

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**
Held in the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham
On Monday 16th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Miss D Carr	Miss L Minter
Mr S Criswell (in the Chair)	Mrs L Robertson
Mr R Fabb	Mr G Siggs
Mr M Greaves	Ms D Skeggs
Mr M Hoy	Mr R Sutton
Mrs D Jones	Mrs P Bryant, Parish Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mr P McCloskey – ill
District Cllr Graham Bull – Development Control Panel meeting

ABSENT – Mr A Hulme

2. MEETING ETIQUETTE

a. Copies provided to all councillors in July & November 2015 & August 2016

3. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Siggs and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting for a period of time to allow members of the public to participate in an open forum. The meeting was closed at 7.31 pm and reconvened at 7.36 pm.

Matters discussed were: The architect spoke on behalf of - 16/02716/FUL Oak Acres Farm, Parkhall Road, Somersham

The property owners spoke on their resubmitted plans for a self-build - 16/02633/FUL Land at West side of 2, Hammond Way, Somersham


5. PLANNING MATTERS

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/02167/FUL	24, Norwood Road, Somersham	AMENDMENT
	Replacement dwelling	

The Parish Council responded to the amendment on 9th January 2017 and had no objection to the amendment.

16/02633/FUL	Land at West side of 2, Hammond Way, Somersham
	Proposed residential dwelling & detached garage


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It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by 9 votes for and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. The revised access/egress seems sensible and the dwelling and garage will not affect the street scene.

16/02716/FUL Oak Acres Farm, Parkhall Road, Somersham
Erection of two dwellings following demolition of existing barn

It was proposed by Mr Sutton and seconded by Mrs Jones to object on the grounds of over development of the site and not to demolish the existing building.
This was RESOLVED by 4 votes for, 5 against, and 1 abstention and a new proposal was required.

It was proposed by Ms Skeggs and seconded by Mr Fabb to recommend no objection.
It was RESOLVED by 4 votes for, 4 against, and 1 abstention the replacement of the barn is a good proposal, it will improve the environment to provide living accommodation and it will improve the street scene.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

16/02289/HHFUL 34, Loftsteads, Somersham
Proposed two storey side extension

16/02160/FUL Fields End, 42, Colne Fields, Somersham
Convert existing B8 storage building to C3 Residential home

PLANNING APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN

16/02309/FUL 42B, High Street, Somersham
To demolish the existing buildings and redevelop to create a 3-bed house and a 2 no. 2 bed bungalows

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

Matters outstanding:

- 0900490OUT and 120063FUL – Land rear of 52, High Street, Somersham. Erection of single storey dwelling & garage. Front wall

PLANNING CONSULTATION

Emailed to Councillors the link for:

Huntingdonshire District Council – Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Wind Energy Developments – response date 16th January 2017. Cllr Criswell confirmed the consultation says it is up to local communities to decide whether they would like wind energy developments or not.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH DECEMBER 2016

The Minutes were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by 8 votes for and 2 abstentions (as those councillors were not present at the meeting) and were duly signed by the Chairman.

7. POLICE REPORT

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Neighbourhood Watch Alerts

Mr Sutton expressed his concern at the increase in hare coursing taking place in the area, could the council use our social media to advertise to local people to be vigilant.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR S CRISWELL

Cllr Criswell reported the refuse rounds are being reconfigured due to extra housing developments so they can be more efficient; this was last done 5 years ago. All residents will be advised of new collection dates.



Mr Sutton asked whether there will be a charge for the green bin in future. Cllr Criswell said HDC have not discussed charging for the green bin but Fenland District Council will be.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT Inc.

Matters Arising Report & Updates: Matters arising document was provided to councillors, several items require following up

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- i. RSN online – weekly updates
- ii. CAPALC – Buckingham Palace Garden Party – 23rd May 2017 – It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Siggs and RESOLVED by all councillors present with 1 abstention to put Mr Hoy's name forward as he has been a parish councillor for nearly 30 years.
- iii. CAPALC – Outreach Councillor Training at Wistow Parish Council 7th, 14th & 21st Feb 2017 – so far Mr McCloskey and Ms Skeggs have expressed an interest.

Correspondence- hard copies –

- i. M & G Charibond dividend £2.30 & annual report

10. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT including: -

- o The Monthly Accounts – The accounts were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mrs Robertson and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote for them to be paid.

See APPENDIX 1

- o Huntingdonshire District Council – confirmation of Precept 2017/2018 @ £168,984. Band D charge £124.53

11. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- CCC – Winter gritting – information on reinstatement of gritting routes. Huntingdonshire fully reinstated as of Friday 23rd December 2016

Chatteris Road, Traffic Calming - Cllr Criswell reported the Chatteris Road traffic calming measures are in place.

Mr Siggs said there have been 2 accidents there already and complaints, the calming measures are dangerous.

Ms Skeggs agreed and felt they were dangerous as they are at present. Drivers can't see the first barrier if exiting to Chatteris especially at night and the brightness of the car lights coming towards you, the driver just can't see the build outs. Extra signage or perhaps a light is required.

The second build out is exactly in front of a street light so there is a shadow.

Mr Hoy said it would help if the kerbing is painted white.

Cllr Criswell will take this back to County Highways.

Local Highway Bid – Cllr Criswell reported Somersham's bid for LHI was discussed today by the panel. The good news is it was well received and Mr McCloskey made a good presentation. The bad news is it is more expensive than originally thought, this scheme is now calculated to be over £15k. CCC will be asked for £10k, Somersham Parish Council £5k (already agreed) and hopefully road safety will consider putting some money in. The panel result will be confirmed in March 2017.

Road repairs –

Mr Siggs asked what is happening with the pedestrian barrier railing on the High Street & their replacement? Cllr Criswell will speak to County Highways.

12. STREET LIGHTING inc repairs

Mr Sutton reminded the meeting Balfour Beatty need to send their revised quote to replace the heads on parish owned lamps. The Chairman advised the parish council can now obtain a quote from Skanska as well.

13. ADDITIONAL 'FIDO BINS'

- **Proposed locations** - Galleys Drove, Station Approach and 'Pykle' by New Line bridge
- Another bin is needed along the High Street. There are no bins from the bridge over the Cranbrook (No 2 High Street) to J Iqbal's shop (No 56) further up on the High Street but there are plenty of dog walkers who do not necessarily cross the nature reserve to walk home.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to purchase 4 new bins.

Funds are available in earmarked reserves - £409 'additional bins' plus available 'contingency £3000

14. CCC'S CONSULTATION – DRAFT CORPORATE ENERGY STRATEGY

- a. All councillors sent the email link - response date 31st January 2017

No comments received from councillors.

15. REPORTS FROM SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & REPRESENTATIVES:

a) The Norwood Playing Field/ Norwood Building

- **Tree Work** - Councillors agreed the Clerk could write to a neighbouring property to remove a dead tree on the boundary of the Norwood Playing Field and to another neighbour whose tree requires work. All work has been identified on the recent Tree Audit. The Clerk will send a copy of the specific tree report and a copy of the Environment Agency 'Riparian Ownership' booklet to the property owner.
- **To hire a chipping machine @ £100 a day.**
It was proposed by Mr Hoy, seconded by Mr Siggs and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to proceed (contingency reserve £3000)
Mr Fabb queried what would happen with the chippings? The Clerk will find out.
- **New play bark for the play areas** – It was proposed by Mr Hoy, seconded by Miss Carr and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to order a minimum 24 cubic metres approx. £1100 + vat
(Transfer Norwood Building carpet money £518 plus balance from contingency)

b) The Victory Hall Management Committee

- Draft Minutes from 13th December 2016

Miss Minter reported the film nights are struggling a bit, the VHMC are giving it until Easter to see if attendance improves.

c) Amenity Area Working Party (inc Definitive Footpaths)

- Working Party next meeting 20th February 2017

d) Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve & Somersham Lake

- Draft Minutes 9th November 2016
- Next meeting 11th January 2017

See Appendix 2

e) Youth Working Party / Youth Club Report

The Clerk updated members on the staff meeting held last week and tonight is the first night back for the Youth Club this term.



f) **Community Library**

Miss Minter talked about the child health clinic at the library. The clinic was held in the library for a while but it is not really a suitable venue so they are going back to the children's health centre
See Appendix 2

g) **Millennium Sports Facility**

- SSLA Trustee meeting held 10th January 2017

Mr Sutton gave an update of matters discussed at the meeting and also informed members of an exciting new event on Wednesday 5th July 2017 by 'The Handlebards' who will be presenting an outdoor Shakespearean play A Midsummer Night's Dream. The actors cycle from venue to venue.

h) **Localism Working Party & Somersham Time Bank**

There was nothing to report, the next meeting will be on Monday 6th February 2017.

i) **Personnel Working Party**

- The next meeting will be on 24th January 2017

j) **Communication Working Party**

- The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th February 2017

See Appendix 2

k) **Reports of External Meetings Attended by Parish Councillor's**


No meetings were reported.

16. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No matters were raised.

The next meeting will be held in the Millennium Pavilion on Monday 13th February 2017 at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.28 pm


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Mr S Criswell, Chairman

ACCOUNTS	16th January 2017	Vat		TOTAL		Cost Cent
ages	Salaries	0.00	5464.15	5,464.15	Bacs	Salaries
SS	Pension Fund	0	1502.72	1502.72	Bacs	Pension
on Energy	Street lighting	3.26	65.29	£68.55	Bacs	Street Li
PO	Norwood Building - gas	4.34	86.72	91.06	Bacs	Norwoo
	Community library - gas	4.17	83.35	87.52	Bacs	Library
ing Payments	Stationary	8.77	43.86	52.63	Bacs	Adminis
mbms ACRE	Annual Membership	0	54	£54.00	Bacs	Subscrip
'S (Ryness Wholesale)	Tubes / starter switches	11.88	59.38	£71.26	Bacs	Norwoo
nland Fire Appliance	Fire Extinguisher - servicing	12.9	64.5	£77.40	Bacs	Norwoo
< Illumination	Frame motif & bracket	67.17	335.85	£403.02	Bacs	Christm:
Blackwell	Work on trees	0.00	480	£480.00	Bacs	Tree sur
orris & Fisher	Building valuations	0	600	£600.00	Bacs	Norwoo
arren Access	Versalift hire & insurance	72	360	£432.00	Bacs	Christm:
	Self-drive insurance	0	120	£120.00	Bacs	Christm:
K Installations	Door access system	568	2840	£3,408.00	Bacs	Norwoo
ar Technology	Technical support & software updates	50	250	£300.00	Bacs	Adminis
le & Day	December fuel	8.36	41.81	£50.17	Bacs	Kubota Youth Club
IMC	Hall hire	0	130.5	£130.50	Bacs	Club
asdon UK Ltd	Fido bin x 2	75.62	378.1	£453.72	Bacs	General
'S (Ryness Wholesale)	Pole mini connectors	1.7	8.5	£10.20	Bacs	Christm:
on Energy	Street lighting	3.37	67.47	£70.84	Bacs	Street Li
CC	Membership fees	0	300	£300.00	Bacs	Subscrip
	TOTAL		891.54	13336.2		14,227.74
						14,227.74

Electronic payments

lk Talk	Telephone/Broadband	8.23	41.15	£49.38	DD	Adminis
	Telephone/Broadband	6.64	33.18	39.82	DD	Adminis
lk Talk	CIC-01487 840266	7.5	37.51	£45.01	DD	Library
rphone warehouse	L Bird - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50	DD	Time Ba
	P Bryant - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	7.5	DD	Adminis
	M Tyers - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50	DD	Adminis
ntingdonshire DC	Sea Container - rates	0	48	£48.00	DD	Adminis
	Broadband - email/websites	7.2	36	£43.20	DD	Adminis
A	Annual subscription	0	201	£201.00	DD	Subscrip
	TOTAL		33.32	415.59		448.91
						£448.91

Eques

NONE

REPORT FROM SNRG for the PC Meeting on 16th Jan 2107:

The winter site management programme continues with a scheduled working party on the first Sunday of every month, meeting at the Springfield gate entrance around 09:30am, all are welcome.

A Nature Walk, a Buggy/Baby Walks and a Short Health Walk take place on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesday each month respectively. There is also an on-going need for formal leaders on each of the walks and training is available for interested volunteers; contact Phil Clark (01223 715686) or Lucy Bird at Time Bank.

At the recent meeting of the SNRG Management Committee there was some discussion about the need to display the Parish Council's Bye Laws within the Nature Reserve in order for them to be effective in law. The meeting agreed with this stance in principle and is expected to endorse this as an agenda item at its next sitting.

REPORT FROM FOSL for the PC Meeting on 16th Jan 2107:

The Library re-opened again after its Christmas break and the next Sunday 'drop-in' will take place on the 22nd January and full library services will be available along with a cuppa and a chat; everyone is welcome. The next major fundraising event will be the annual quiz on Sat 4th Feb 2017 in the Victory Hall, so watch out for the 'Flyers' advertising the event and come along and help us raise some funds to support the Library.

Meanwhile, the FOSL Chairperson has completed an online survey set by a recent government taskforce commissioned to look into Community managed libraries. Subsequently, we have now been asked to be one of nine chosen case studies, and been invited to an interview; the Chair will conduct that interview by phone. This should raise our profile with funders including the County Council and Parish Council, and could highlight some problem areas to the Government and local authorities for future support; it might also help FOSL attract new volunteers, who are always in short supply.

REPORT FROM THE COMMS & ENGAGEMENT WP for the PC Meeting on 16th Jan 2107:

The Feb/March Edition of the S4U Newsletter has just been compiled and has gone to the printers. Meanwhile, the Comms & Engagement WP next meets on the 7th February when it is expected to consolidate its recommendations to the Parish Council on information Display Screens and on new bags for the S4U distribution Team.

Paul McCloskey
Somersham Parish Council
16th January 2017