

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 7th April 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 C Dolby

Cllr D Potter (in the Chair)
Cllr D Sutton
Cllr R Woolway

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

Seats Fifteen (15), Councillors Present Six (6), Vacancies five (5), Quorum Five (5).

IN ATTENDANCE

Two (2) members of the public.

491/4/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and approved from:
Cllr David – personal
Cllr Drury – work commitments
Cllr Sansom – personal
Cllr Skeggs – ABSENT

District and County Councillor S Criswell – personal

492/4/25 PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were received from:
Cllr Sutton (planning application 25/00535/HHFUL 36 Parkhall Rd, Somersham)
Cllr Woolway (planning application 24/02259/FUL Land at West Newlands)

493/4/25 PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 19:32 for a period of time to hold a public forum.

Queries raised from the public gallery: -

Will there be assistance for residents travelling to St Ives or Fenstanton whilst Somersham surgery is closed for one week in May ?

Has a date been agreed for the re-opening of the Post Office in the village ?

The meeting reconvened at 19:33

494/4/25 REPORT FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWEL

No report was offered from Cllr Criswell.

495/4/25 PLANNING MATTERS

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/00184/HHFUL 105 High Street, Somersham 8/4/25
Replacement of sash windows on front, rear and side elevations.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application. The application replaces materials with those already present, and is in keeping with both the conservation area and existing street scene.

25/00185/LBC 105 High Street, Somersham 8/4/2025
Replacement of sash windows on front, rear and side elevations.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application. The application replaces materials with those already present, and is in keeping with the conservation area and existing street scene.

25/00242/FUL The Stables, Long Drove, Somersham 8/4/2025
Erection of 1.8m security gate and fence

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application as the proposal replaces materials with like for like.

25/00294/P3JPA 116A High Street, Somersham Huntingdon 8/4/2025
Conversion of disused office (Use class E)
to a 2-bed residential dwelling (Use class C3) with associated
parking, front garden and private amenity space.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application, as the proposal is well contained within the plot.

25/00535/HHFUL 36 Parkhall Road Somersham Huntingdon 17/4/25
Proposed front and rear single storey extension,
amendments to existing elevations and internal amendments,
demolition of existing garage and erection of a garden shed.

It was proposed by Cllr Bruce, seconded by Cllr Chapman and RESOLVED to support this application as the proposal is in keeping with the existing street scene. There were four (4) votes in favour and one (1) abstention.

25/00564/HHFUL 6B The Bank Somersham Huntingdon
Two Storey Rear Extension

19/4/25

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application as the proposal is in keeping with the existing street scene.

Further information received:

24/02259/FUL Land at West Newlands, St Ives Road, Somersham 8/4/25
The erection of 52 homes, access, open space and associated
infrastructure – amended drawings and documents received.

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Dolby and RESOLVED to support this application (as per comments previously offered in January 2025). There were three (3) votes in favour, one (1) vote against and one (1) abstention.

25/00111/HHFUL 14 Ibbot Crescent, Somersham
Erection of garden room and pergola

8/4/25

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED to support this application (as previously submitted comments).

b) PLANNING REFUSED

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.

496/4/25 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2025

The Minutes were approved by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED as approved.

497/4/25 POLICE REPORT

- Neighbourhood Safety Emails
- No Police report was provided.

498/4/25 EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Congratulations were offered to the Executive Officer, Irene Healiss for successfully passing the Community Governance at Level 4.

- i. CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
 - ii. Neighbourhood Alerts
 - iii. Cambridgeshire ACRE bulletins and updates
 - iv. Huntingdonshire DC – press releases and updates.
 - v. Community event updates:
- Health and Inequalities Project (HIP) Wellbeing event Sunday 27th April 11am to 3pm.
 - Gingerbread Man (Aesop's touring company) performance on Sunday 23rd March update – A successful event attended by thirty-three (33) children.

- Neighbourhood Plan steering group to hold a stall at the carnival in June to publicise the plan (£30 stall fee).
It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Sutton and unanimously RESOLVED to pay the £30 booking fee for a stall at the Carnival in June.
- Finance working party – the next meeting will be held on 29th April at 7pm in the Norwood meeting room.
- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting will be on 22nd April at 7pm at the Millennium Sports Facility.
- Update on Net Zero Villages fund application.
The PC were unsuccessful with this application, although have since applied for funding through the Red Tile Wind Farm Trust Fund for solar panels at the Millennium Pavilion.
- The Internal Audit has been arranged for the 15th April 2025.

499/4/25

FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS

- i. Monthly Accounts (Appendix One)
The monthly accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED as approved.
- ii. CAPALC annual affiliation fee of £868.71 (to include £581.35 CAPALC membership, £50 Data Protection Officer membership and £237.36 NALC membership.)
It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to pay for the CAPALC annual affiliation fee of £868.71.

500/4/25

LOCATION OF THE SOMERSHAM VILLAGE SIGN

It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to move the position of the village sign to the inside bend opposite the White Post area at the B1086/ B1089 junction, subject to permission from CCC Highways.

501/4/25

FARMERS MARKET AT THE MILLENNIUM SPORTS FACILITY

NALC advice notes from 01/03/2017 state that common law prevents the establishment of a new market within 7 (seven) miles of an existing one. Somersham is within this mileage limit to St Ives (approximately 6 miles). The EO has consulted with the Town Clerk at St Ives, and the advice notes confirm that this is set in stone and therefore a farmers market cannot proceed in Somersham.

502/4/25

HIGHWAY MATTERS INCLUDING PUBLIC FOOTWAYS - REPAIRS/ MAINTENANCE.

- Following a meeting with the landowners, TARMAC have agreed to install a new diesel pump at the Pocket Park which should help reduce flooding in the short term.
- The new gateway into the field beside Cuckoo Bridge Garden Centre still does not have planning permission.
- There are numerous cars parked along the verge at the car sales centre on B1040 into St Ives.
- Cambridge County Council are contacting the landowners of the field by the old bridge on Parkhall Road regarding the flooding at the railway cutting.

503/4/25

REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

Councillor Sutton was unable to attend the last meeting of the Victory Hall Management Committee (VHMC). The AGM is being held on Tuesday 8th April.

Cllr Bruce attended the school quiz evening which was a positive event.

Cllr Potter attended Bassingbourn barracks as part of the Armed Forces Covenant where an update was offered regarding the 'mission ready' statement.

Cllr Chapman offered a report from the library; together with the SNRG they have raised £136 from the quiz night.

The SNRG annual 'walk around' will be on Wednesday 9th April at 6pm. The CIO application is to go ahead. Discussion is taking place regarding the S106 Biodiversity allocation, with possible suggestions including: -

- a new pathway to run from the new housing development on Chatteris Road through to the reserve,
- Sewters pond improvements,
- wild life flower sewing on the 'dog field',
- crack willow removal along Station Rd,
- and pathway improvements around the lake.

Many fish have been taken from the lake due to cormorants. The Angling Club therefore plan to move 10,000 fish from another fishery to substitute the loss.

504/4/25 NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA


Apologies from Cllr Sutton who cannot attend both meetings in May

Apologies from Cllr Bruce and Cllr Chapman who cannot attend 12th May meeting

The next meeting of Somersham Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting on Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE29 3JS.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 19th May 2025 at 7.00pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE29 3JS.

There being no further issues the meeting was closed as 20:36 hours.


.....
Chairman

Appendix One

ACCOUNTS from 1st March 25 to 31st March 25		Vat	Net	TOTAL	Cost Centre
Payroll	Salaries	£0.00	£8,057.79	£8,057.79 Bacs	Salaries -14th Mar 2025
Pension payments	Pension Fund	£0.00	£1,972.80	£1,972.80 Bacs	Feb-25
HMRC	Tax & NI	£0.00	£2,840.59	£2,840.59 Bacs	HMRC - Mar 2025
C C Planning	Neighbourhood Plan support consultation and development 3Mar	£840.00	£4,200.00	£5,040.00 Bacs	Neighbourhood Plan
Limefree Printing	1710 x 54U Newsletter copies 28th Feb 25	£0.00	£964.63	£964.63 Bacs	Newletter
R Adams	Strength & Balance x 4 sessions Feb 25	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
M Tabrett	Tai Chi x 4 sessions Feb 25	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Strength & Balance x 4 sessions Feb 25	£0.00	£88.00	£88.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Tai Chi x 4 sessions Feb 25	£0.00	£44.00	£44.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
Victory Hall	Timebank coffee morning 19th Feb 25	£0.00	£12.00	£12.00 Bacs	Timebank
Aveland Trees	Two replacement commemorative trees 28th Feb 25	£48.00	£240.00	£288.00 Bacs	Norwood playing field
BookMyCourse	M Tyers H&S course	£30.00	£150.00	£180.00 Bacs	Training
Cole & Day	Tractor fuel 15th Feb - 28th Feb	£10.92	£54.61	£65.53 Bacs	Kubota
Human Capital Dept	Retained HR services 6th March 25	£15.80	£79.00	£94.80 Bacs	Office
Microshade VSM	Monthly fees 14th March 25	£59.06	£295.30	£354.36 Bacs	Office
P Thomson	Talk club host travel expenses	£0.00	£37.80	£37.80 Bacs	Timebank
PSK Installations	Three month cctv line rental Jan, Feb, March 25	£11.10	£55.50	£66.60 Bacs	CCTV
Aesops Touring Theatre	Gingerbread Man performance 23rd March 25	£0.00	£595.00	£595.00 Bacs	Localism
Groundwork UK	Neighbourhood Plan-End of Grant report 10th March 25	£0.00	£651.00	£651.00 Bacs	Neighbourhood Plan
SLCC	Healiss Level 5 year 1 fee 1st April 25	£0.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00 Bacs	Training
HDC	Back dated excess bin weight Dec-Feb 25	£0.00	£42.90	£42.90 Bacs	Maintenance
BookMyCourse	A Chapman and B Bruce roadwork closure training 17th July 25	£114.00	£570.00	£684.00 Bacs	Training
Somersham Primary School	Timebank stall at Spring Fayre 19th May 25	£0.00	£20.00	£20.00 Bacs	Timebank
Somersham Carnival	Timebank stall at Carnival 28th June 25	£0.00	£30.00	£30.00 Bacs	Timebank
Somersham Carnival	Advert Somersham Carnival re Timebank stall 28th June 25	£0.00	£55.00	£55.00 Bacs	Timebank
		£1,128.88	£24,405.92	£25,534.80	£25,534.80

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Talk Talk Business	01487 841359 & internet Mar25	£8.00	£40.00	£48.00 DD	Administration
EDF	Electricity - Multi sports area - Mar25 in credit			N/A DD	Multi sports area
British GasLife	Electricity - Lake sea container - 5th Mar25	£0.73	£14.62	£15.35 DD	Lake area
British GasLife	Electricity - Norwood Building - 5th Mar25	£140.10	£7.00	£147.10 DD	Norwood Building
British GasLife	Gas - Norwood Building	£11.74	£234.80	£246.54 DD	Norwood Building
British GasLife	Electricity - Library - 5th Mar25	£101.32	£506.60	£607.92 DD	Library
British GasLife	Electricity - Millennium Sports Facility - 30th Mar25	£12.64	£252.84	£265.48 DD	Millennium
British GasLife	Gas - Millennium Sports Facility - 30th Mar25	£14.02	£113.45	£127.47 DD	Millennium
British GasLife	Electricity - multi sports area -	£7.30	£146.02	£153.32 DD	Multi sports area
YU Energy	Street lighting - standing charge - Mar25 in credit			N/A DD	Street lighting
YU Energy	Street lighting - electric	£9.15	£183.00	£192.15 DD	Street lighting
BrightPay / Stripe	Licence key for 6 employees Mar 25	£0.64	£3.20	£3.84 DD	Payroll software
BNP Paribas	Quarterly photocopier lease 12th Mar 25			N/A DD	Norwood Building
HDC	Lake area sea container rates Mar25			N/A DD	Administration
HDC	Millennium Sports sea container rates 24/25			N/A DD	Administration
Ethos	Quarterly Printer usage			N/A DD	Administration
Unity Trust Bank	Bank service charge	£0.00	£13.65	£13.65 DD	Administration
Unity Trust Bank	Manual credit handling charge	£0.00	£14.70	£14.70 DD	Administration
Ethos	Printer useage quarterly			DD	Norwood Building
Source for Business	Millennium Pavilion water 6 monthly bill			N/A DD	Millennium
Source for Business	Library water 6 monthly bill	£0.00	£48.81	£48.81 DD	Library
Anglian Water	Millennium waste water	£0.00	£145.28	£145.28 DD	Millennium
Anglian Water	Library waste water	£0.00	£69.00	£69.00 DD	Library
Anglian Water	Norwood waste water	£0.00	£209.52	£209.52 DD	Norwood Building
TOTAL		£305.64	£2,002.49	£2,308.13	£2,308.13

LLOYDS CARD 17th Mar 25				
Giffgaff	6 x £6 plus 1 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
Town End Plc	Dyofix Lake treatment	£7.20	£36.00	£43.20 CARD
AJS Fisheries	Barley Straw Extract	£5.89	£56.17	£62.00 CARD
AMAZON UK				
	Angle grinder discs	£2.75	£13.74	£16.49 CARD
	Anti-rust metal primer	£3.42	£17.08	£20.50 CARD
	Metal binder clips	£1.21	£6.07	£7.28 CARD
	Highlighter pens	£0.71	£3.54	£4.25 CARD
	Paper clips-various sizes	£1.66	£8.32	£9.98 CARD
	Drinking hot chocolate	£0.00	£26.45	£26.45 CARD
	Quick dry gloss paint	£3.70	£18.50	£22.20 CARD
	Long lasting milk x 12	£0.00	£47.98	£47.98 CARD
	Rust converter & primer	£3.42	£17.09	£20.51 CARD
	Hardpoint Handsaw	£1.09	£5.47	£6.56 CARD
	Mobile phone - Lengthsman	£15.00	£74.99	£89.99 CARD
	Notebooks x 3	£1.63	£8.12	£9.75 CARD
	USB to micro cable	£0.96	£4.79	£5.75 CARD
	Motion sensor light-safe room	£3.83	£19.15	£22.98 CARD
	Glue adhesive dots	£1.65	£8.24	£9.89 CARD
	Mobile phone cover and screen protector - Lengthsman	£1.29	£6.43	£7.72 CARD
	Magnets for Noticeboards	£1.17	£5.82	£6.99 CARD
	Hacksaw blade	£1.50	£7.49	£8.99 CARD
	TOTAL	£60.48	£468.42	£537.90