

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Millennium Pavilion
On Monday 25 January 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Mr D Bonnett, Miss J Bullard, Mr D Cornwell (in the Chair), Mr S Criswell, Mr M Hoy, Miss L Minter, Mrs D Siggs, Mr G Siggs, Mr I Smith, Mrs J Smith, Mr R Sutton and Mrs P Bryant (Parish Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: No members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mr A Beaven – personal commitments

Mr P McCloskey – illness

CLlr Newman – attending Wood Hurst Parish Council

2. PARISH COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

See Appendix 1

3. PUBLIC FORUM

At the meeting held on 21 December 2009 – No matters were discussed

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Bonnett 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 and reopened at 7.30 pm.

4. RESIGNATION OF CLLR ERIC PARSONS

The casual vacancy was advertised on 12 January 2010

It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mrs Smith and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to advertise the vacancy in Voices Newsletr if no election called.

The Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Mr Parsons and accept his offer of working party support.

Councillors expressed their disappointment Mr Parsons decided to go; he will be greatly missed as a council member.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications were received:

0900774FUL Land north of Station Approach, Somersham
Erection of 2 storey dwelling

Amended plans –

0901630FUL 80 The Trundle, Somersham
Erection of conservatory

The plans were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hoy and it was RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to propose no objection. The conservatory will be at the rear of property and will not impinge on neighbours.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

0901359FUL Warlows Meadow, Parkhall Road, Somersham
Erection of a single storey timber building to form extension to existing boarding cattery.

0901429FUL 78 High Street, Somersham
Replacement timber glazed conservatory on existing dwarf walls

H/05037/09/CW Cheffins, The Heath, Wood Hurst Variation of Condition 7 of approved application
H/05005/04/CW

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

CCC – Development Control Panel – 17 December 2009

HDC – Notification of new property address – land north of Station Approach to be known as:
Fawley House, 4A, Station Approach

PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

East of England Plan Review > 2031 – Revised draft due to be submitted to Government before the end of March 2010, followed by a 12 week period of public consultation.

6. THE MINUTES OF 21 DECEMBER 2009

The Minutes of 21 December 2009 were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Miss Bullard and RESOLVED by 7 votes for and 3 abstentions to accept the Minutes were a true record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

7. POLICE REPORT

7.1 Crime report to be presented at the meeting

7.2 Ramsey Neighbourhood Forum Agenda for 19 January 2010- Miss Bullard, Miss Minter, Mr Siggs and Mr Criswell attended. Miss Bullard gave a report.

Mr Criswell reported the Panel are looking for representative from Somersham. As there were no volunteers from the meeting it was agreed the Clerk would ask Mr Beaven, Mr Suckling and Mr McCloskey before the next meeting.

7.3 Email – Inspector Griffin response re Norwood Building window damage

7.4 Small Claims Procedure – it was agreed this option is no longer available owing to the actual cost to repair the windows.

7.5 Response letter from Julie Spence re PCSO Powers – The Clerk will thank the Chief Inspector for her letter and that the parish council has noted her comments.

8. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR CRISWELL AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR NEWMAN

Cllr Criswell reported he has joined a sub group for Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, by September they expect to have a new management regime and the Government aims to reclaim the £40 million deficit.

Mr Sutton queried CCC's budget talks specifically with regard to LAP's as reported in the Cambridge Evening News. Cllr Criswell confirmed LAP's are being reviewed and the entire libraries system is being investigated; to date no decision has been made on LAP's and Cllr Criswell said he will be arguing where LAP's already exist in communities they should be kept.

9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

- a) Matters Arising Report accepted.
- b) The following correspondence has been received:

Cambridgeshire ACRE – Affordable Rural Housing – Housing Needs Survey for Somersham – *no further update received since December 2009*

NALC – Local Council Awards 2010 – nominations requested by 31 March 2010

HDC – Flood Forum meeting report – in circulation

HDC – Public Meetings schedule – January 2010

War Memorials Trust – invitation to conference on 4 March 2010 – Mr Smith to attend.

Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill: Please Lobby Your MP – email request, Steve Shaw, National Co-ordinator, Local Works

M & G Charibond dividend £3.80

- c) CPALC – nominations requested for Buckingham Palace Garden Party by 8 March –
Councillors agreed to nominate Mr Bonnett

10. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT including: -

- a) Monthly Accounts – The accounts were proposed by Mr Bonnett, seconded by Miss Bullard and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be paid, the cheques were duly signed.

See Appendix 2

- b) **HDC – Precept request 2010/11** acknowledged. Band D Charge £74.67
- c) **Finance & Risk Management Meeting** held on 18 January 2010 – Mr Bonnett reported.
- d) **Alternative Savings Account** – suggested £48, 000 for 3, 6, 12 months – Corporate Guaranteed Investment Account.

The Clerk will enquire with the Co-op exactly how much interest is lost if the money is moved before the end investment date.

- e) **Computer / IT Disaster Management** – Mr McCloskey to report

This item will be discussed at the next meeting as Mr McCloskey was absent.

- f) **External Hard-drive Unit For the Voices Team** – Parish Clerk request as an alternative to purchasing additional copies of Publisher software

Deferred to next parish council meeting.

- g) **Squash Court lighting and safety improvements**

The Clerk will obtain costs for hiring scaffolding and securing the suspended light chains.

The Clerk will investigate various heating methods.

11. HIGHWAYS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance

Correspondence

County Advisory Freight Map – Draft – Response due 29 January 2010 – extended to 5 February
It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mr Bonnett and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to respond by confirming the entire length of A1123 from St Ives east wards should be classified as a local route rather than a strategic route.

Email – Imotek – request for salt/grit container at West Newlands Industrial Estate

It was proposed by Mr Bonnett, seconded by Mr Sutton and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to reply stating the council have not budgeted for this but if the industrial estate wish to supply the bin the parish council can ensure CCC fill it with salt/grit.

Repairs –

Potholes in the High Street

Potholes in Long Drove circuit – to acknowledge this is a minor road but it has a lot of usage

Rose & Crown ‘lake’ – CCC have said work to the footpath will be completed in mid January.

The Chairman would like to request that CCC install yellow lines opposite Mortimer Road, it is difficult to get through with any vehicle larger than a car at certain times. Mr Criswell explained the procedure is expensive and the parish was unlikely to get it; he suggested the parish council build up a list of requests. To go on the next agenda.

12. DEFINITIVE FOOTPATH MATTERS - Bridleway 7 (Short Drove to The Crafty Fox), White Post Area - Repairs/ Maintenance

a) The next working party meeting will be held on 27 January 2010

Footpath 4 - Mr Criswell reported CCC enforcement has measured all the gardens plus the field and will put in boundary markers on both sides of the footpath. Land Registry permit a leeway of 3 feet and one cannot be prosecuted if the measurement lies within that. Only Mr & Mrs Jedlica’s garden falls outside this requirement and they will be written to accordingly. All householders backing on to Footpath 4 and the (County) farmer will be written to informing them of the findings and told to keep their hedges etc cut back at least annually. The Parish Council will also have a letter confirming this.

Bridleway 7 - Mr Smith reported his work to cut down the Leylandi trees at Bridleway 7 had brought complaints from the neighbouring property. A meeting with the property owners, the parish council and Bridget Halford HDC was held and an agreement has been reached on the removal of all the trees over a period of time, during that period the neighbours will plant their trees on their own land to compensate the loss of the parish trees. Mr Criswell thanked Mr Smith for his work until he was stopped.

b) HDC – letter concerning Ash Tree on boundary of property 12B, The Bank – is the responsibility of property owner and not the Highways Authority

13. STREET LIGHTING MATTERS inc repairs

The following street light repairs were reported:

CCC 18 The Trundle – day burner as well as night

CCC 1 Butts Close – as above

CCC 15 The Trundle – no cover on top

All reported bracket lights all still missing

14. POWER OF WELL-BEING – COUNCILLOR TRAINING DATES

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mrs Smith and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to defer training until after the next election May 2011.

15. CCC'S POSITION STATEMENT – Children's Centre Development in Huntingdonshire

The Clerk will circulate the information.

16. SOMERSHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

Councillors were agreed a letter of approval should go to Tony Litting, Chair of Governors and a copy to Mr McArthur, head teacher.

Mr Sutton suggested the school should give parents advice / education on safe parking and use of the pedestrian crossing rather than dodging between cars.

17. REPLACEMENT CCTV AT THE HIGH STREET

The Clerk will obtain costs and advice to move the CCTV system to the shelter at The Cross and replace the current cameras with a dome camera.

18. SOMERSHAM PARISH PLAN AND UPDATE TO ACTION PLAN

It was agreed the working party meet first to discuss the action plan initially and decide whether there what will be any benefit to meeting with Cambridgeshire ACRE.

The Clerk will investigate what alternative options there are rather than go down Parish Plan route again.

Miss Minter would like to attend the working party meeting.

19. REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & REPRESENTATIVES:

a) Norwood Building / The Victory Hall - VHMC Meeting held on 12 January 2010

Miss Bullard reported.

b) Norwood Playing Field –

- The Parish Clerk reported progress on CCC Play Pathfinder Project
- Mini's soccer training is being carried out on playing field without permission; the Clerk has contacted the club responsible and they will be invoiced.

c) Millennium Sports Field – nothing to report

d) Somersham LNR – Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve

Including the Lake – Meeting held on 18 January 2010 with Charlotte Lowry CCC.

Work to install the heritage line has begun as has the installation of new entrance gates.

- Request from Ms Pattison to plant a tree in memory of her Grandfather at the LNR.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Smith and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote for the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Mr Smith, Ms Pattison and CCC to agree on the tree species and where to plant it. No plaque will be permitted.

- e) **Christmas Lights Working Party** – Meeting Report 16 December 2009
 - CCC/EDF Unmetered Electricity Supplies – A licence is required in future – The Clerk will download the documents and check requirements.
- f) **Youth Working Party** – The next meeting will be held on 17 March 2010.
- g) **Environment Working Party** – Meeting held 13 January 2010 – Mr Criswell gave a short report on the Watts Going Down campaign plus there will be a Green Fair during the day at the Millennium Pavilion on 30 March 2010.
- h) **Voices Newsletter** – Meeting held 13 January 2010

It was proposed by Mr Siggs, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by all councillors present with 1 abstention to spend up to £100 on purchasing suitable re-sealable plastic wallets to distribute Voices to volunteers. The volunteers will be asked to drop the wallets back before the next issue is due out.

i) Community Information Centre (Library)

- Miss Minter reported Mrs Liddle has given notice she will be leaving FOSL at May's AGM, the Treasurer is also going.
- The Clerk reported a new lease has not been received by the parish council as yet, Mrs Liddle is chasing the matter with CCC and including the Clerk in emails.
- FOSL - Copy letter sent to Andrew Hall, CCC re photovoltaic units.
- It was agreed the Clerk would set up a meeting with FOSL to discuss finance in March or April 2010. The Finance Working will attend.

20. EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mr Sutton reported attending a Area Joint Traffic meeting last week.

Speedwatch – Miss Minter and Miss Bullard gave a report on the Speedwatch demonstration given at Parkhall Road on Saturday 23 January.

It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mr Sutton and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to advertise in Voices for volunteers to support Speedwatch

21. CLOSED SESSION To Discuss the Burial Land Extension

In accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted the Public and Press be temporarily excluded from this meeting and instructed to withdraw.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Siggs and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting at 10.22 pm.

Following discussion it was agreed the time was now approaching when a meeting must be held with the Church to decide the future of this project. The session was closed and the meeting reconvened at 10.30 pm.

22. NOTICES AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Mr Bonnett asked for the Parish Map (interpretation board) to be added to the next agenda.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 22 February 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.31 pm.

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David Cornwell Chairman

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

DAVID BONNETT	Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Charity of Poor's Money
JUDITH BULLARD	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Victory Hall Management Committee
DAVID CORNWELL	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Town Band Trust
STEPHEN CRISWELL	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Charity of Poor's Money Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Member of Huntingdonshire District Council Member of Cambridgeshire County Council CCC Fire Authority Representative
MICHAEL HOY	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Charity of Poor's Money
LESLEY MINTER	Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Victory Hall Management Committee
DOROTHY SIGGS	
GRAHAM SIGGS	Historic Society - Treasurer
IAIN SMITH	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Education Trust of Thomas Hammond Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee
JENNET SMITH	Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL)
PAUL SUCKLING	Victory Hall Management Committee
RICHARD SUTTON	Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Education Trust of Thomas Hammond Personal interest as a relation: Booking Secretary monthly pay

ACCOUNTS

25 January 2010

The following accounts were required before the meeting:

Wages, Tax & NI (11 January)	£4060.38
Cole & Day – fuel	£43.43
BT Internet connection	£17.25
Tractor Service	£337.45
	<u>£4458.51</u>

25 January 2010

Tiscali	Broadband	£17.04 Direct Debit
Height For Hire	Hydraulic platform hire	£123.75
University of Gloucestershire	Course fees	£475.00
Twinsal Windows	Norwood Building repair	£132.25
Huntspat	Portable electrical appliance tests	£52.38
C Barson Electrical Services	Community Info Centre	£740.25
	Norwood Building	£856.58
ESPO	Gas – Norwood Building	£200.59
Wybone Ltd	Cycle racks	£377.99
SLCC	SLCC & ILCM subscription	£234.00
Mrs P Bryant	Expenses refund	£88.90

TOTAL	<u>£3298.73</u>
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