



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**
Held in the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham
On Monday 13th March 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 A Hulme | Mr R Sutton |
| Mrs D Jones | |
| Mr P McCloskey | Mrs P Bryant, Parish Clerk |

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:
Mr M Hoy - personal
Cllr G Bull at an HDC cabinet meeting

2. MEETING ETIQUETTE

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

3. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Miss Minter declared a personal interest as neighbouring property for planning application: 17/00188/HHFUL 33, Parkhall Road, Somersham. Proposed extension and dormer roof window

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 speak. The meeting closed at 7.32 pm and reconvened at 7.33 pm as the parishioner in gallery declined the offer to speak.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

17/00017/FUL Hilltop Orchard, St Ives Road, Somersham
Change of use of part of orchard to provide 3 additional mobile homes, demolition of existing outbuildings and replacement building to house washroom facilities, conversion (retrospective) of existing mobile home to day room and retention of play area.

Mr Sutton felt this was over development in the country area
Mr Fabb agreed stating 10 units on a site at the top of the hill on a fast road with a narrow access/egress was a potential problem for highway safety.
Mr McCloskey concurred and thought this could be a serious problem for highway accidents.
Ms Skeggs totally disagreed with all comments made and said even though the access is on a hill it should be ok.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Fabb and RESOLVED by 7 votes for and 4 against to object. Councillors objected to this application on the grounds of overdevelopment in the countryside and highway safety. The access/egress is on the brow of a hill on a fast road and with all the additional units proposed on site, this will lead to a greater number of traffic movements on and off the site. The extra traffic movement on an access with limited visibility is likely to increase the potential of high accident risk and create an accident black spot.

17/00188/HHFUL 33, Parkhall Road, Somersham
Proposed extension and dormer roof window
6th March 2017 Email of concern – Mrs D Chapman

Miss Minter said the submitted plans are very old, none of the houses along that section have a big dormer and even if it's on the back of the property it will over shadow the adjoining house.

The parishioner in the gallery attempted to join in the meeting discussion and was reminded by the Chairman his opportunity to speak for any matters on the agenda had been offered during the public forum earlier on.

As an exception to Standing Orders, it was proposed by Ms Skeggs and seconded by Mr Greaves to adjourn the meeting to allow parishioner in the gallery to speak and this was agreed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was closed from 7.41 pm and reconvened at 7.44 pm.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by all councillors present, with 1 against and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. Councillors have no objection to this application as the proposal fits the street scene. This is with the proviso the pitch of the dormer window remains at the same height as the apex shown in the plans.

17/00401/HHFUL 8, Queens Road, Somersham
Ground floor and first floor extensions and alterations to dwelling and erection of detached garage.

It was proposed by Miss Minter, seconded by Mr McCloskey and RESOLVED by 10 votes for and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. There is plenty of space on site and the proposal will be in keeping with the property and street scene.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

16/02694/HHFUL 22, Cranfield Place, Somersham
First floor extension over existing garage

16/02633/FUL Land at West Side of 2 Hammond Way Somersham
Proposed residential dwelling and detached garage

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

HDC – Street naming & numbering – Allocation of address to residential property at land west side of 2, Hammond Way, Somersham – to be known as 2A, Hammond Way

HDC – Updates received from Nigel Swaby & Cllr G Bull on Planning Enforcement matters.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY 2017

The Minutes were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr McCloskey and RESOLVED by 8 votes for and 3 abstentions (as the Councillors were not present) to be a true record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

7. POLICE REPORT

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Neighbourhood Watch Alerts

Mr Fabb said there has been some attention to illegal parking in the High Street and tickets issued.

Miss Minter reported an incident of a parishioner whose bank card was stolen / lost in the village. Subsequently the card was used in the village shops and Miss Minter felt the Parish Council ought to do something by way of assistance.

Members generally agreed this was a Police matter and the victim is responsible for reporting the crime to them. Once reported the Police would follow it up and contact the relevant CCTV owners in the village to access their recordings in line with Data Protection requirements.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR S CRISWELL & CLLR G BULL

Cllr Criswell reported:

- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough are now a combined authority with an election for a mayor to be held in May 2017.
- Miss Minter reported another bus stop issue to him and he is still compiling the report on bus stops and time tables.
- There is a Committee meeting tomorrow to discuss the local highway bid.

Mr Sutton reported he has read Cambridgeshire is the 10th worst county for bridges that need repairs. Mrs Jones asked is this just a number or a percentage? If we as a county have more bridges then we will be one of the worst.

Cllr Criswell said there is an active program of repairs with a bridges team; however, he will find out more and report back.

MAINTENANCE:

Mr Siggs reported the flowerbeds in Church Street car park need tidying. The Clerk will contact Neil Sloper at HDC

9. PARISH CLERKS REPORT including: Matters Arising Report & Updates:

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- i. RSN online – weekly updates
- ii. Cambridgeshire Pension Fund – Invitation to nominate an employer representative
- iii. NALC – Parliamentary Lobby Day 2017 – 28 March 2017
- iv. CPALC – consultation on draft CAPALC membership agreement
- v. HM Government – The Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme
- vi. Huntingdonshire Parish Council Conference – 30th March 2017

Hard copy correspondence:

- vii. None

10. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT including: -

- o **The Monthly Accounts** – The accounts were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Fabb and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be paid. **SEE APPENDIX 2**
- o **The S137 allowance for 2017-2018 is £7.57 per elector**



11. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- CCC – Bus time table updates
- A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon bulletin – Issue 3

11.1 Community Roadwatch (UK) CIC – update 15th Jan 2017 – to discuss supporting the CRW SID initiative in March in Chatteris Road

It was proposed by Mr Fabb, seconded by Mrs Jones and RESOLVED by 10 votes for and 1 against for the council to write a letter of support for the initiative as Somersham do not have an active Speedwatch group.

11.2 Letter from Mr A Adelano re parking on double yellow lines outside 105, High Street

Mr Sutton said he was horrified at racial and unnecessary abuse Mr Adelano has received and believes the letter should be forwarded to the police to deal with on his behalf. Councillors all agreed.

The Chairman said it is just the bus stop that is the issue for Parish Council to discuss.

Ms Skeggs felt the bus stop is in a bad position and explained why this was due to the various entrances on that part of the High Street. Ms Skeggs said she did originally propose changing The Cross into a roundabout and lose some parking spaces but the council had been told this couldn't happen. Ms Skeggs then proceeded to explain how it could work.

The Chairman responded saying the parish council ran a consultation where everyone had the opportunity to comment, all houses along the affected highway were hand delivered a copy but no responses were received in relation to the matters Ms Skeggs has raised. With regards to changing The Cross into a roundabout, County highways at the time explained why buses couldn't use The Cross as a roundabout.

The Clerk will seek out the original highway report for circulation.

It was agreed the Clerk and Mr Criswell will compile a letter to Mr Adelano and anything that is a police issue will be passed to the police. This was agreed by all members present except Ms Skeggs.

11.3 Bus stops and buses in Somersham

Mr Criswell said he is following up all the reported concerns with the County Council including Miss Minter's recent concern re Whippet buses not connecting with other services.

REPAIRS

- There is a Pot hole at Pidley as exiting to Old Hurst
- The Clerk will send councillors the link to report highway matters which includes street light repairs
- The replacement barrier outside the Rose Crown has been ordered and will be replaced shortly.

12. STREET LIGHTING MATTERS inc repairs

The Clerk will chase up Balfour Beatty regarding PC4 F in the churchyard to turn the lamp head around to improve its area of illumination.

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

a) The Norwood Playing Field/ Norwood Building

- Play area inspections will be carried out in April 2017.
- Replacement seats have been ordered for the seesaw as they are cracked.

- Work to install the electronic door tag system starts tomorrow.

b) The Victory Hall Management Committee

- Draft Minutes 14th February 2017
- Miss Minter said the VHMC AGM will be held tomorrow
- The VHMC have received the Parish Councils solicitors letter about the Heads of Terms to revise the lease, these will be discussed with the VH committee first before coming back to the Parish Council.
- Mr Sutton said he is concerned with all the cars parking along Parkhall Road when people are attending Slimming World as they are causing a problem to the general road user.

c) Amenity Area Working Party (inc Definitive Footpaths)

- Working Party meeting held 20th February 2017
- Mr Siggs reported the damaged tree has been dealt with at Definitive Footpath 1
- Mr Fabb said he is concerned about the waste bin being removed from the Bishops Road entrance/exit on Definitive Footpath 4 and feels the whole thing needs more thought as people are still dumping rubbish on that spot as the nearest bins are some way away.
The Clerk explained why the Fido bin had to be moved (it is in its current location with permission from County Farms) further along Definitive Footpath 4. The Allotment Association have stated in an email for various reasons they are unwilling to assist emptying a bin and they don't believe they own the land the footpath is on; plus the property owners by the entrance/exit at Bishops Road object to the mess, smells and flies any bin brings especially in the warmer months. So much so was the opposition that initially the new fixing post installed by Martin Tyers was removed and hidden, although it has now been successfully retrieved following discussions by the Clerk. The Clerk agreed it is a difficult situation to ensure everyone is happy as everyone has a different expectation.

d) Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve & Somersham Lake

- Report from Mr McCloskey – SEE APPENDIX 1

e) Youth Working Party / Youth Club Report

- Mr Hulme kindly attended Youth Club this evening to assist this evening as the manager Alice Boon had a work commitment elsewhere in her fulltime job role.
- Miss Minter reported Alice Boon has resigned due to pressures on her home life and fulltime work and her position has been advertised.

f) Community Library

- Report from Mr McCloskey– SEE APPENDIX 1
- Miss Minter reported an elderly lady who came in wanting some help to renew her Blue parking badge but as this lady is not familiar with the internet she tried the phone number instead which took one round and round in circles. Miss Minter explained the saga as they tried it for her too. The advice given to Miss Minter was to choose 'option 5' but that still didn't work.

Cllr Criswell said he will find out as the system is intended to be easy to use.

g) Millennium Sports Facility

Mr Sutton reported:

- A Drone club has just started at the facility, they practice drone racing.
- The newly extended role of the facility caretaker which takes it back nearer to the role

some years ago and gives the option for the caretaker to take on some parish work when Martin Tyers is on holiday.

- The next Trustee meeting Monday 20th March 2017

h) Localism Working Party & Somersham Time Bank

The Chairman reported the Council have applied to the County Council Innovation Fund for a 3 year project to support people with neurological illnesses. The good news is the project is through to Round 2. The Clerk and Lucy Bird have prepared additional work for the second round with Lucy Bird and Philip Clark (as Chairman of the SNRG) doing a presentation to the funding panel at CCC on Wednesday 15th March 2017.

i) Communication Working Party

- Next Meeting 4th April 2017
- Report from Mr McCloskey – SEE APPENDIX 1

j) REPORTS OF EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS


No meetings were reported.

14. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No matters were raised.

The next meeting will be held in the Millennium Pavilion on Monday 10th April 2017 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.37 pm



Steve Criswell, Chairman

REPORT FROM SNRG for the PC Meeting on 13th Feb 2107:

The SNRG has been awarded a grant for £10,500 from the Mick George Community Fund although the monies have yet to be released. The grant is to be used to rebuild access points (for better community access), improved access along Galley Drove and to develop interpretation boards. It is hoped that the work along Galley Drove can start ahead of the nesting season and that Somersham Primary School will engage with the interpretation boards. A leaflet will ultimately be produced to reflect the various footpaths available around the Reserve. Additional funding sources are being researched to develop the proposed live Willow Tunnel and a Sky Watching Platform on the Station Fields.

Bramble clearance work is on-going throughout the Reserve and additional work around the lake will be undertaken during February and March. The apple trees in the Community Orchard have been successfully pruned.

Meanwhile, it is planned to hold a 'Bio Blitz' weekend during the latter part of May or the early part of June. PC has spoken to experts and now needs to select dates. The 'Bio Blitz' will run over a 24 hour period in which, supported by imported specialists for the occasion, data will be collected on birds, plants, butterflies, moths etc. alongside other activities including a 'Dawn Chorus' and other walk. The activities will result in a comprehensive database of all the flora and fauna found on the reserve over that weekend.

REPORT FROM FOSL for the PC Meeting on 13th Feb 2107:

The increasing numbers attending the recent Child Health Clinics in the Library had raised a number of health and safety concerns and a relative lack of privacy on some occasions. Consequently, and by mutual agreement, the Child Health Clinics in the Library had now terminated.

The County Council had originally indicated that spare shelves were available for distribution and FOSL had planned to improve the children's reading area with suitable shelving should it materialize. However, it is possible the availability was over-egged and the resources have been dramatically reduced; FOSL might have to look elsewhere to refurbish the children's shelves.

The next FOSL fund-raising event will be a stall at the Cross on 15th April.

REPORT FROM THE COMMS & ENGAGEMENT WP for the PC Meeting on 13th Feb 2107:

The Feb/March Edition of the S4U Newsletter has been delivered albeit following a limited response from Councillors for assistance; the Springfield/Windsor Gardens Route wasn't distributed until the first week in February (after some of the advertised events had taken place). A funding bid will be made to the Red Tile Wind Farm in May for new Somersham4U environmental-friendly delivery bags. Additionally, at the last meeting of the WP you will have seen there was further dialogue about the merits of some new sites for electronic

information boards. There was also a discussion about trying to provide a comprehensive bus timetable for the village that made sense of all the disparate information currently generated by the service providers.

Paul McCloskey

Somersham Parish Council

13th February 2017

APPENDIX 2

COUNTS	13th March 2017	Vat		TOTAL		Cost Ce
ages	Salaries	0.00	5852.46	5,852.46	Bacs	Salaries
SS	Pension Fund	0	1502.72	1502.72	Bacs	Pension
on Energy	Street lighting	3.37	67.47	£70.84	Bacs	Street L
PO	Norwood Building - gas	22.69	113.47	136.16	Bacs	Norwoc
	Community library - gas	26.77	133.85	160.62	Bacs	Library
blackwell	Work on trees	0.00	960	£960.00	Bacs	Tree sui
	Storm damage clear up - ' Doris'	0	930	930	Bacs	Tre wor
CC Enterprises Ltd	Practitioners Conference x 2 places	498	46.4	544.4	Bacs	Training
asdon UK Ltd	Fido bins	158.92	794.64	953.56	Bacs	Amenit'
LA	Hire of pavilion function room	0	20	£20.00	Bacs	Adminis
ness Electrical Supplies	QVS electrical bits	1.7	8.5	£10.20	Bacs	C Lights
						Norwoc
me & Co	Building insurance update cost	0	817.71	£817.71	Bacs	Pav
IMC	Hall hire - February 2017	0	130.5	£130.50	Bacs	Youth C
le & Day	Tractor fuel - February 2017	15.19	75.97	£91.16	Bacs	Kubota
K Installations	GSM/3g line rental - CCTV High Street	11.1	55.5	£66.60	Bacs	CCTV - I
nchmark Electrical Ltd	Tag system electrical work	210.4	1052	£1,262.40	Bacs	Norwoc
lfour Beatty	Year 2 of Street lighting maintenance	113.5	567.5	£681.00	Bacs	Street li
	TOTAL	1,061.64	13128.69			14,190.33
				14,190.33		
<u>Electronic payments</u>						
lk Talk	Telephone/Broadband				DD	Adminis
lk Talk	CIC-01487 840266			£0.00	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				DD	Adminis
	TOTAL	3.75	66.75			70.5
				£70.50		
<u>Eques</u>						
ARC	Tax & NI -27 Feb 2017	0	1643.42	1643.42		Chq No
adingly Mulch	Play bark	223.67	1118.33	1342		3C
		223.67	2761.75			2985.42
				2985.42		

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Ms Foyant	14th Feb - Work gear - SSLA Caretaker	0	25.97	25.97	SSLA
Ms T Clark	Tuck - 21st Feb	0	39.17	39.17	Youth C
Ms L Bird	Coffee morning - 17th Feb	0	9.04	9.04	Time B