

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 24th November 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

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

www.somersham-pc.gov.uk

PRESENT WERE:

Cllr B Bruce
Cllr A Chapman
Cllr N David
Cllr C Dolby
Cllr D Potter (in the Chair)

Cllr F Reid
Cllr D Skeggs
Cllr D Sutton
Cllr R Woolway

Mrs I Healiss, Executive Officer
Mrs J Turney, Deputy Clerk

Seats Fifteen (15), Councillors Present Nine (9), Vacancies six (5), Quorum Five (5).

IN ATTENDANCE

County Councillor Charlotte Lowe
District Councillor Steve Criswell

594/11/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Sansom - personal

595/11/25 PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary interest received from Cllr Skeggs regarding proposed amendments of parking restrictions on Somersham High Street.

596/11/25 PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Davis and unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 19:30 for a period of time to hold a public forum.

Nothing raised from public gallery.

The meeting reconvened immediately after.

597/11/25 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWELL AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE LOWE

District Councillor Steve Criswell reported the following:

Local Government Reorganisation – there is a Cabinet meeting tonight regarding Huntingdon District Council (HDC's) preferred option E - Government will make the final decision.

The Local Plan Consultation finishes on 17th December 2025. Of the nineteen (19) sites put forward, four (4) are proposed for the village, with a total 355 houses.

HDC have concluded that Somersham Parish Council will remain a Key Service Centre as the village can allow for extra growth.

Somersham Parish Council have not yet received a response regarding traveller sites with permission or part permission for planning.

County Councillor Christine Lowe reported the following:

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) will be running over Christmas.

Residents are to contact CCC if they are struggling with utility bills, food meals, benefits, shopping etc. Details are on Somersham Parish Council's social media pages.

Orange, The World Campaign is a United Nations International day to end violence against women and girls, begins on the 25th November and will run for 16 days until 10th December. All are encouraged to wear something orange to support the cause.

Wheatsheaf Crossroads – no update as probate is still ongoing.

Query raised regarding parking signage on the North side of the High Street, between house number 113 and the Wine Bar - CCC have confirmed that the signage and restrictions are correct. Concern was raised regarding newly introduced parking restrictions and tickets being issued after 30 minutes. As there are no cars being parked there, traffic is now speeding up.

Cllr Skeggs requested for the PC to write to HDC requesting that parking restrictions be lifted on the North side between the wine bar and 113 High Street and for white lines to be painted on the North and South footpaths to restrict cars from parking on the road.

It was proposed by Cllr David, seconded by Cllr Woolway and unanimously RESOLVED for the Parish Council to write to Huntingdon District Council Parking services.

598/11/25 PLANNING MATTERS

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/01052/FUL	The Stables Long Drove Somersham Huntingdon PE28 3HY	25/11/25
	Change of Use from grass yard to open storage including the siting of 10 No. Shipping containers mounted on ground screws and addition of hoggin track	

It was proposed by Cllr Skeggs, seconded by Cllr Woolway and RESOLVED to support this application. There were five (5) votes in favour, two (2) votes against and one (1) abstention. The storage containers are positioned out of the way and required for business purposes.

25/02062/OUT	Land North of Parkhall Nurseries And Garden Centre	20/11/25
	Parkhall Road Somersham	
	Erection of a one and a half storey self-build dwelling and associated works	

It was proposed by Cllr Dolby, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and RESOLVED to support this application. There were seven (7) votes in favour and one (1) abstention. The self-build dwelling and associated works as per the application supports the family business

25/02004/PIP	Land East Of The Hawthorns Pidley Road Somersham	13/11/25
	Permission in principle for construction of up to two dwellings.	

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and RESOLVED to object to this application. There were seven (7) votes in favour and one (1) abstention. The Council agreed that better road access is necessary, as two access/egress points for both dwellings would be problematic.

b) PLANNING APPROVED

25/01687/HHFUL	39 Parkhall Road, Somersham, PE28 3EU	3/11/25
	Demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of single storey rear extension	

25/01657/HHFUL Longacre, 14 Colnefields, Somersham, PE28 3DL 11/11/25
Demolish existing lean to side extension and replace with two storey side extension and other internal alterations

599/11/25 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27TH OCTOBER 2025

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr David and RESOLVED as approved. There were seven (7) votes in favour, and one (1) abstention due to absence.

600/11/25 AGREE TO 'CIVIC.LY' AS SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S ASSET MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

It was proposed Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Sutton and unanimously RESOLVED to agree to 'civic.ly' as Somersham Parish Council's asset management platform as per the report disseminated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

601/11/25 AGREE TO SUBMIT AN LHI BID TO REPLACE THE EXISTING CROSSING ON THE HIGH STREET TO A PUFFIN CROSSING (FURTHER TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION.)

It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to agree to submit an LHI bid to replace the existing crossing to a Puffin crossing. The Parish Council agreed to offer a contribution of 11%, which is dependent on the total cost. The Executive Officer will confirm costs for the bid once known.

602/11/25 POLICE REPORT

- Neighbourhood Safety Emails
- Police Report – Received late.

603/11/25 EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- i. CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
- ii. Neighbourhood Alerts
- iii. Cambridgeshire ACRE bulletins and updates
- iv. Huntingdonshire DC – press releases and updates
- v. Anglian Water and Cambridge Water's proposed new reservoir in the Fens-consultation between 15th October to 10th December – Camera based traffic surveillance is to come.
- vi. Local Plan update - next stage of public engagement scheduled between 5th November to 17th December (6 weeks.) EO attended the briefing session held on Tuesday 11th November at 6:30 pm with an updated provided.
- vii. Personnel and Governance Meeting to be held on the 27th November at 10:30am – to include comments regarding the Local Plan consultation.
- viii. Update from the Finance Working Party meeting on the 29/10/25 - received.
- ix. Update from the Remembrance Day event on the 9/11/25 - the event (which included a road closure) was received positively by attendees.

604/11/25 To Discuss Finance & Risk Management Matters including: -

- i. Agree the Monthly Accounts.
The monthly accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED as approved.
- ii. Agree the Asset Register 2025/2026
It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

- iii. Agree Ear Marked Reserves at 21/10/25
The Ear marked Reserves were proposed by Cllr David, seconded by Cllr Reid and unanimously RESOLVED as approved.
- iv. Agree the Draft Budget 2026/2027
The draft budget was proposed by Cllr Bruce, seconded by Cllr Chapman and RESOLVED for approval at £363,376.00. There were seven (7) votes in favour and one (1) abstention.
- v. Agree the Precept 2026/2027
The Precept was proposed by Cllr Bruce, seconded by Cllr Chapman and RESOLVED for approval at £276,546.00 (a 2.01% increase on last year). There were seven (7) votes in favour and one (1) abstention. Cllr Dolby abstained due to a preference in keeping the precept under 2%

605/11/25 HIGHWAY MATTERS INCLUDING PUBLIC FOOTWAYS - REPAIRS/ MAINTENANCE

Community Road Watch updates – 3 new 8ft posts to accommodate 2 x new MVAS through successful LHI bid. Meeting on 14/11/25 to site. Cllr Chapman will attend a meeting with Community Road Watch this Friday.

606/11/25 REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Library Committee gave thanks to the Parish Council for their contribution towards the installation of CCTV at the Library. The Coffee Morning held by the library at the Rose and Crown was a great success.

The pool table has now been removed from the Victory Hall.

607/11/25 NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None.

The next meeting of Somersham Parish Council will be on Monday 15th December 2025 at 7.30pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE29 3JS.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21:16 hours.

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Chairman

ACCOUNTS from 21st Oct 25 to 17th Nov 25		Vat	Net	TOTAL	Cost Centre
Payroll	Salaries	£0.00	£7,797.30	£7,797.30 Bacs	Salaries 24th Oct 25
Pension payments	Pension Fund	£0.00	£2,118.50	£2,118.50 Bacs	Pension
HMRC	Tax & NI	£0.00	£3,015.54	£3,015.54 Bacs	HMRC
Microshade VSM (Flotek)	Recurring office fees 1st Sept 25	£59.06	£295.30	£354.36 Bacs	Office
E Isom	Grass cutting at Nature Reserve June 25	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00 Bacs	SNRG
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Day wreath 18th Oct 25	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00 Bacs	War memorial
Cole & Day	Tractor fuel 1st Oct to 15th Oct 25	£9.76	£48.79	£58.55 Bacs	Kubota
Vision ICT	F Reid new email account 13th Oct 25	£3.67	£18.33	£22.00 Bacs	Office
Cole & Day	Tractor fuel 16th Oct to 31st Oct 25	£10.08	£50.43	£60.51 Bacs	Kubota
Connections Bus	6 a summer sessions 28th Oct 25	£0.00	£1,926.00	£1,926.00 Bacs	Localism
Huntingdon District Council	Excess waste bin charge Apr-Jul 25	£0.00	£175.65	£175.65 Bacs	Maintenance
M Tabrett	Tai chi x 5 sessions 31st Oct 25	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
PSK installations	Works to Pavilion door re replacement doors 2nd Nov 25	£38.00	£190.00	£228.00 Bacs	CCTV
R Adams	Strength & Balance x 4 sessions Oct 25	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Strength & balance x 4 sessions Oct 25	£0.00	£96.00	£96.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Tai chi x 5 sessions 31st Oct 25	£0.00	£60.00	£60.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Timebank coffee morning 15th Oct 25	£0.00	£13.50	£13.50 Bacs	Changing Lives
Vision ICT	One email added - F Reid Councillor 13th Oct 25	£0.00	£22.00	£22.00 Bacs	Office
CC Planning	Neighbourhood Plan draft meeting 4th Nov 25	£770.00	£3,850.00	£4,620.00 Bacs	Neighbourhood Plan
Human Capital Dept	Retained HR Support 5th Nov 25	£15.80	£79.00	£94.80 Bacs	Office
MK Illumination	Christmas Lights string lights & cables 4th Nov 25	£49.02	£245.08	£294.10 Bacs	Christmas Lights
Ramsey Glass & Glazing Ltd	Supply and fit doors at Millennium Pavilion 4th Nov 25	£1,169.85	£5,849.27	£7,019.12 Bacs	Repairs/replacement
SLCC	14th Edition LCA 4th Nov 25	£0.90	£148.50	£149.40 Bacs	Training
SLCC	Com Governance Study 4th Feb 2026	£10.20	£150.00	£160.20 Bacs	Training
Somersham Nature Reserve Group	Donation from Gardening Club re Chq deposit 27th Jan 25	£0.00	£75.00	£75.00 Bacs	SNRG
		£2,136.34	£26,844.19	£28,980.53	£28,980.53
ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS					
Talk Talk Business	01487 841359 & internet Oct 25	£9.27	£46.35	£55.62 DD	Administration
British GasLite	Electricity - Lake sea container - Oct 25	£3.88	£77.52	£81.40 DD	Lake area
British GasLite	Electricity - Norwood Building - Oct 25	£5.17	£103.41	£108.58 DD	Norwood Building
British GasBusiness	Gas - Norwood Building Oct 25	£2.02	£40.52	£42.54 DD	Norwood Building
British GasLite	Electricity - Library - Oct 25	£7.65	£152.95	£160.60 DD	Library
British GasLite	Electricity - Millennium Sports Facility - Oct 25	£9.70	£193.99	£203.69 DD	Millennium
British GasLite	Gas - Millennium Sports Facility - Oct 25	£2.07	£36.17	£38.24 DD	Millennium
British GasLite	Electricity - multi sports area -			N/A DD	Multi sports area
Ethos	Photocopy charge 1th July to 9th Oct 25	£0.30	£1.50	£1.80 DD	Administration
YU Energy	Street lighting - standing charge			N/A DD	Street lighting
YU Energy	Street lighting - electric	£9.63	£192.62	£202.25 DD	Street lighting
BrightPay / Stripe	Licence key for 6 employees Oct 25			N/A DD	Payroll software
BNP Paribas	Quarterly photocopier lease Oct 25			N/A DD	Norwood Building
HDC	Lake area sea container rates Oct 25	£0.00	£66.00	£66.00 DD	Administration
HDC	Millennium Sports sea container rates 24/25	£0.00	£81.00	£81.00 DD	Administration
Unity Trust Bank	Bank service charge	£0.00	£16.35	£16.35 DD	Administration
TOTAL		£49.69	£1,008.38	£1,058.07	£1,058.07
LOYDS CARD 16th Aug 25					
Giffgaff	6 x £6 plus 2 x £10	£7.66	£38.34	£46.00 CARD	
Adobe	Monthly charge re pdf format change	£0.00	£16.64	£16.64 CARD	
Bookwhen	Monthly Paypal fee	£3.80	£19.00	£22.80 CARD	
Lloyds Corporate card	Monthly card fee	£0.00	£3.00	£3.00 CARD	
Screwfix	LED twin head floodlight fo Mens Shed	£10.00	£49.98	£59.98 CARD	
Mick George	Cement for fence posts at Nature Reserve	£32.86	£185.27	£218.13 CARD	
Co-operative	Timebank coffee morning supplies	£0.00	£7.40	£7.40 CARD	
First Aid4Less	Accident book for Lake Area container	£2.33	£11.67	£14.00 CARD	
AMAZON UK	Microfibre duster	£2.28	£11.39	£13.67 CARD	
	12 boxes x Paper hand towels	£5.00	£24.99	£29.99 CARD	
	Wheelbarrow tyre and replacement tube	£3.00	£14.99	£17.99 CARD	
	Twist drill bit 18 pcs	£1.89	£9.46	£11.35 CARD	
	Christma tree decorations re Tree Festival	£3.66	£18.32	£21.98 CARD	
	Electrical flex cable re Mens Shed light	£3.83	£19.16	£22.99 CARD	
	Screws,junction box,cable clips re Mens Shed light	£4.91	£24.59	£29.50 CARD	
	Timer plug switch re Mens Shed light	£2.11	£10.57	£12.68 CARD	
	2026 wall planner re office	£0.98	£4.92	£5.90 CARD	
	Timebank Christmas tree decorations	£0.00	£33.85	£33.85 CARD	
	Noticeboard handles x 12	£1.10	£5.49	£6.59 CARD	
	Epoxy paint re playground "horse" repairs	£1.00	£4.99	£5.99 CARD	
	Galvanized metal primer re playground "horse" repair	£2.00	£9.99	£11.99 CARD	
	Filler putty re playground "horse" repairs	£1.48	£7.42	£8.90 CARD	
	12 pack long life milk for office	£0.00	£19.85	£19.85 CARD	
TOTAL		£89.89	£551.28	£641.17	£641.17