

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF**  
**SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held in the Millennium Sports Pavilion, Somersham**  
**On Monday 29 November 2010 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT WERE** : Mr A Beaven, Miss J Bullard, Mr D Cornwell, Mr S Criswell (in the Chair), Mr M Hoy, Mr S Innes, Mr P McCloskey, Miss L Minter, Mr G Siggs, Mrs J Smith, Mr P Suckling, Mr R Sutton and Mrs P Bryant (Parish Clerk).

**IN ATTENDANCE:** PCSO A Siepak, Cllr M Newman.  
Arriving at 7.35pm - 4 adults youth workers and 5 children representing Somersham Youth Club.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mr D Bonnett - personal

Mrs D Siggs – illness

Mr I Smith – work commitments

**2. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

*See Appendix 1*

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Cornwell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting for a period of time to allow members of the public to participate in a public forum. No members of the public were present and the meeting was closed and reconvened at 7.31pm.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Miss Minter and the public forum was reconvened at 7.36 pm – 8.03 pm. Matters discussed – Junior Youth Club representation and a request to keep the Junior Youth Club open.

**4. PLANNING MATTERS**

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1001784LBC 100, High Street, Somersham

Replacement of windows and doors. Renovation works to path, front doors and internal works.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Cornwell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to propose no objection, the work looks to be in keeping with the property and street scene.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED**

1000817S73 OS 8582, St Ives Road, Wood Hurst

Removal of condition 1 of planning permission 0700959FUL for change of use of land to residential caravan site for 4 gypsy families hard standing and landscaping

1001584S73 Mobile home opposite Silks farm Day Nursery, St Ives Rd, Somersham

Removal or variation of the 3 year limited part of condition 1 of planning permission 0701841FUL which limited the use of land for one gypsy family to a three year period.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED**

1001416FUL 90, High Street, Somersham  
Erection of a rear single storey extension

1001400FUL Two storey extension to dwelling  
16, Loftsteads, Somersham

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN**

1001649LBC 100, High Street, Somersham  
Replace UPVC doors and windows with single glazed timber doors and windows

## **PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE**

HDC – email current enforcement case – Re No 21A, Rectory Lane, Somersham

Cambridge Water Company – Proposed Water Main Renewal – Bluntisham Heath Road, Somersham  
– work commencing 17 November 2010 for 20 weeks

## **PLANNING CONSULTATIONS**

None

### **5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 1 NOVEMBER 2010**

The Minutes of 1 November 2010 were proposed Miss Bullard, seconded by Mr Siggs and RESOLVED by 8 votes for and 3 abstentions to be a true record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

### **6. POLICE REPORT**

- Crime report – The Clerk is still unable to access Ecops as an error message occurs when searching crime records.

PCSO Siepak said she had nothing specific to report.

Miss Minter reported her concern that children are riding around the village without lights on their bikes. PCSO Siepak assured Miss Minter the police write to the parents if they see this.

Rose & Crown – late night drinking and noise is still an issue for neighbouring properties.

### **7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR S CRISWELL AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR M NEWMAN**

Cllr Newman reported HDC will not putting up the council tax this year and went on further to discuss the austerity measures and budget problems.

Cllr Criswell reported that like HDC, CCC will not being putting up council tax essentially CCC will raise the tax by 2.5% which will be funded by the Government which represents 0% to the local tax payer.

Cllr Criswell advised the Guided bus should open in early 2011.

### **8. PARISH CLERKS REPORT**

- **Matters Arising Report** – Accepted
- **RM reports** – There are several reports still outstanding which were due on 2 Nov 2010.

- The following **correspondence** has been received:

**Link – Cambridgeshire Local Involvement Network** –encouraging local people to be involved in shaping health & social care services - poster to display

**HDC – Environmental Health** – ‘Scores on the Doors’ hygiene information - poster to display

#### **9. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS including: -**

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

*See Appendix 2*

- **Donation to MAGPAS** before April 2011 – The Clerk will seek more information from Maria Garner re the Somersham first responders and request MAGPAS provide some statistics for the next meeting.
- Precept for 2011/2012 – the precept was discussed and a decision deferred until the next meeting.

#### **10. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance**

##### **Correspondence:-**

Email re speeding at Colne Road – It was agreed to suggest Mrs Brett emails Colne Parish Council to consider a JFB for next year.

##### **Road repairs**

Could CCC actually do the tarmac repairs already marked up.

Parkhall Road circuit needs doing

Footpath from The Trundle to Ditchfields – hedges overgrowing footpath – Clerk to notify home owners once house numbers are known.

Hedge at No 26 the Trundle still hasn't been done.

Hedgerows – what is happening – check with Jason Tyrell on those already reported.

Galleys Drove & the Cranbrook - road signs obscured by trees/bushes.

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

**Correspondence:** CCC Parish Paths & Future Partnerships meeting – 2 December 2010

#### **12. STREET LIGHTING inc repairs**

No matters to report.

#### **13. THE GOVERNMENT LOCALISM INITIATIVE IN RELATION TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

The Chairman reported a meeting both he and the Clerk attended at CCC regarding the Big Society and Localism both of which are closely linked and directly relate to the Decentralisation and Localism Bill due to be published on 8 December 2010. This process of change is not optional and aims to put control for services and spending back with local communities so they can make the appropriate decisions on what they believe is best for them. CCC has asked if Somersham Parish Council would be willing to help by participating in a Leading Edge Project by taking on devolved budgets and responsibilities.

It was proposed by Mr Innes, seconded by Mr McCloskey and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to proceed in principle by taking on aspects of localism which will include devolved services.

Councillors would prefer to be in the forefront of shaping the process rather than fitting into a programme designed by others.

#### **14. FIRST STEP PLAYGROUP – STORAGE UNIT ON NORWOOD PLAYING FIELD**

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to request a sketch map and further details of where they envisage the unit to be located; if the unit is too close to the scout hut people will be able to get on roof. A lease and planning permission will also be required at the playgroups expense and not the tax payers.

**15. CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACRE'S RURAL SERVICE & FACILITIES COMMUNITY SURVEY**

It was agreed the Clerk would complete and return the survey.

**16. REPORTS FROM SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & REPRESENTATIVES :**

- a) **Norwood Building / The Victory Hall** - VHMC Minutes 9 November 2010
- b) **Norwood Playing Field** – The roundabout, Talking Flower and Holly Hedgehog new play equipment has been installed.  
Hedge needs trimming around the edge – the Clerk will ask Mr J Waters to carry this out.
- c) **Millennium Sports Field** – SSLA meeting report 16 November 2010
- d) **Somersham LNR – Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve including the Lake** –
  - LNR – Proposed Friends Group Constitution – update – Mr Siggs reported the group has not met to discuss the constitution.  
The Clerk will enquire whether Charlotte Lowry received the Excellence 4 the Environment Award
- e) **Christmas Lights Working Party** – Report 11 November 2010
- f) **Youth Working Party** – Miss Minter has emailed Dibbs Fletcher CCC regarding the youth to help plant trees but has had no response.
- g) **Environment Working Party** – No meetings held
- h) **Voices Newsletter** – Issue 45 – December 2010 distributed to volunteer deliverers
- i) **Community Information Centre (Library)** – Copy letter from Mrs L Innes FOSL Chairman) re CCC's proposed Service Level Agreement
- j) **Parish Plan** – Meeting held 24 November 2010. Mr Sutton apologised for not attending he did not have the date written down.

**17. REPORTS OF EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Mr Sutton reported CPALC have had some financial difficulties due to year-end accounting methods used when allocating the discounted affiliation rates.

**18. BURIAL LAND EXTENSION – CLOSED SESSION**

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr. Cornwell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote 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 were temporarily excluded from the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 10.19 pm and reconvened at 10.21 pm.  
Matters discussed were recommended amendments to the Agreement.

**19. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

No matters were raised.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 20 December 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Millennium Pavilion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.23 pm

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Steve Criswell  
Chairman

**APPENDIX 1****PARISH COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

ANDREW BEAVEN	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Victory Hall Management Committee (Vice Chairman VHMC)
JUDITH BULLARD	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee (Vice Chairman SSLA) Victory Hall Management Committee
DAVID CORNWELL	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee (Chairman SSLA) Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Town Band Trust
STEPHEN CRISWELL	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
STUART INNES	Somersham School Governor Personal interest – Mrs Innes Chairman of FOSL and a VHMC Trustee
PAUL McCLOSKEY	Somersham School Governor Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve - Secretary
LESLEY MINTER	Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Victory Hall Management Committee
GRAHAM SIGGS	Historic Society – Treasurer Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve - Treasurer RAFA Welfare Officer
JENNET SMITH	Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Friends of Somersham Church
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 Friends of Somersham Church

**ACCOUNTS**

29 November 2010

The following accounts were required before the meeting:

Wages, Tax & NI		£4143.10
Cole & Day	Groundsman's fuel	£132.56
EON	Street Lighting	£43.28
Mr I Smith – refund	Strimmer harness	£64.49
Barcham Trees	3 trees – Norwood Playing Field	£350.15
Viking Direct	Stationary etc	£166.74
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>£4900.32</u></b>

**29 November 2010**

Opal	CIC telephone	<del>£40.77</del> £55.38
Gibbs & Dandy Plc	Materials	£84.72
Churches Fire	Fire extinguishers service	£122.24
British Telecom	01487 841359	£69.46
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Day wreath	£16.50
J Waters	Grass topping / flailing	£267.90
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	Trimax Procut 3 roller mower	£4700.00
Neptune Outdoor Furniture	Avenue wood & metal seat	£707.35
Mr I Smith – refund	C Lights – mains connector	£14.69
Mr G Siggs – refund	C lights – connectors / core wire	£90.06
Mrs E Sutton – refund	C Lights – sweets	£36.00
HDC	Floodlights – MSA	£4466.22
Came & Co	Insurance cover – Trimax Procut3	£25.00
EFS Solutions	Voices & headed paper	£419.16
Madingley Mulch	Play bark	£445.80
Shaw & Sons	Minute Book paper	£52.88
Mrs P Bryant	Expenses refund	£163.70
Southern Electric	Norwood Building	£342.44
ESPO	CIC – gas	£59.28
	Norwood Building	£32.27
CPALC	Standing Orders Part 1 & 2	£25.00
SLCC	Membership	£190.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b><u>£12,371.44</u></b>