

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**
Held on Monday 12th February 2024 at 7.30 p.m.
At the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham PE28 3JS
www.somersham-pc.gov.uk

PRESENT WERE:

Cllr A Cass
Cllr A Chapman
Cllr N David
Cllr C Dolby (in the Chair)

Cllr D Skeggs
Cllr D Sutton
Cllr R Woolway

Mrs I Healiss, Executive Officer (EO)
Mrs J Turney, Deputy Clerk

Seats Fifteen (15), Councillors present Seven (7), Vacancies Three (3), Quorum Five (5).

234/2/24 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Cllr J Drury – illness
Cllr T Piper – ABSENT
Cllr D Potter – illness
Cllr T Sansom – personal
Cllr F Smith – personal
Cllr S Criswell - illness

235/2/24 PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

236/2/24 PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and unanimously RESOLVED to close the meeting for a period of time to hold a public forum.

The meeting was closed at 19:31 hours and reconvened immediately after.

**237/2/24 APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE ONTO THE VICTORY HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Cllr Cass, seconded by Cllr Woolway and unanimously RESOLVED to accept Cllr Drury as a representative onto the Victory Hall Management Committee.

**238/2/24 APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE ONTO THE FRIENDS OF SOMERSHAM
LIBRARY (FOSL) CHARITY**

It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr David and unanimously RESOLVED to accept Cllr Chapman onto the Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Charity. It was also proposed by Cllr

Cass, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to accept Cllr Skeggs onto the Friends of Somersham Library (FOSL) Charity as a second nomination if required.

239/2/24 **REPORT FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWELL**

No report was offered from Cllr Criswell.

240/2/24 **PLANNING MATTERS**

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS – response dates extended if required

23/02358/FUL Legacy Park, Chatteris Road, Somersham 14/2/24
Use of Land for Gypsy and Traveller Residential Use creating 7 pitches
Comprising the siting of 1 mobile home, 1 touring caravan, a Day Room and
associated parking and a new Children's Play Area.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Cass and RESOLVED to object to this application. There were six (6) votes in favour, one (1) vote against.

Councillors recommended refusal of this application on the following grounds;

Over development of the site

There is insufficient infrastructure on the proposed site to support amenities, such as drainage.

The council are concerned approval of this application will increase the negative effects relating to biodiversity including the disturbance of protected species.

There is already an established, registered holiday Caravan and Motorhome site within the village.

Finally, as per the experience of previous applications for the site, the council are concerned approval of this application provides little certainty any conditions set will be adhered to.

Cllr Sutton is happy to attend the Development Management Panel on behalf of the PC.

24/00103/FUL UNQ0091 Parkhall Road Somersham Proposal. 23/2/24
Change of use of Agricultural meadow to Dog exercise field (Sui Generis).
Erecting a wooden post and wire fence, to the boundaries.

It was proposed by Cllr Skeggs, seconded by Cllr Cass and RESOLVED to approve this application. There were five (5) votes in favour, one (1) vote against and one (1) abstention.

The Council agreed to support this proposal due to the nature of the application (exercising dogs.)

However, the bridge over the former railway cutting would need to be cleared in order to prevent flooding at the meadow.

b) PLANNING APPROVED

TPO 23/017 Land North of 16 The Bank, Somersham
Huntingdonshire District Council made the above-mentioned Tree
Preservation Order on 5th January 2024 without modification in respect of
the trees standing on the property at the above location.

23/01676/PIP Land South of Rectory Lane, Somersham
Erection of up to 2 dwellings and associated works.

23/02272/HHFUL Elm Barn Oak Acres Farm Parkhall Road Somersham Huntingdon
PE28 3HQ
Erection of a kitchen extension.

23/02448/HHFUL Elysium Cottage Parkhall Road Somersham Huntingdon PE28 3HF
Erection of conservatory to rear.



c) PLANNING APPEALS

- APP/E0535/W/23/3331431 Envar Composting Ltd. St Ives Road, Somersham, PE28 3BS
Demolition of in-vessel compost buildings/tunnels and ancillary development; construction of a dry anaerobic digestion (AD) facility, pellet fertiliser facility, healthcare waste energy recovery facility, waste transfer station, vehicle re-fuelling station, biomass storage building, surface water storage lagoons, extension to concrete pad and ancillary development including car park.
- 21/01374/FUL Agricultural Building Between 7 And 9 King Street Somersham
Demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of three detached dwellings, garage and associated works.

241/2/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH JANUARY 2024

Cllr Sutton proposed a change to the Minutes under item 223/1/24: -
Cllr Sansom seconded the proposal to close the meeting for a Public Forum. The Minutes were duly altered from Cllr Sutton to Cllr Sansom and signed by the Chair.
The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and RESOLVED as approved.
There were four (4) votes in favour and three (3) abstentions due to absence.

242/2/24 POLICE REPORT

- Neighbourhood Safety Emails.

Noted by Cllrs.

243/2/24 PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
- Neighbourhood Alerts
- Cambridgeshire ACRE bulletins and updates
- Huntingdonshire DC – press releases and updates

Noted by Cllrs.

244/2/24 FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS

- To Agree the Monthly Accounts (Appendix One)
The monthly accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED for approval.
- To Agree Quarters 1-3 Budget.
The quarterly budgets were proposed by Cllr Cass, seconded by Cllr Sutton and RESOLVED for approval. There were six (6) votes in favour and one (1) abstention - Cllr David has not read the budget report.
- Councillor Quarterly Risk Assessments – disseminated on 2/2/24. (To be completed by 29/2/24.)
- To note the following:
 - Review of updated Financial Regulations (2019) - release date to be confirmed.
 - Procurement threshold changes from Jan 2024.
 - S137 limit increased to £10.81 2024/25
 - The RoSPA Report for the Norwood Playing Field play equipment will be carried out in April 2024.

- e. Tree Survey to be carried out on the 5th February 2024.
- f. Internal Auditor (CAPALC) to attend on 27th February 2024.

245/2/24 THE ANGLING CLUB TO COMPLETE THEIR GRANT APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FOR THE NEW LAKE TEACHING PLATFORM AND A NEW PICNIC BENCH, AS PER THE SPECIFICATIONS PROVIDED

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Cass and unanimously RESOLVED to agree for application to go ahead, as per the specifications provided (disseminated prior to the meeting.)

246/2/24 TO PAY £400 + VAT TO JONNEY GATES TO REPLACE THE NEW BENCH BASE AT THE LAKE.

It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Sutton and unanimously RESOLVED to agree Jonney Gates to carry out work for the replacement bench base at the Lake at £400 plus VAT.

247/2/24 AGREE £900 TOWARDS A NEW DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE MILLENNIUM PAVILION THROUGH LONDON HEARTS (FUNDING OF £750 SECURED)

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr David and unanimously RESOLVED to agree to pay £900 towards a new defibrillator at The Millennium Pavilion.

248/2/24 REPORT HIGHWAY MATTERS INCLUDING PUBLIC FOOTWAYS – REPAIRS/ MAINTENANCE

The Executive Officer was asked to report the following issues to Highways:

- Large pot hole at Station Road
- Large gap (allowing water to flow) at Cranbrook Place

The CRW has requested community volunteers for the group, which will be included on the next PC agenda and S4U article for promotion.

249/2/24 REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS.

No reports were offered.

250/2/24 NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

The next meeting of Somersham Parish Council will be on Monday 11th March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE28 3JS

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20:32 hours.

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Chairman

Appendix One

ACCOUNTS from 9th Jan24 to 2nd Feb24

Payroll

Pension payments

HMRC

Fenland Fire

Irene Healiss

Jane Turney

Limetree Printing

Microshade VSM

Linda Garrick

Victory Hall

Victory Hall

Victory Hall

Victory Hall

Viking

Viking

Irene Healiss

M & K Greaves

Pear technology

Royal British Legion

Cole & Day

CAPALC

CCC

Libra Security

Somersham Charity of Poors Money

Cambridgeshire ACRE

Viking

Optimum

Salaries

Pension Fund

Tax & NI

Sevice and parts 3rdJan 23

Expenses re 2 x Giffgaff

Expense re hedge trimmer replacement parts 5thJan 24

S4U Newsletter 1730 copies 29thDec 23

Monthly fees 14thJan 24

Starfish yoga 3 x sessions Dec 23

Tai Chi 3 x classes Jan 24

Coffee morning 13thDec 23

Yoga x 2 classes Jan 24

Strength & Balance 3 x classes Jan 24

Office 12pk long lasting milk

Printer paper

Expenses re 3 x Giffgaff 15thJan24

Mulled wine, Santa gifts and decorations Christmas lights 1stDec 23

Technical support & software updates until 31stDec 24

Donation re use of premises for Christmas Lights raffle prizes

Diesel

A Chapman Councillor training 17thJan 24

20mph zone contribution 15thJan 24

Library fire alarm service 17thJan 24

£2000 donation plus £612.02 EMR

Membership fee 19thJan 24

Office drinking chocolate

Card top up

Electronic payments

YU Energy

YU Energy

HDC

HDC

Siemens

Street lighting - standing charge - Feb24

Street lighting - electric - Feb24

Millenium Sports container rates 23/24

Sea container rates 23/24

Quarterly photocopier lease

TOTAL

OPTIMUM CARD

GiffGaff

Optimum card

Bookwhen

Amazon UK

Now paid by Clerk as Optimum card no longer accepted. There are no other payment options

Monthly fee

Monthly fee

Two poster frames

Wireless Mouse

Zoom annual charge

Changing Lives gift bags

TOTAL

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