during the lifetime of the Council that could involve charges by Wiltshire Council.

Similarly, Council Members will also need to agree suggestions for the forward Capital Budget, in addition to those already discussed and agree any priorities, including potential business plan suggestions..

As mentioned above the Council and Parishioners will need to consider that Wiltshire Council will be continuing to reduce services and whether there will be a need for the Parish Council to carry out some of the tasks for the local community's benefit.

A Budget Proposals 2026/2027 spreadsheet is attached showing this years Budget and recent budgets to give Members some guidance on future budgets. Although a reduction or small

increase in Precept may be welcomed by the Tax Payer, Council Members need to be mindful of the fact mentioned earlier that the Government could introduce measures limiting increases to low percentages, although there has been a suggestion in the past that if increases were required in order to take on devolved services from a Higher Authority then they would not be included in a percentage figure. Circumstances and Government Policy may of course change and Members will need to consider if there are any local priorities that should be addressed.

Should the Council retain the existing £24,000.00 Precept using the new (179.28) Tax Base this would result in a £133.87 Band D charge an increase of £2.10 per year. The spreadsheet shows the impact of £500.00 increases in Precept retaining the base budget and Members can adapt the figures to see how this would impact on end of year surplus/deficit. **(see attached) (For Decision)**

6. HIGHWAY MATTERS:

- a) Parish Stewards Programme/ Requirements – Local Highway and Streetscene Community Team. To raise general issues and to receive any updates. Cllr N Watson, is the Council link with the Parish Steward. Parish Steward visits scheduled for 2026 are 6th/7th January, 3rd/4th March, 2nd/7th April, 2nd/3rd June, 2nd/6th July, 2nd/3rd September, 5th/6th October, 3rd/4th November and 2nd December 2026 (second date refers to half a day in each case). **(to note) (For Decision)**
- b) Rights of Way – To raise general issues, to receive any updates and consider any actions required. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- c) Highway & Footpaths Conditions and Maintenance – To raise general issues and to receive any updates, including highway and verge parking. **(to note) (For Decision)**
 - i) Provision of additional salt bins. Pursuant to Minute 27/25 (c) (c). To receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**

7. UPDATE ON STANDING ITEMS:

- a) Recreation Ground – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- b) Notice Boards – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- c) Flooding & Drainage – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- d) Parish/Community Website/Social Media – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. There is a need for all Members to provide up to date information, contact details, photos, etc for the Council website. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- e) Asset Register – There is no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. **(to note)**
- f) School Liaison – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- g) Council Standing Orders & Financial Regulations – No updates required. **(to note)**
- h) Council Code of Conduct – No updates required. **(to note)**
- i) Risk Assessment, Health & Safety and Management Register – There is no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. **(to note)**
- j) Freedom of Information Act-Publication Scheme – There is no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. **(to note)**
- k) Seagry Spitfire Memorial – Pursuant to Minute 28/25 (k). To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- l) Goss Croft Hall – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- m) Allotments – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- n) Wiltshire Council Chippenham and Villages Area Board and Chippenham Community Area Parish Forum. The Area Board met on the 10th November 2025 in the Wiltshire History Centre, Chippenham. The next is scheduled for the 9th February 2026 in the same venue. To receive any updates. The Parish Forum met on Wednesday 26th November 2025 at 7.00pm in the St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington. The Guest Speaker was from the SSEN (Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks). The next Forum Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7.00pm in Biddestone Village Hall. The Guest Speaker will be Simon Smith, Wiltshire Council Senior Planning Officer. He suggests it would be helpful if he could have some

advance warning of specific questions so that he can be properly prepared. **(to note) (For Decision)**

- o) Parochial Church Council – To receive any updates. **(to note)**
- p) Seagry Neighbourhood Plan – To consider and agree any actions required. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- q) Neighbourhood Watch – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- r) Emergency Planning – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- s) Insurance – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- t) Signpost Magazine – To agree editorial if necessary. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- u) Seagry Community Forum – To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**
- v) Community Speedwatch (CSW) – To receive any updates and consider any further actions required. Later agenda items refer. **(to note)**
- w) Defibrillator Project - The SW Ambulance Trust has been in touch and awaits a date for a joint PC training session in the Spring. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- x) Data Protection-GDPR - To raise general issues and to receive any updates. **(to note)**

8. CLERKS REPORT: To note items received for decision, information, circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s

- a) **Autospeedwatch Devices.** To consider any updates including any further requirements and actions. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- b) **Speed Identification Devices (SIDs).** To consider any updates including any further requirements and actions. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- c) **Community Speedwatch Team.** To consider any updates including further requirements and actions. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- d) **Wiltshire Operational Flood Group North.** The Flood Group last met on Wednesday 19th November 2025, 10.00 - 12.00. The Agenda, venue and hybrid meeting details were provided. The date scheduled for a further Flood Group Meeting is the 21st January 2026. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- e) **Chippenham Local Highway and Footpath Group (LHFIG).** The last LHFIG Meeting was held on the 16th October 2025 at 10.00am in Committee Room A, Monkton Park Council Offices. The Note Tracker has been provided. The next LHFIG Meeting is scheduled for the 8th January 2026 at 10.00am in the same venue. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- f) **Community Governance Review (CGR).** Pursuant to Minute 49/25 (r). Notification has been received that the Electoral Review Committee of Wiltshire Council will not be considering Seagry Parish in their first reviews. **(to note)**
- g) **Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 25-09.** The Council has received a Briefing Note in regards to the Community Governance Review process. **(see attached) (to note)**
- h) **Wessex Water – Community Drop-in.** The Council has been advised that Wessex Water are holding sessions to allow customers to come and talk to them about water related issues, including bills. Local sessions are planned for Tuesdays 20th January, 10th March and 5th May 2026 at 10-12am and 1-2pm in Chippenham Library, Market Place, Chippenham. **(to note)**
- i) **Flood Wessex Lunch & Learns Sessions.** The Council has received invitations. A future online Session is planned for the 22nd January 2026 and details have been provided. **(see attached) (to note)**
- j) **Wiltshire Council PEAS 25/26.** The Council received the annual request for the winter season planning requirements. To receive any updates. **(For Decision)**

- k) **Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 25-10.** The Council has received a Briefing Note in regards to the Us Girls Melksham pilot. **(see attached) (to note)**
- l) **Upper Seagry One-Way System highway proposal.** Pursuant to Minute 49/25 (m). To receive any updates. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- m) **Business Plan.** Pursuant to Minutes 49/25 (n). To consider further. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- n) **WALC Environment Network.** The Council has received an invitation to the inaugural meeting of the new Network. Details are attached. The meeting will take place by ZOOM on Thursday 29th January 2026 between 12:00 and 13:00. **(see attached) (to note) (For Decision)**

9. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING:

An opportunity to raise items and issues which cannot be dealt with by the Clerk and which do not require a policy decision other than referral to a future Full Council Meeting.

- 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next Council Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7.30pm** in The Goss Croft Hall, Upper Seagry, unless otherwise notified. However, Members should note that Tuesday 10th February 2026 is scheduled for a Council Planning Meeting and Notice will be given if this Meeting is required. **(to note)**

PART 2 AGENDA

As the following Item/s relate to Confidential Matters, in accordance with Seagry Parish Council Standing Orders (Admission of Public and Press to Meetings) it is considered that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as amended), the Public and Press should be excluded for the remainder of the Meeting and that they are instructed to withdraw.

- a) Planning Enforcement Matters. To consider any actions required. **(see attached) (For Decision)**
- b) Wiltshire Pond Scheme for Great Crested Newts. **(see attached) (For Decision)**