



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Held at the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham
On Monday 6th August 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT WERE:

Cllr S Criswell	Cllr A Hulme	
Cllr M Greaves	Cllr D Skeggs	
Cllr K Hawkins	Cllr R Sutton (in the Chair)	Mrs P Bryant, Parish Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: 5 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Cllr Debbie Dew – personal
Cllr Paul McCloskey – illness

2. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr M Greaves declared a personal interest in 18/01312/FUL Rosefield Parkhall Road Somersham PE28 3HF

3. PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to close the meeting for a period of time to allow members of the public to participate in a public forum. **Matters discussed were:** Concerns about drug taking in Somersham and at the Norwood Playing Field, WWI & the Church contribution to this over the last 4 years and 18/01223/FUL Storage container Oak Acres Farm Parkhall Road Somersham

4. PLANNING MATTERS

a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS

18/01223/FUL Storage container Oak Acres Farm Parkhall Road Somersham
Change of use and extension to form two dwellings

It was proposed by Ms Skeggs, seconded by Mr Criswell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to recommend no objection. The proposal to convert this industrial unit to form two dwellings is a logical solution. The dwellings will be in keeping with the location and will improve the site for everyone.

18/00559/FUL Public House The George 76 High Street Somersham
Change of use of ground floor from a pub (A4) to two residential flats (C3), first floor proposed two, one bed apartments and removal of decking and erection of bin and cycle store.

Amendment – The applicant has taken away the parking due to highway objection in regard to safety. The proposal is for 4 one-bedroom flats with no parking provision.

It was proposed by Ms Skeggs, seconded by Mr Greaves to recommend objection on the basis there is no parking and there should be. Cars have parked there for many years and there is even a dropped kerb and there are good sight lines. This was RESOLVED by 3 votes for and 4 against (with the Chairman using his casting vote) and rejected.

Mr Criswell commented Highways are consultees and look at the site as it now and current accessibility.

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It was proposed by Mr Hawkins and seconded by Mr Criswell to support the application. The Council supports the need for the 4 flats on this site however, they strongly request the parking provision on site is reconsidered. This was RESOLVED by 4 votes for and 2 against.

18/01288/FUL Palace Yard Farm Church Street Somersham PE28 3EG

Demolition of existing bungalow & erection of replacement dwelling

It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to recommend no objection. The proposal to demolish the very old bungalow and replace it with a new building makes sense.

18/01312/FUL Rosefield Parkhall Road Somersham PE28 3HF

Change of use of the land to residential with the siting of three caravans of which no more than one would be static caravans, and the construction of an amenity block

Clr Criswell reported that following concerns from a nearby resident and recognising that any comments or objections would need to be based on planning policy, he had consulted at length with planning officers at HDC. It had become clear that policies referred to in the PC's objection to the previous application on this site no longer applied and were withdrawn in 2015. It was therefore difficult to identify any policy that would be breached by this application. After a wide-ranging discussion councillors decided there were no planning grounds on which to object to this application.

It was proposed by Ms Skeggs, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by 4 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. The proposal will not directly affect neighbouring properties, or the village and the residential caravan site cannot be seen from the road. Councillors can find no planning policy reasons for refusal

b) PLANNING APPLICATIONS APPROVED

18/01054/FUL Ash Barn Oak Acres Farm Parkhall Road Somersham
Erection of garage

18/01055/FUL Elm Barn Oak Acres Farm Parkhall Road Somersham
Erection of garage

18/01207/CLED 91 High Street Somersham PE28 3EE
Domestic dwelling

18/00835/HHFUL Shenera 31 Colne Fields Somersham
Amended plans received – Revised plans received reducing height of the patio wall with the addition of a trellis

c) PLANNING CONSULTATION

Huntingdon Neighbourhood Plan – Pre-submission Consultation

The Chairman updated members regarding his comments about Development Control made at the last meeting. The Clerk cannot find an invitation for the council to attend the Development Management Committee Meeting on Monday 18th December 2017, where the application at Rosefield Parkhall Road Somersham (ref 17/01626/FUL) was discussed. The Council received email correspondence in November 2017 about the 20th November meeting, but the Clerk can find nothing relating to the December meeting. The Clerk has requested email evidence the Parish Council was invited. The Chairman reported the Clerk has also raised the Council's concern the original 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. Therefore, what enforcement actions have the Planning Department taken and will they continue to take on the breach of condition on 0400062FUL as this is not covered by the new application?

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD 9TH JULY 2018

The Minutes were proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED to be a true record of events by 5 votes for and 1 abstention (as that person was not at the meeting) and were duly signed by the Chairman.

6. POLICE REPORT

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Neighbourhood Watch Alerts

7. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR S CRISWELL

Cllr Criswell reported he was involved in setting up the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough skills academy to deliver adult skills throughout the county.

8. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT inc.

Matters Arising Report & Updates:

Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- ii. RSN online – weekly updates

Hard copy correspondence:

- M & G Charibond quarterly statement

9. FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS including: -

- a. **The Monthly Accounts** – The accounts were proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be paid.

- b. **Confirmation of Insurance liability for the Laptop Usage Policy** – If the laptops are being used out of the office for work purposes they are insured under the current policy cover

- c. **Data Back-up Service Supplier** – RECORDED VOTE - Review Report provided to Cllrs with costs of 3 service providers. Costs range from £180 - £360 + vat
It was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to go with Vision ICT.

- d. **Cambridge Hearing Help** – RECORDED VOTE - request for a donation of £300 towards volunteer kit replacement, paper towels & bin bags, hand sanitisers & Milton, Travel costs & refresher training – application form provided to Cllrs

After considerable discussion it was proposed by Mr Greaves, seconded by Mr Criswell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to clarify the s137 situation with CAPALC and request CHH provide the number of Somersham residents who will benefit so members can justify the cost benefit under s137. CHH must also explain how long £300 would last them.

10. SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan was proposed by Mr Sutton, seconded by Mr Greaves and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be adopted.

11. WWI COMMUNITY EVENT WITH OPTIONS TO PURCHASE DISPLAY MATERIAL

- a. 'There but Not There' - shadow of a 'Tommy' (6ft aluminium) – can be a temporary or permanent display by the WWI bench in Church Street -unit £750 inc vat
- b. 'There but Not There' – Clear Perspex silhouette for chairs or pews (permanent or temporary display) £42 each

- c. Poppy Appeal - Display Plastic Poppies for lamp posts & similar. Cost per item to be confirmed

Ultimately it would be ideal to have a Poppy Wall as a permanent display on council land somewhere

- d. WWI Commemorative Plaques - £194 + £15 carriage + vat

It was agreed to defer this item until Mr McCloskey and Mrs Dew can organise a working group with the various organisations in the following weeks.

12. HIGHWAY MATTERS including Public Footways - Repairs/ Maintenance

- a. The Clerk has forwarded various road closures through Somersham in the coming weeks. These will be advertised on the Councils social media.
- b. The Chairman mentioned granite dust has been put on the road from Pidley to Oldhurst in both directions.

13. STREET LIGHTING inc repairs

The Clerk reported the deputy's report well under way to get costs for replacement heads. Megan Blewett has visited all the lamp locations and is compiling the photographs and correct lamp details.

14. REPORTS FROM SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **The Norwood Playing Field/ Norwood Building** (Recorded vote on all 3 items)

- i. **Kershaw Maintenance Contract** – proposal to terminate the 1-year contract due for expiry in October 2018 & source an alternative as the service has been unsatisfactory

It was proposed by Mr Criswell, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to terminate the contract as soon as possible.

It was proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Greaves and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to take the meeting into closed session owing to the sensitive nature of matters to be discussed. The meeting closed at 9.05 pm and was reconvened at 9.25 pm

- ii. **Skate Ramp repairs** – HDC wish to extend a one off enabling loan to Somersham Parish Council, to allow the Parish to achieve immediate lasting repairs to play equipment. This loan is in recognition of the community role the play equipment plays and ensures that the community retains a locally important play facility. This work delivered in partnership contributes to the areas wider health objectives. All of this year's play maintenance budget within HDC is earmarked across the District. As part of future rolling facilities reviews, the Somersham play facility will form a part of considerations around how subsequent year budgets are best allocated.

Mr Criswell explained £13k is required, Somersham will put £3000 in now for the first 2 years and the loan balance of £10k repaid over years 3, 4, 5 & 6 but relies on the Parish Council trusting HDC will pay off the loan through HDC's own funds over those 6 years.

It was proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to proceed.

- iii. **Additional request** - JG Amusements – request to hold a travelling fair with kiddie fairground equipment. Arriving on Tuesday 28th August and leaving on the Sunday.

It was proposed by Mr Sutton the fair could proceed provided the Clerk has all essential documentation in advance including money. This was agreed by a unanimous vote.

b. The Victory Hall Management Committee

On behalf of the VHMC Mr Hawkins reported the following:

- What is the position on the lease document? The Clerk reported the lease is back with the solicitor
- The friendship club is closing down tomorrow. Going forward Age UK could run the scheme for the start-up process and then it could be taken over from volunteers. Funding comes from the Innovate & Cultivate.

c. Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve (SNRG) & Somersham Lake

- i. The lake currently has a hired portable pump to aerate the water as much as possible however today (6th August) there is a scare about the lack of oxygen with fish at the surface. The EA are being very helpful and have been checking the oxygen levels regularly and will be out again this afternoon. The Clerk confirmed she has finally been able to place the order to proceed with installation of fixed installation aerators.

SNRG Report – See Appendix 1

d. Community Library

- i. **Huntingdonshire DC** – confirmation of removal from the list of Assets of Community Value. The Localism Act 2011 & Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012 requires HDC to remove the property after 5 years from the date of entry on the list.

FOSL Report – See Appendix 1

e. Millennium Sports Facility

Mr Sutton reported the Picnic in the Park event seemed to go well as did the Handlebards evening.

There was an SSLA meeting on 24th July, again the meeting was not quorate, so the Trustees couldn't make any decisions. The SSLA also wish to terminate their contract with Kershaw's. All trustees have taken on a responsibility to secure one user group trustee and a general email request from the SSLS secretary will be sent out.

f. Somersham & Pidley Time Bank

The Clerk is pleased to report she has received confirmation of year 2 funding for the Changing Lives Project

g. Communication Working Party

- i. Meeting Report – 11th July 2018

- ii. The Communication & Engagement Strategy (Recorded vote)

It was proposed by Mr Hulme, seconded by Mr Hawkins and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to adopt the Communication & Engagement Strategy.

Communication Report – See Appendix 1

h. Christmas Lights Working Party

Mr Greaves reported the group had a busy working party this Sunday and have progressed well.

i. Road Safety Reports (SID's)

Reports received & emailed to councillors

j. Reports of External Meetings Attended by Parish Councillor's


No meetings were reported.

15. NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

No matters were raised.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the Millennium Pavilion on Monday 3rd September 2018 at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.26 pm


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Dick Sutton, Chairman
1/10/18



REPORT FROM SNRG for the PC Meeting on 6th Aug 2108:

The ongoing work around the Reserve will continue through the summer and into the autumn on the first Sunday of every month at 09:30, meeting by the Springfield Gate; this schedule might change in the new management plan as we consolidate experience to-date, watch this space. As ever, all are cordially invited to help with preservation work and suitable training is available to undertake any of the tasks in hand.

The pressure during the recent dry hot spell has been on the Lake and the danger of low oxygen levels in the water. The 'Lake' is a 'bally hole' and thus has no natural flow of water in or out. Recent work thus has revolved around temporary re-oxygenising the waters while a more permanent solution is installed. The work carried out to-date appears to mitigate the risk.

REPORT FROM FOSL for the PC Meeting on 6th Aug 2108:

The recent successful FOSL AGM highlighted the successes this year in the library (all previously reported) and set out plans for further engagement with youth readers and adults. Plans were also in-hand to celebrate the 15th anniversary of FOSL taking over the reins of the Library from the

CCC. Additionally, the summer reading challenge was already well-advanced and should come to a successful fruition by late September. The Board of Trustees remains fully compliant with all Charity Commission requirements.

Meanwhile, FOSL has also raised some £220 at the Somersham June Carnival event and a further fund-raising event was planned in September in the form of a 'garage sale'.

REPORT FROM THE COMMS & ENGAGEMENT WP for the PC Meeting on 6th Aug 2108:

The Communication & Engagement WP met formally and reviewed the extant Communication & Engagement Strategy Plan and recommended to the Parish Council that it is accepted as 'fit for purpose'. However, the WP also intends to add the Strategy Plan as a rolling agenda item for its meetings as it continues to promote and develop communication and engagement over the course of the life of the new Parish Council. Meanwhile, the Aug/Sep edition of the S4U Newsletter was successfully distributed but we are still short of a volunteer to take on a vacancy on the Bank Route (the Colnefields Route has been filled again); the deadline for the next Edition of S4U (Oct/Nov) is 31 Aug 2018.

Paul McCloskey

Somersham Parish Council



CO	TS	6th August 2018	Vat	TOTAL		
ages	Salaries	0.00	7197.89	7,197.89	Bacs	Sal
SS	Pension Fund	0	1135.75	1135.75	Bacs	Pen:
ST	Pension Fund	0		0	DD	Pen:
MRC	Tax & NI	0	1768.18	1768.18	Bacs	HMF
o Commissioners Office	Data Protection renewal	0	40	40	Bacs	Addr
PALC	Chairmanship training x 2	0	150	150	Bacs	Trai
	CAPALC annual conference - M Blewett	0	30	30	Bacs	Trai
nalbs Ltd	SNRG - internal audit	0	39.5	39.5	Bacs	SNR:
On	Street lighting	4.06	81.16	85.22	Bacs	Stre:
le & Day	Fuel - June 2018	19.44	97.21	116.65	Bacs	Kubu
ion ICT	SSL Certificate	25	125	150	Bacs	Addr
nebanking UK	Timebanking conference	0	195	195	Bacs	Trai
PO	Gas	2.37	47.32	49.69	Bacs	Non
PALC	Finance for Clerks course - M Blewett	0	75	75	Bacs	Trai
s P ant	Expenses refund	0	80.1	80.1	Bacs	Addr
ss M Blewett	Expenses refund	0	8.55	8.55	Bacs	Trai
ives Quick Print	Timebank leaflets	0	92	92	Bacs	Time
gling Trust	Annual subscription	0	240	£240.00	DD	Angl
non Moore Water services	Aerator	697.2	3486	4183.2	Bacs	Lake
le & Day	Puncture repair	5.00	25	£30.00	Bacs	Kubu
rshaw Services Ltd	Service costs	31.8	159	190.8	Bacs	Mai
ll Products	Office - Laptop	129.8	649	778.8	Bacs	Com
S	New Kubota Tractor	0	11815	11815	Bacs	Kubu
nos Communications	Printer printing costs	43.78	218.91	262.69	Bacs	Addr
ing Payments	Stationary	5.89	87.45	93.34	Bacs	Addr
L Supplies	Washing up liquid x 3	1.2	6	7.2	Bacs	Offic
s P Bryant - refund	Microsoft online subscriptions x 18 mths	0	711	711	Bacs	Addr
ss M Blewett - refund	Travel expenses	0	9	9	Bacs	Addr
m's Nordic Walking	June/July 2018 sessions	0	350	350	Bacs	Chai
ke Tehrett	Ta'ai Chi June /July 2018 sessions	0	300	300	Bacs	Chai
Adair Rehab	Seated exercises June/July 2018 sessions	0	180	180	Bacs	Chai
	TOTAL	965.54	29399.02	£30,364.5		6

Electronic payments

Business	01487 841359/Broadband	13.74	54.94	£68.68	DD	Addr
lk Talk	CIC-01487 840266			£0.00	DD	Libra
icrosoft Online	Monthly computer software x 5 - August	0	35.9	35.9	DD	Addr
lk Talk	Broadband			0	DD	Addr
rphone warehouse	L Bird - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50	DD	Time
	P Bryant - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50	DD	Addr
	M Tyers - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50	DD	Addr
ntingdonshire DC	Sea Container - rates	0			DD	Addr
	Norwood Building - rates	0	0	£0.00	DD	No r
	Electricity - Multi sports area			£0.00	DD	Mul



credit by £3.25

Electricity - Lake sea container			£0.00	DD	Lake
Electricity - Norwood Building	0	0	£0.00	DD	Norw
Electricity - library	11.69	233.82	£245.51	DD	Libra
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>29.18</u>	<u>343.41</u>	<u>£372.59</u>		

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