

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held in the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham**  
**On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Miss D Carr	Miss L Minter
Mr M Greaves	Mrs L Robertson
Mr K Hawkins	Mr R Sutton (in the Chair)
Mr A Hulme	Mrs P Bryant (Parish Clerk)

**Quorum** – 5 members

**PRESENT WERE:** 22 members of the public and Mr P Clark, Chairman SNRG

A minute's silence was held in memory of Graham Siggs who passed away suddenly just before Christmas.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mr S Criswell – personal  
Mrs A Eastham - illness  
Mr M Hoy – illness  
Mr P McCloskey - illness  
Ms D Skeggs – attending a bus committee meeting at St Ives Town Council  
District Councillor Graham Bull – attending an HDC meeting

A letter of resignation has been received by the Chairman Steve Criswell from Roy Fabb. It was agreed to send Mr Fabb a letter of thanks for his time on the Parish Council.

**2. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE VACANCIES**

It was RESOLVED by a unanimous ballot vote to co-opt Mrs Yvonne Cooper to fill one of the vacancies.

**3. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr R Sutton declared a personal interest in the following planning applications, 17/02112/HHFUL 10, Queens Road, Somersham and 17/02544/FUL 46, Grange Road, Somersham

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

It was proposed by Mr Hawkins, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting for a period to allow members of the public to participate in an open forum. The meeting closed at 7.34 pm and reconvened at 8.03 pm. Matters discussed were:- Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Proposed submission. Consultation period 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Parishioners raised their objections to possible development on the field behind Robert Avenue and felt the consultation had not been advertised properly to the public.



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**5. PLANNING MATTERS**  
**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

17/02112/HHFUL 10, Queens Road, Somersham  
Single storey rear extension

Letter from applicant

Email from J Tyers Design Consultants – previously forwarded to Cllrs

It was proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Greaves and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to recommend no objection to this proposal. As the parish council has not received any comments from neighbouring properties then the parish council must assume they are happy with the application.

17/02544/FUL 46, Grange Road, Somersham

Change of use of grass verge area in front of 46, Grange Road to private garden area

It was proposed by Miss Minter, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by 4 votes for, 1 against and 2 abstentions to recommend no objection to this proposal. As the applicant will be erecting a low fence it will not infringe on anything in the vicinity or block views and will tidy the area.

17/02642/FUL Oak Barn, Oak Acres Farm, Parkhall Road, Somersham

Erection of dwelling & extension following the part demolition of existing Nissan Hut

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Greaves to object to the proposal as it will be building in open countryside. This was rejected by 2 votes for, 4 against and 1 abstention.

It was proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by 4 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention to recommend no objection to this proposal.

The proposal does not take anything away from the street scene but rather will enhance it through the removal of the Nissan hut.

**a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED**

15/00917/OUT Land east of West Newlands, Somersham

A development of 45 houses and a residential care home.

17/02036/HHFUL 14, The Bank, Somersham

Demolish conservatory and rebuild, demolish garage, build new rear end single storey extension, construct new double garage.

17/02171/HHFUL 64, The Trundle, Somersham

Partial demolition of existing single storey side part of dwelling and replacement with proposed/extended, together with replacement of single storey mono-pitched roof and internal alterations.

**b) PLANNING CONSULTATION**

Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Proposed submission

Consultation period 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Miss Carr and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to reiterate previous objection comments and to expand the reasons for the objection and include local public concern.

*SEE Appendix 1*

**6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

The Minutes were proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Miss Minter and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be a true record of events and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**7. POLICE REPORT**

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Neighbourhood Watch Alerts

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**8. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR S CRISWELL & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR G BULL**

No reports have been received.

**9. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT Inc.**

**Matters Arising Report & Updates:**

**Correspondence emailed to councillors:**

- ii. RSN online – weekly updates
- iii. Orchards East – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 10 am to 3 pm
- iv. CAPALC – Buckingham Palace Garden Party – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – nomination request – It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Miss Minter and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to nominate Mr M Hoy.

**Hard copy correspondence:**

- v. M&G Charibond dividend £2.30

**10. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS including: -**

- **The Monthly Accounts** – The accounts were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be paid. *SEE Appendix 2*
- **Action Plan 2017-2020** – The Action Plan was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by all Councillors present to be adopted.
- **Update on Funds Held at the Co-Op Bank** – The Clerk confirmed she is continuing to chase the Bank to transfer the funds.  
Mr Greaves left the meeting 8.38 pm and returned 8.39pm
- **Annual Subscription to the Country Land Owners Association** of £217 due on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2018 – It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Miss Carr and RESOLVED by members present with 1 abstention not to renew and to let the CLA know this was due to lack of any service and response to queries.
- **Publication of Parish Councillors contact details** – It was proposed by Mr Hawkins, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to publish the councillors name, email and telephone number.
- **Parish Councillors confidentially agreements** for email, bank passwords and the new members area on one form. The revised form was proposed by Mr Greaves, seconded by Miss Carr and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to adopt. Members present each signed a copy of the agreement.
- **Donation to Alzheimer's Research /Cancer Research in Memory of Graham Siggs** – It was proposed by Miss Carr, seconded by Miss Minter and RESOLVED by all members present with 1 abstention to donate £50 to each charity (Funds from the Chairman's Allowance)

Mr Hawkins left the room at 8.49 pm and returned at 8.50 pm

**11. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance**

**Road Repairs:** Miss Minter reported she attended the Changing Lives Taster Day in January with a lady in a wheelchair. Along The Trundle at Locksgate there is a dropped kerb at one side of the road only, there should be a dropped kerb on both sides particularly if we are expecting people to attend the activity sessions.

**12. STREET LIGHTING inc repairs**

There was nothing to report.

**13. REPORT FROM MR P CLARK ON PROPOSED MOWING REGIME FOR STATION LAND**

Mr Clark gave councillors a copy of the planned mowing regime and described how it would work.

He mentioned there would be a 'Pop up' visitors centre on The Cross this Saturday to gain parishioner views. It is intended Martin Tyers would do the first cut prior to carnival week.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton and all councillors present to accept the proposed mowing regime in principal, but this is dependent on the results from the consultation.

**14. SOMERSHAM CARNIVAL COMMITTEE REQUEST 2018**

It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to approve all the requests from the Carnival Committee for this year's event. This is with the provision all the correct licences are in place with DEFRA for the animals (and confirmation of how they will be housed), plus the risk assessments and insurances are provided in good time before the event.

**15. SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

No matters were reported.

**16. EXTERNAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS**

No meetings were reported.

Deb Carr left the meeting at 9.12 pm and returned at 9.13 pm

**17. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Millennium Pavilion on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.14 pm



.....  
Steve Criswell, Chairman

## APPENDIX 1

Somersham Parish Council reiterate all their previous reasons to object to the proposed development sites (as detailed at the end of this email) and wish to strengthen their reasoning as follows:

Parish Councils have a duty to consider biodiversity, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states the need to minimise impacts on biodiversity and 'promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations'; the land East of Robert Avenue, Somersham (001) is by a Designated Nature Reserve and a County Wildlife Site and therefore directly affected by NPPF Policy No. 11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.

The Parish Council does not believe the Planning Authority has correctly assessed and identified a need for major development in Somersham other than a requirement to fulfil national (Government) calls for more development land. The local infrastructure could not sustain a significant increase by developing these additional pockets of land across Somersham Parish over and above what has already been approved.

The Parish Council is aware of the strong local opposition to these development sites on the points above and in addition, they consider the Planning Authority proposals are not sustainable with the lack of infrastructure, public transport and services in Somersham and as such you have not fully considered the effect any significant development will have on the parish.

### **Parish Council comments made on 30 October 2017**

Somersham Parish Council have the following comments to make on the Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment: October 2017 in regard to Somersham.

#### **East of Robert Avenue, Somersham (001)**

Councillors object to this site as it will impinge on the open countryside.

**College Farm, West of Newlands Industrial Estate, Somersham (171)** Councillors object to this site as it creates ribbon development

**East of Chapel Field Lane, Somersham (032)** Councillors agreed this site is unsuitable for development.

#### **West of Parkhall Road, Somersham (054)**

Councillors object to this site, there are serious concerns with additional traffic on this part of Parkhall Road and having a development just on the 'blind view' bridge will increase the danger for pedestrians and horse riders as well as drivers. In addition, the development is outside the natural lines of the village.

**Rosefield, Parkhall Road, Somersham (210)** Councillors object to this site for the same reasons expressed in their response to 17/01626/FUL.

The proposed site is in the open countryside and not suitable for development and occupation.

Planning permission for this very same area of land 0400062FUL (granted on appeal) was for the caravan use for the lifetime of the applicant only and the site had to revert to agricultural use within three months when the applicant no longer needed it.

The new application (17/01626/FUL) is for two new residential pitches on the same site and because of this, Councillors believe the application made in 2004 must now fall by default particularly as the original clauses have not been enforced by HDC.

The Council has also considered Huntingdonshire LDF 2009, Policy CS 6 (Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show people) and Designing Gypsy & Traveller Sites - A Good Practice Guide (Communities & Local Government). Chapter 4 in the Good Practice Guide (page 20), site layout, access and orientation 4.4 states "Gypsy & Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building."

The number of caravans (including statics) applied for per pitch in this application is 3 plus an ancillary building and therefore exceeds this.



ACCOUNTS	15th January 2018	Vat	TOTAL	Cost Cer	
Wages	Salaries	0.00	5948.31	5,948.31 Bacs	Salaries - Decemb
LGSS	Pension Fund	0	968.45	968.45 Bacs	Pensions
NEST	Pension Fund	0	73.91	73.91 DD	Pension
Optimum Card	Top up	0	300	300 Bacs	Transfer
HMRC	Tax & NI	0	1687.36	1687.36 Bacs	Salaries - Decemb
Warren Access	Self-drive insurance - 12th - 15	0	120	120 Bacs	C Lights
Sam's Nordic	th Jan 2018				
Walking	Sessions - 19 Oct - 7 Dec 2017	0.00	140	£140.00 Bacs	Changing
Pear Technology	Technical support & software				
ESPO	updates	50	250	300 Bacs	Admin
	Gas	4.03	80.62	84.65 Bacs	Norwood
	Gas	4.26	85.23	89.49 Bacs	Commur
Mrs P Bryant	Expenses refund	0	12.25	12.25 Bacs	Admin
E-On	Street lighting electricity	3.57	71.41	74.98 Bacs	Street lig
Vision ict	website Members area	15	75	90 Bacs	Admin
Mrs P Bryant	Expenses refund	0	18.45	18.45 Bacs	Admin
PSK Installations	CCTV GSM/3g line rental - CCTV	11.1	55.5	66.6 Bacs	CCTV
	Reinstate CCTV/door entry				
	system	8	40	48 Bacs	CCTV
Impressions	Village scene advert	33.6	168	£201.60 Bacs	Changing
				£0.00 Bacs	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129.56</b>	<b>10094.49</b>	<b>10,224.05</b>	
				<b>£10,224.05</b>	

#### Electronic payments

Talk Talk	Telephone/Broadband			£0.00 DD	Administ
Talk Talk	CIC-01487 840266			£0.00 DD	Library
Talk Talk	01487 841359 / broadband	9.26	46.31	55.57 DD	Administ
Carphone	L Bird - mobile contract				
warehouse	payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50 DD	Time Bai
	P Bryant - mobile contract				
	payment	1.25	6.25	7.5 DD	Administ
	M Tyers - mobile contract				
	payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50 DD	Administ
Huntingdonshire DC	Sea Container - rates	0	47	£47.00 DD	Administ
	Norwood Building - rates	0	0	£0.00	<b>No rates 2017-20</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.01</b>	<b>112.06</b>	<b>£125.07</b>	<b>125.0</b>

#### Cheques

Somersham Town	Donation	0	50	50	Chq No 30042
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*A 72*

Band					
Royal British Legion	Poppy appeal & wreath	0	17	17	30042
HMRC	Tax & NI	0	1687.36	1687.36	30042
		<b>0</b>	<b><u>1754.36</u></b>		<b><u>1754.36</u></b>
				<b><u>1754.36</u></b>	

**Optimum Card**

Dec-17

Teresa Clark	Tuck & Crafts	0	75.46	75.46	Youth Club Time Bank
Lucy Bird	Refreshments	0	9.3	9.3	Admin
Penny Bryant	Domain name renewal	3.6	17.98	21.58	Admin
	AVG renewal	8.83	44.16	52.99	Admin
	Skip hire	47	235	282	General
	Office/general purpose	0	98.14	98.14	Admin
	Staff gift vouchers	0	135	135	Salaries
		<b><u>59.43</u></b>	<b><u>615.04</u></b>		<b><u>674.47</u></b>