

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Millennium Sports Pavilion
On Monday 6 September 2010 at 7.30 p.m.**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO A Siepak, Cllr M Newman and 2 member of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mr P McCloskey - ill

Mrs D Siggs - away

Mr G Siggs – away

Mr M Hoy left meeting. 9.02 pm, Item 14

Cllr M Newman – at Broughton PC – arrived at 9.30 pm

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

SEE APPENDIX 1

All councillors declared an interest in 1001290FUL Land rear of Church Street, Somersham Car park extension – 7 spaces

Mr Sutton declared a personal interest in Item 15 following clarification with a Standards Board member – Mr Sutton will not be seeking funding.

Mr Innes – school governor and his wife is the FOSL Chairman and a VHMC trustee.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

At the meetings held on 9 August 2010 – No matters were discussed

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.

The meeting was closed at 7.33 pm and reconvened at 7.48pm

Matters discussed were the proposed Dog Exclusion Orders for the Norwood Playing Field and the planning application for the Church Street car park extension

4. PLANNING MATTERS

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1001012FUL

Land at Park Farm, St Ives Road, Somersham

Establishment of farm access track onto Somersham Road

It was proposed by Mr Cornwell, seconded by Mr Hoy and RESOLVED by 10 votes for and 1 abstention to propose no objection. The track has been used for a good number of years to service the land rather than go through centre of village.

1001290FUL Land rear of Church Street, Somersham
Car park extension – 7 spaces

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Bonnett and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to request Mr Criswell asks the Development Control Panel to consider extra planting by the house wall on the east side.

1001217FUL Land north of Station Approach, Somersham
Amendment to planning permission 0900992FUL to install additional dormer window relating to two storey dwelling

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Suckling and RESOLVED by 10 votes for and 1 abstention to object. Councillors believe the house is already big enough in its original approved planning proposal and that there is no need to loose the car port and parking space in order to gain an additional room.

The Clerk will report to planners the covering letter description is misleading as it only refers to a dormer window and not to the proposal to alter the approved plans to create an additional room.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

1000888FUL Site two sea containers for the storage of sports equipment
Millennium Sports Field, The Trundle, Somersham

1001007FUL Single storey rear and side extension to dwelling (previously granted
planning permission in 2005)
94, The Trundle, Somersham

PLANNING APPLICATIONS REFUSED

Nil

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

HDC Development Control Panel – draft agenda 20 September 2010 – 1001290FUL Land rear of Church Street, car park extension

CCC Development Control Panel -9 September 2010 –
H/05008/10/CC Erection of a single storey Children’s Centre to replace existing temporary provision including 3 classrooms, external play space, increased car and cycle parking provision and the provision of a mobile classroom for the construction period.
Somersham Primary School, Parkhall Road

HDC – Commencement notice of Appeal Land North of The Paddock, Chatteris Road, Somersham
16/17 September 2010

PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

NIL

5. MINUTES OF 9 AUGUST 2010

The Minutes of 9 August 2010 were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Beaven and RESOLVED by 7 for and 4 abstentions to be a true record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

6. POLICE REPORT

- **Crime report** – PCSO Siepak reported parking tickets have been issued to vehicles on the High Street which were parked for over 30 minutes in the timed parking bays.

Mr Bonnett reported complaints of noise at 3 am in Rose & Crown car park, residents phoned the police but were told they would be there in 4 hours, this is not satisfactory. In addition Mr Bonnett had numerous complaints about glass frequently in road.

PCSO Siepak will speak to a colleague who is the pub-watch co-ordinator and will find out what time the pub should be shut and discuss drinking out side of hours etc

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

Cllr Criswell said he had nothing to report that is not elsewhere on the agenda.

Mr Sutton raised his concern with the final costs for the Guided Bus, he is worried at CCC's proposal to pay the costs to carry out the final work and then sue Bam Nuttall especially if CCC loses the case, and the cost will fall on the tax payer. Cllr Criswell confirmed this condition forms part of the contract terms which is why CCC are following this course of action but he fully appreciates the concerns.

8. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

a) Matters Arising Report –

Miss Bullard said she was not happy with the response from Planning Enforcement regarding the addition caravan on the site at Pidley Sheep Lane. Mr Sutton reported lights on in the 'classic' van at night and it is possibly being used as extra accommodation. The Clerk will write to HDC.

b) Correspondence

NALC Employment Briefing – Local Government Pay 2010/2011 and 2011/2012

NALC legal briefing – Powers to cap billing authorities council tax & parish councils precept levels

Cambridgeshire ACRE – Annual General meeting 2010 - Tuesday 28 September 2010, Burgess hall, St Ives at 6.30 pm

M & G Investments – Charibond quarterly statement

Email - Broadband – EREBUS - it was agreed to put an article in Voices and also put up posters

Lewis McKenzie, Small Land Development Ltd – re plaque ceremony with Sir William McAlpine at 4A Station Approach – Mr Siggs and Mr Sutton expressed an interest in attending.

Lafarge Aggregates – liaison meeting 27 October 2010 at 3 pm

In Circulation

The Playing Field (Cambridgeshire ACRE)

9. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS including: -

- a) **Monthly Accounts** – The monthly accounts were proposed by Mr Bonnett, seconded by Mr Smith and it was RESOLVED by a unanimous vote that the accounts be paid and the cheques were duly signed. *SEE Appendix 2*
- b) **External Audit Report for 2009/2010** – Accepted

10. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance

Mr Cornwell expressed his concern with the extent of encroachment on the roadsides from hedges and trees which all need to be trimmed back at least a metre from the carriageway. From his professional view this conjures up danger in the winter months as shadowing from the trees prevents frost melting then black ice forms on the roads.

The Chairman requested specific problem areas, Mr Cornwell said he was happy to make up a list.

The Clerk will send an email to R Kingston CCC to this effect.

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

- It was proposed by Mr Bonnett, seconded by Miss Bullard and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to purchase a **deep green ‘Topsy’ bin** from the contingency fund @ £128.36 to be installed at the entrance to Station Land.
- Email CCC is looking to improve permissive access along the disused railway line.

12. STREET LIGHTING inc repairs

No repairs were reported.

13. SUBSCRIPTION TO ‘PARISH ONLINE’

The Clerk informed Councillors she had taken the opportunity to review another local council’s use of this site and there are one or two measures which need developing to improve the site.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Innes and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to delay further consideration until the Clerk is satisfied the system has been improved.

14. CONSULTATION ‘ Local Referendums to Veto Excessive Council Tax Increases’

It was agreed all councillors would reply individually on line.

Mr M Hoy left meeting. 9.02 pm

15. REQUEST FROM SOMERSHAM SPORTS & LEISURE ASSOCIATION (as Lessees of the Millennium Sports Facility) TO OBTAIN LEGAL ADVICE on Responsibility for the South Water Course and Possible Water Retention on Neighbouring Properties.

The Clerk informed the meeting there will be a site meeting tomorrow with Mr I Smith, Middle Levels Board.

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

a) Norwood Building / The Victory Hall -

- VHMC Minutes 10 August 2010
- VHMC risk assessment received

b) Norwood Playing Field –

- **Olivia Jones Fundraising** event 5 September 2010
- **Play tree** - Thanks were given to Mr Cornwell for arranging the transportation of the tree from Old Hurst to Somersham.

Points of interest: The tree weighs approx 5 tonnes and it is thought to be approximately 150 years old when it died.

The Clerk will send a letter of thanks to Mr Johnson at Old Hurst and offer to pay for the 3 bales of straw used to cushion the tree's fall.

c) Millennium Sports Field – Meeting held 20 July 2010 next meeting 7 September 2010

d) Somersham LNR – Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve

Including the Lake – email re work to be carried out at Somersham Wood. The Clerk will request CCC display a sign to notify parishioners of the work.

Mr Smith reported 15 volunteers came to the Lake working party at the weekend.

e) Christmas Lights Working Party – work ongoing

f) Youth Working Party – Miss Minter reported a meeting will be called to sort out the sensory garden and that the working party needed some more youngsters to keep group going.

g) Environment Working Party – Mr Sutton thought it would be a good idea to revisit those who participated in the Watts Going Down campaign to see if habits have changed. Mr Sutton will ask Heidi Field HDC tomorrow.

h) Voices Newsletter – September Issue 44 has been printed and delivered to volunteers for distribution.

i) Community Information Centre (Library) – Cllr Criswell reported that to date there is no lease update.

Mr Sutton expressed his surprise CCC have spent £17k on examining library budgets when it could have been spent on the service itself.

Cllr Criswell said the idea was to have a complete outside review and hope to get savings through the expenditure made and everyone would get value for that.

It was agreed the Clerk would respond to CCC regarding the LAP and include the following points – despite hard work by volunteers they are putting our lap at great disadvantage through the proposed changes. Fortnightly delivery means books will be out of circulation for a week at either end of that. Books will be hanging around in boxes. Why can't vehicle delivering to Ramsey stop off here on way through each week?

The cost of a self service provision will not save money for the smaller libraries where they use volunteers. The self service system does not stamp a return date in the book and there is a chance borrowers will loose their slip. There is a lot of uncertainty which could be unproductive. FOSL's effort should be recognised and 'stroked' people doing things for nothing.

2 October 2010 – FOSL's annual medal giving to children for reading.

17. REPORTS OF EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

No meetings were reported.

18. CLOSED SESSION - 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 were temporarily excluded from the meeting and instructed to withdraw.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Beaven and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting at 9.34 pm. The meeting was reconvened at 9.42pm

Matters discussed include the property and land recently sold and the PWLB application has been passed by NALC to the loan board.

19. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Clerk – Agenda item – to include an item for Mr Innes to join parish council working parties.

Mr Bonnett commented on the fantastic quilts on display. (The Norwood Quilters have donated a series of quilted pictures for display at the Millennium pavilion)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.44 pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 4 October 2010 at 7.30 pm

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Steve Criswell
Chairman

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 2010

ANDREW BEAVEN	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Victory Hall Management Committee (Vice Chairman VHMC)
DAVID BONNETT	Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Somersham Charity of Poor's Money
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
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
DOROTHY SIGGS	
GRAHAM SIGGS	Historic Society – Treasurer Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve - Treasurer
IAIN SMITH	Somersham Sports & Leisure Association Trustee Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Education Trust of Thomas Hammond Harvey Feoffees Charity Committee Friends of Somersham Church
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

6 September 2010

The following accounts were required before the meeting:

Wages, Tax & NI		£4143.44
The Broker Network	Tractor insurance	£390.63
MB Heating & Plumbing	2 x shower heads/hoses	£50.50
TOTAL		<u>£4584.57</u>

6 September 2010

Talk Talk	Broadband	£17.04	Direct Debit
Opal	Telephone services - CIC	£35.33	Direct Debit
Gibbs & Dandy Plc	Materials	£55.52	
Cole & Day	Fuel	£124.69	
Scribe 2000	Annual Licence	£287.88	
SSLA	Annual Grant	£5189.96	
British telecom	01487 841359	£71.15	
Mr G Siggs	Refund – Christmas Lights	£15.37	
MK Illuminations	Christmas Lights	£569.76	
Oak Building Construction	Construction work – Play area	£152.75	
E-On	Multi sports area lighting	£10.89	
Cambridge Water	Community Info Centre	£82.24	
	Norwood B/Victory Hall	£166.06	
Huntingdonshire DC	TEN Licence	£21.00	
Madingley Mulch	Play bark	£445.80	
Moore Stephens	External Audit	£667.40	
Mr G Whitfield	Internal Audit	£261.00	
Talk Talk	01487 841090	£7.97	
Glasdon UK	2 x Topsy Bins	£301.64	
BC Landcrafts	Tree felling – play tree	£685.00	
ESPO	Gas – Community Info Centre	£11.76	
Viking Direct	Office materials	£260.51	
Churches Fire	Fire Alarm Service	£334.70	
Mrs P Bryant	Expenses refund	£20.60	
M Murray Signs Ltd	Lake area ‘No Fishing at this point’	£70.50	
EFS Solutions	Voices Issue 44	£330.00	
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Regional Conference 2010	£64.62	
Madingley Mulch	Play bark	£445.80	
TOTAL		<u>£10,706.94</u>	