

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

At the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham PE28 3JS

[www.somersham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.somersham-pc.gov.uk)

### PRESENT WERE:

Cllr N David	Cllr D Skeggs
Cllr C Dolby	Cllr F Smith
Cllr C Fidler	Cllr R Sutton
Cllr K Meadows	Cllr R Woolway
Cllr D Potter (in the chair)	
Cllr T Sansom	

Mrs I Healiss, Clerk  
Mrs J Turney, Deputy Clerk

Members Fifteen (15) Quorum: Five (5)

### 87/06/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Cllr J Drury - ABSENT  
District and County Cllr S Criswell - personal

### 88/06/23 PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

### 89/06/23 PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Skeggs 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 at 19:32

Mrs Penny Bryant thanked the Council for her retirement gifts and advised that her attendance at the meeting was to offer assistance concerning the AGAR report.

### 90/06/23 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO: -

- The Communication & Engagement Working Party  
Cllr Meadows offered to join the Working Party.
- The Victory Hall Management Committee (3 representatives)  
Cllr Sutton will consider joining the Committee from September. (The Committee meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 7:30-9pm)
- Library Representative to the next meeting (one representative)  
Cllr Fidler expressed interest in joining the Library Committee – a final decision is dependent upon the day meetings are held, which will be confirmed.  
It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Woolway and unanimously RESOLVED to appoint the above Councillors to the respective Working Parties/Committees.

29/23

**91/06/23**      **REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWELL**

No report was presented - Cllr Criswell offered apologies for non-attendance at the meeting.

**92/06/23**      **PLANNING MATTERS**

**a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 23/00836/HHFUL      65 Grange Road Somersham PE28 3JT      16<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
Demolition of existing conservatory to be replaced with a single storey rear extension.  
It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr David and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application as it is in keeping with the character of the building and street scene.
- 23/00832/FUL      Parkhall Garden Centre, Parkhall Road Somersham, PE28 3HQ      13<sup>th</sup> June  
Proposed Vehicle Access  
It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application due to easy access/egress for supply vehicles, separating retail traffic from heavy loading transport.

**b) PLANNING APPROVED**

- 23/00416/LBC      69 High Street, Somersham PE283JB  
Internal alterations to kitchen, insertion of two conservation style rooflights, replacement door and alterations to kitchen extract
- 23/00415/HHFUL      69 High Street, Somersham PE283JB  
Internal alterations to kitchen, insertion of two conservation style rooflights, replacement door and alterations to kitchen extract
- 23/00338/HHFUL      4 Feoffees Road, Somersham, Huntingdon  
Erection of a single storey side extension & retrospective planning for proposed outbuilding
- 20/01979/FUL      Cuckoo Bridge Nursery, St Ives Somersham  
Change of use of part of existing plant nurseury to sale of plants direct to the public and small shop with parking.

**c) PLANNING APPEALS**

**Appeal Dismissed**

- 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.



**d) HUNTINGDONSHIRE DC PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE**

**Local Plan: -**

Local Plan: Issues Engagement Papers for consultation as part of the next stage of public engagement in the development of the council's new Local Plan. Consultation will run from the 26<sup>th</sup> April for 10 weeks until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Woolway and RESOLVED that the Parish Council cannot currently offer comments to the Issues Engagement Papers consultation process until plans for Somersham are identified.

There with seven (7) in favour, two (2) against and one (1) abstention.

It was agreed for the Clerk to ask HDC for an extension to comments to the next PC meeting, for Councillors to further consider details of proposed sites in Somersham within the report.

**93/06/23      MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023**

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Sansom and RESOLVED as approved.

There were three (3) abstentions.

The Chairman duly signed the Minutes as a true record of events.

**94/06/23      POLICE REPORT**

The police report was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Smith and unanimously RESOLVED for the Clerk to contact Sgt Caruana (and include the Inspector in correspondence) regarding youth related concerns in the village.

The Clerk will also look into possible avenues regarding parental support.

**95/06/23      PARISH CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING: -**

**Updates and Correspondence (emailed to councillors):**

- i. CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
- ii. Neighbourhood Alerts
- iii. Cambridgeshire ACRE bulletins and updates
- iv. Huntingdonshire DC – press releases & updates
- v. Invitation to the Town and Parish Council Forum on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- vi. Resident correspondence received regarding wheelchair access at the Nature Reserve

It was proposed by Cllr Fidler, seconded by Cllr David and unanimously RESOLVED for the Clerk to pass the resident's comments onto the Chairman of the SNRG, and also request an urgent reply to concerns raised regarding the replacement gravel footpath around the lake, which was actioned without consultation with the Parish Council, as required.

**96/06/23      FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS INCLUDING: -**

- i. Monthly Accounts (Appendix One)  
The monthly accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Woolway and unanimously RESOLVED for approval.
- ii. Internal Auditors Report  
The Internal Auditors report was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr David and RESOLVED for approval. There were nine (9) votes in favour and one (1) abstention.
- iii. Appointment of the Internal Auditor (best practice) for 2023-2024 through a tender process  
It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and unanimously RESOLVED to accept CAPALC as the internal auditor for 2023/24.



Annual Return 2022-2023

- a. Statement 1
- b. Statement 2

The Annual Return statements were read by the Clerk and proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and unanimously RESOLVED for approval.

iv. Finance & Risk Management Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

The Risk Management Assessments will be re-addressed as not all assessments had been completed.

**97/06/23      PURCHASE A REPLACEMENT 'NEST SWING SEAT' cost £690 + VAT**  
**(EMR contingency fund)**

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Fidler and unanimously RESOLVED to purchase a replacement 'nest swing seat' at £690 plus VAT.

**98/06/23      REPLACE THE FLEXUS PLAY EQUIPMENT.**

Replacement of the Flexus Play equipment is no longer required as the PC Lengthsman has made repairs.

**99/06/23      ARMED FORCES COVENANT PLEDGES**

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting - Cllr Potter will contact Tommy Kelly to clarify the Council pledges.

**100/06/23      REPORT A MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE HELD ON THE**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023**

Noted by Cllrs.

**101/06/23      AGREE A FOUR (4) BAY EV CHARGING AREA ON THE NORWOOD CAR**  
**PARK**

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and unanimously RESOLVED to proceed with the EV proposal, subject to accessibility requirements being suitable for all users. The Clerk will contact Liberty Charge to confirm.

**102/06/23      REPORT HIGHWAY MATTERS INCLUDING PUBLIC FOOTWAYS -**  
**Repairs/ Maintenance**

It was agreed for Cllr Woolway to contact the Church Warden regarding the overgrown churchyard and need for extra signage.

The Clerk will contact the Parish Council's lighting contractor to change the angle of the lamp at the end of Church Walk, and will send a further email to Highways regarding maintenance of this area.

**103/06/23      REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Sansom reported: -

- the SNRG have requested the purchase of a picnic table be added to the next PC meeting agenda.
- the SNRG treasurer has resigned
- It was voted in principle to favourably move the CIO status forward.

**104/06/23      NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

~~The purchase of a picnic table for the Nature Reserve~~

The positive work and progress made by the Timebank and Changing Lives co-ordinator was noted by Councillors.

*A picnic bench has been built and is in the containers of awaiting PC approval for installation, at no cost to the PC.*

The next meeting of Somersham Parish Council will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE28 3JS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:22 hours.

.....*[Signature]*.....  
Chairman

[illegible]