

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF**  
**SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held at the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham**  
**On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT WERE:**

Cllr J Blundell	Cllr A Sansom
Cllr S Criswell	Cllr D Skeggs
Cllr C Dolby	Cllr D Smith
Cllr A Hulme	Cllr R Sutton (in the Chair)
Cllrs D Potter	Cllr G Wooster
Cllr N Ruffell	

Mrs P Bryant, Parish Clerk

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 12 members of the public

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Mervyn Greaves – personal  
Christopher White - illness  
Ray Woolway – work commitment

**2. PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

It was proposed by Cllr Criswell, seconded by Cllr 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 an open forum. The meeting closed at 7.32 pm and was reconvened at 8.01 pm.

**Matters discussed were:**

19/00594/FUL Land North of The Pasture Somersham. Residential development for 10 dwellings with associated parking & incidental works.

19/00579/FUL Land North of The Pasture Somersham. Residential development for 8 dwellings with associated parking & additional parking for residents

**4. PLANNING MATTERS**

**a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

19/00594/FUL Land North of The Pasture Somersham  
Residential development for 10 dwellings with associated parking & incidental works.

**AMENDED Plans**

It was proposed by Cllr Sansom, seconded by Cllr Blundell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to object on the same grounds. The proposal for 10 dwellings on this site is too dense and Councillors consider it is over development with little provision made for parking.

19/00579/FUL Land North of The Pasture Somersham  
Residential development for 10 8 dwellings with associated parking & additional parking for residents

**AMENDED Plans**

It was proposed by Cllr Dolby, seconded by Cllr Sansom and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to

Page 1 of 4 Pages

object. The primary reason for objection is the poor access along Rectory Lane, it is too narrow and not suitable. Any development on adjacent land will simply exacerbate resident's problems and will not resolve the problem of the narrow lane and parking.

The narrowness of lane is already an issue for the emergency services and at times the lane is impassable to them putting lives and property at risk, this will only be made worse with the addition of a new development.

19/02400/FUL Land East of Loftsteads Somersham

Change of use from agricultural to equestrian use with the provision of a field shelter for horses

It was proposed by Cllr Criswell, seconded by Cllr Skeggs and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to recommend no objection. Councillors consider this is a suitable change of use of land.

#### **5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Hulme to be a true record of events. This was RESOLVED by 9 votes for with 2 abstentions (as they were not at the meeting) and the Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

#### **6. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS TO FILL VACANCIES**

VHMC Representative – It was RESOLVED by all Councillors present to elect Cllr Hulme as the Parish Council VHMC Representative to replace Kevin Hawkins.

Cllr Smith will decide which working parties to join at the next meeting.

The Clerk will update and include the Traffic WP on the definitive list.

#### **7. POLICE REPORT**

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Weekly Policing Updates

#### **8. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWELL**

Cllr Criswell invited questions from members.

Cllr Sutton questioned what was happening in regard to LGSS Law? It has been reported the company is £1.2 million in deficit, should CCC be looking to cut their losses?

Cllr Criswell said he will have to come back with an informed response.

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

**Matters Arising Report & Updates:** Cllrs were provided with an update on work to replace the sea container at the lake area with new containers, the skate ramp, a requested BMX track and repairs at the Millennium Pavilion.

#### **Correspondence emailed to councillors:**

- ii. RSN online – updates
- iii. CAPALC – Buckingham Palace Garden Party – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 nominations requested by 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – It was proposed by Cllr Criswell, seconded by Cllr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to nominate Cllr Sutton
- iv. Joining the Against Scams Partnership as a supporter – It was proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Dolby and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to join as a supporter.
- v. NALC Spring Conference – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (£210 + vat per person)
- vi. Disability Huntingdonshire AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020
- vii. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Village Halls week – event on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020

Page 2 of 4 Pages



**Hard copy correspondence: M&G Charibond Quarterly Statement**

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

- a. **The Monthly Accounts** were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Potter and RESOLVED by 10 votes for and 1 abstention (Cllr Skeggs said she had not had an opportunity to look at them) and duly approved.

*NB: The Clerk reminded everyone about the invoice rota and its importance to the smooth financial running of the Council. Each Councillor has a responsibility (when rostered for a particular month) to ensure they check their emails weekly (Wednesday – Friday as a minimum) to authorise payments, the Clerk usually sends the email on a Wednesday or Thursday. The Council has a responsibility to pay invoices on time and ensure staff are paid on time as they have rent or mortgages and other outgoings to pay.*

- b. **The next Finance & Risk Management Working Party is on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7 pm**

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

**Correspondence:** Letters relating to the Wheatsheaf Crossroads from Bluntisham PC and Matt Staton, CCC Highways

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr Blundell and RESOLVED by 7 votes for with 4 abstentions to respond to Bluntisham Parish Council and politely decline participating in their request to lobby various organisations whilst work was already being carried out by the authorities.

**HIGHWAY REPAIRS**

**Footpath 1** – Cllr Dolby reported a tricky stile and it is not push chair friendly

**Chatteris Road** – it was proposed by Cllr Skeggs, seconded by Cllr Hulme and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to request CCC Highways (CCC Matt Staton) to put chevrons on the traffic islands at Chatteris Road at both ends.

Cllr Criswell said he was not sure if it is permitted in legislation but the Clerk could ask Highways to make the islands more visible.

**12. STREET LIGHTING MATTERS inc repairs**

Cllr Skeggs felt the intensity of the lamps on The Cross is very dim, is it possible to improve this? What did we have before, what have we got now and what could we have?  
The Clerk will investigate.

**13. CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (CAPALC) DRAFT ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROPOSED INCORPORATED BODY**

The questions asked by CAPALC:

1. Are you in favour of CAPALC becoming a non-profit, incorporated body in the form of a company limited by guarantee?
2. Are you in favour of £1.00 from your affiliation fee being ringfenced as your maximum liability for any claims being awarded against CAPALC?
3. Do you agree with clerks of member councils being eligible to become directors as well as councillors?
4. In the event of CAPALC being wound up, are you in favour of any assets being transferred to another organisation with similar aims, e.g. a neighbouring ALC?



5. Do you have any other comments?

Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Sansom, seconded by Cllr Potter to be in favour of all points raised and there were no further comments to be made. This was RESOLVED by 7 votes for and 4 abstentions.

The Clerk reported CAPALC will be holding an EGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 to ratify a decision on the Articles of Association.

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

- a. **The Norwood Playing Field/ Norwood Building** – No matters to report
- b. **The Victory Hall Management Committee** – Miss Minter had provided the Clerk with a draft copy of the Lease to read by the end of the month.
- c. **Friends of Somersham Local Nature Reserve (SNRG) & Somersham Lake**
  - i. SNRG Agenda 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020, draft Minutes 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Cllr Sansom said a site had been identified for the BMX track and it could be funded through a funding grant.

The Clerk said she has been waiting for a date for a while to meet Philip Clark, SNRG Chairman at the Nature Reserve so she may look at the proposed site. The Clerk also reminded members that whoever built the BMX track on parish owned land, they would be responsible for completing a hand written risk assessment check every day 7 days a week, there would also need to be a RoSPA report before it could be used. This is a requirement of the council's insurers.

Discussion was held on all aspects of this.

The Clerk will speak to Ross Bullard Came & Co local agent further about insurance aspect.

d. **Community Library (FOSL)**

The Chairman said looking at FOSL's latest Minutes they still haven't taken on board the dire financial situation with the parish council and they are well over their earmarked reserve.

Cllr Dolby suggested all direct debits and related bills were changed to FOSL and the parish council provide them with a grant at the beginning of each financial year and all payments become theirs from 1 April 2020.

This will be added to the Finance WP agenda for discussion.

- e. **Community Road Watch logger (SID)**  
[www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/somersham](http://www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/somersham)

f. **Reports of External Meetings Attended by Parish Councillor's**

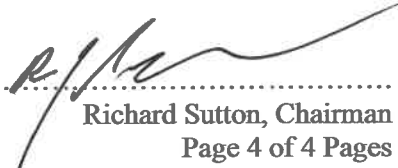
No meetings were reported.

15. **NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEX AGENDA**

Cllr Dolby asked for Operation London Bridge to be added  
Cllr Wooster wished to discuss Somersham4u Working Party.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30 pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.13 pm

  
Richard Sutton, Chairman  
Page 4 of 4 Pages

10/2/20

ages	Salaries	0.00	6811.34	6,811.34 Back
SS	Pension Fund	0	697.44	697.44 Back
ST	Pension Fund	0		0 DD
MRC	Tax & NI	0	1756.79	1756.79 Back
Kie Ixer	Expenses refund	0	6.75	6.75 Back
le & Day	Fuel 1st - 15th Dec 2019	9.58	47.91	57.49 Back
king Payments	Stationary/polish	5.84	29.22	35.06 Back
nos	Printing costs	10.97	54.83	65.8 Back
L Supplies	Sani bins/servicing	14.5	87	101.5 Back
	Sani bins/servicing	21.75	108.75	130.5 Back
S Rialtas	Bookings software annual support	38.6	193	231.6 Back
Hancox Solicitors Ltd	Legal services re: Victory Hall Lease	15.6	1468.8	1484.4 Back
ictory Hall MC	Hall hire - Tai Chi	0	63	63 Back
	Hall hire - Yoga	0	36	36 Back
P First Aid	First aid event cover	0	176.95	176.95 Back
ar T nology	Support & Software	50	250	300 Back
mbs ACRE	Subscription	0	57	57 Back
on Energy	Electricity	5.01	100.21	105.22 Back
K Installations	GSM/3g line rental	11.1	55.5	66.6 Back
pressions	Fishing ticket book	22	110	132 Back
PO	Gas	4.75	94.99	99.74 Back
CC	P Bryant - annual membership	0	327	327 Back
iodrey	Nordic Walking - Dec 2019	0	140	140 Back
king Payments	Stationary	9.85	110.23	120.08 Back
3 Heating & Plumbing	Replacement of 7 day programmer - heating	0	108.93	108.93 Back
part of Work & Pensions	A Scriven	0	448.15	448.15 Back
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>219.55</b>	<b>13339.79</b>	<b>13,559.34</b>

#### Electronic payments

Bu ss	01487 841359 - Dec 2019	9.42	47.12	£56.54 DD
	01487 841359 - Nov 2019	8.81	44.03	52.84 DD
	Broadband - Dec 2019	6.7	33.49	40.19 DD
lk Talk	CIC-01487 840266 - Oct 2019	5.93	29.67	35.6 DD
	CIC-01487 840266 - Nov 2019	6.31	31.56	37.87 DD
icrosoft Online	Monthly computer software - Dec 2019	0	39.5	39.5 DD
imens	Printer lease rental - 2019			DD
rphone warehouse	K Ixer - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50 DD
	P Bryant - mobile contract payment	0	0	£0.00 DD
	M Tyers - mobile contract payment	1.25	6.25	£7.50 DD
ntingdonshire DC	Sea Container - rates Oct, Nov, Dec 2019	0	147	£147.00 DD
	Norwood Building - rates	0	0	£0.00 DD
E	Electricity - Multi sports area - QRT	0	0	£0.00 DD
	Electricity - Lake sea container	0	0	£0.00 DD
	Electricity - Norwood Building - QTR	0	0	£0.00 DD

Electricity - library - QRT 3

£0.00 DD

**TOTAL**

**39.67**

**384.87**

**£424.54**

**Minimum Card**

**November, December**

tie Ixer

Timebank & changing Lives

0

0 Carc

nny Bryant

0

0 Carc

0

0 Carc

**TOTAL**

**0**

**0**

0

**Eques**

yal Welsh Legion

Remembrance Day Wreath

0

17

17

mersham Town Band

Donation for switch-on event

0

50

50

**TOTAL**

**0**

**67**

67

