

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Monday 19th October 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

REMOTE (online) MEETING

COVID-19 Pandemic (Temporary Regulations in force from 4th April 2020 expiring 7th May 2021)
The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, S78

PRESENT WERE:

Cllr Blundell	Cllr Skeggs	
Cllr C Dolby	Cllr D Smith	
Cllr A Hulme	Cllr C White	
Cllr D Potter	Cllr R Woolway	
Cllr T Sansom	Cllr G Wooster	
Cllr R Sutton (in the Chair)		Mrs P Bryant, Parish Clerk Miss M Blewett, Deputy Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: There were no members of the public present.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were accepted from.
Cllr Steve Criswell – personal

John Blundell arrived at 7.38 pm after the vote for Planning Application 20/01875/TREE 44 High Street Somersham PE28 3JB.

ABSENT – Cllr Nartasha Ruffell

2. **PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations were made.

3. **PUBLIC FORUM**

It was proposed by Cllr Wooster, seconded by Cllr White and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to close the meeting to allow members of the public to participate in an open forum.

The meeting was closed at 7.34pm and reconvened as no members of the public were present.

4. **PLANNING MATTERS**

a) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

20/01698/FUL Park Farm Agricultural Buildings St Ives Road Somersham
Demolition of existing agricultural buildings & construction of new agricultural building

It was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Sansom and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to recommend approval. The current building is very old and being replaced with a modern one.

20/01875/TREE 44 High Street Somersham PE28 3JB

T1 Horse Chestnut: fell to ground level. This is a substantial tree which has been declining for several years. There is a column of decay in the eastern side of the main stem which extends from ground level to at least 2 metres high. Two main roots on the eastern side are substantially decayed and decay can now be seen on the north and west sides of the main stem, indicating that the decay is spreading through the stem.

Large outbreaks of ink-cap mushrooms are regularly seen at the base of the tree, on the main stem and in the driveway next to the tree, indicating that dead wood is present in and around the tree; fruiting bodies in the driveway are likely from decayed roots.

It was proposed by Cllr Sansom, seconded by Cllr Wooster and RESOLVED by 9 votes for and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. The proposed work should proceed as it must be necessary.

John Blundell arrived at 7.38 pm after this vote

20/00467/FUL 56 High Street Somersham PE28 3JB

The conversion of 2 existing Flats into 4 Flats with associated parking

It was proposed by Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Woolway and RESOLVED by all councillors present and 1 abstention to recommend no objection. The building is in decay, there is a large space at the back for cars and bins and it would be preferable to have the property in use rather than derelict and empty.

b) PLANNING APPROVED

FMW/020/20 Land at Colne Fen Quarry, Chatteris Road, Somersham PE28 3DN
Importation of inert waste to stabilise land for bridleway

20/01092/FUL Beeches Stables Parkhall Road Somersham PE28 3HQ

Proposed agricultural building

Discussion was held on whether the decision made by the planning officer through delegated powers was undemocratic and that it should have gone to the Development Panel for consideration. It was agreed the Clerk would write to the planning department to ask why this did not take place following two responses from the parish council to reject the application.

c) PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

Street Naming & Numbering Notification.

Allocation of addressing to a barn conversion at Oak Acres Farm, Parkhall Road, Somersham.

To be Known As: HOLLY BARN, OAK ACRES FARM, PARKHALL ROAD, SOMERSHAM

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER 2020

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Potter, seconded by Cllr White and RESOLVED by 9 for and 2 abstentions (as those Cllrs were not present at the meeting) to be a true record of events and will be signed by the Chairman.

6. POLICE REPORT

Emailed to Councillors:

- i. Weekly Policing Updates

7. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR STEVE CRISWELL

Cllr Criswell has sent his apologies for the meetings and there will not be a report.

8. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT Inc.

- a. **Matters Arising Report & Updates:** sent to councillors

Cllr Sansom's SNRG email was sent to all councillors earlier today;

Discussion was raised by Cllrs and held on printer costs/options and the Microsoft online subscription.

b. Correspondence emailed to councillors:

- ii. RSN online – updates
- iii. CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
- iv. Virtual Cambridgeshire Local Councils Conference 23rd October 2020 – important – councillors can sign up and review the various presentations at a time to suit themselves over the following 21 days

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

- a. The **Monthly Accounts** – The accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Potter and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to approve.
- b. To increase the **Squash Court hire fee** from £4.10 for 40 mins to £4.50 for 1 hour – The increase was proposed by Cllr Woolway, seconded by Cllr Blundell and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to be effective from 1st November 2020
- c. The next **Finance Working Party meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th October** at 7 pm via Zoom. Initial discussion on the Precept for 2021/2022 will be held.

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

- a. **Highway repair/maintenance matters to report** – no highway matters to report. Concerns were raised at the state of the Harvey Drive cut through. A number of footpaths need to be repaired throughout Somersham Trees at Windsor Green overhanging road – could be HDC responsibility
- b. **Stage Coach East Service changes**
- c. **Passenger Transport – changes to services** – Dews Coaches, Contracted bus service cancelled following the introduction of a commercial bus route (904) linking Houghton and Wyton villages with Huntingdon and St Ives. The Authority is unable to subsidise bus services that compete with registered commercial bus services.

11. **CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY DOCUMENT**

The Chairman thanked Megan Blewett for her work to compile the policy.

The Chairman recommended a Working Party meeting shortly to bring suggestions to go forward to council.

12. **PARISHIONER REQUEST TO DONATE A MEMORIAL SEAT AT THE LOCAL NATURE RESERVE**

It was proposed by Cllr Wooster, seconded by Cllr Sansom and RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to propose no objection.

The seat construction and design will be approved in advance together with the SNRG Chairman and installed by Mr M Tyers. The cost to purchase and deliver will be the responsibility of the parishioner.

13. **PARISHIONER REQUEST TO INSTALL A LIGHT IN THE PUBLIC SHELTER, THE CROSS**

Cllrs discussed the proposal and the Chairman suggested looking at the costs to proceed and for this to be discussed at the next meeting. It was suggested to perhaps install a light with a PIR?

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

No matters were raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.17 pm

The next Meeting will be held on Monday 16th November 2020 at 7.30 pm by Zoom conferencing.

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Chairman

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ACCOUNTS	19th October 2020	Vat		TOTAL	
Wages	Salaries	£0.00	£7,175.40	£7,175.40	Ba
LGSS	Pension Fund	£0.00	£452.10	£452.10	Ba
NEST	Pension Fund	£0.00	£288.19	£288.19	DD
HMRC	Tax & NI	£0.00	£2,184.50	£2,184.50	Ba
Mr J Waters	Grass cutting - parish verges	£39.00	£195.00	£234.00	Ba
Mr S Blackwell	Inv 100300 - Tree works	£0.00	£480.00	£480.00	Ba
Canvas Spaces Ltd	Skate ramp	£6,529.85	£32,649.24	£39,179.09	Ba
Came & Co	Annual Insurance cover	£0.00	£4,999.81	£4,999.81	Ba
Wave	Water	£0.00	£38.75	£38.75	Ba
Sam Godfrey	Nordic Walking	£0.00	£70.00	£70.00	Ba
ESPO	Gas	£2.05	£40.92	£42.97	Ba
SLCC	Training - Website accessibility Guidelines - A Scriven	£26.00	£130.00	£156.00	Ba
	Training - Website accessibility Guidelines - K Ixer	£26.00	£130.00	£156.00	Ba
Cole & Day	Fuel - 16th - 30th September 2020	£17.60	£87.98	£105.58	Ba
Linda Garrick	Yoga sessions	£0.00	£210.00	£210.00	Ba
Westonics	Annual Fire Alarm service - Millennium Pavilion	£53.54	£267.72	£321.26	Ba
	Annual Fire Alarm service - Norwood B/Victory Hall	£65.56	£327.82	£393.38	Ba
R Adams Rehab	Seated exercise	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00	Ba
Wave	Water	£0.00	£111.93	£111.93	Ba
MK Illuminations	String lights & connectors	£167.11	£835.60	£1,002.71	Ba
	Snowflake shape, bulbs & connectors	£98.10	£729.92	£828.02	Ba
	Carriage charge	£20.01	£100.06	£120.07	Ba
MJ Potts Heating & Plumbing	Deposit - boiler replacement	£22.21	£111.07	£133.28	Ba
	Deposit - shower refurbishment	£592.51	£2,962.52	£3,555.03	Ba
	TOTAL	£7,659.54	£54,828.53	£62,488.07	
<u>Electronic payments</u>					
BT Business				£0.00	DD
Talk Talk Business	01487 841359 & internet - 18 Sept 2020	£5.60	£28.00	£33.60	DD
Talk Talk	CIC-01487 840266 -			£0.00	DD
Microsoft Online	Monthly computer software - August & Sept 2020	£0.00	£25.74	£25.74	DD
Siemens	Printer lease rental - Oct 2020 - Jan 2021	£17.99	£89.97	£107.96	DD
Carphone warehouse	K Ixer - mobile contract payment	£1.25	£6.25	£7.50	DD
Giifgaff	P Bryant - mobile contract payment - due	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	DD
	M Tyers - mobile contract payment	£1.25	£6.25	£7.50	DD
Huntingdonshire DC	Sea Container - Rates - 1 June, July, August, September 2020	£0.00	£196.00	£196.00	DD
	Norwood Building - rates	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	DD
	Millennium Sports Facility - Rates	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	DD
SSE	Electricity - Multi sports area - QRT 3			£0.00	DD
	Electricity - Lake sea container - Qtr 3			£0.00	DD
	Electricity - Norwood Building - QTR 3			£0.00	DD
	Electricity - Library - QRT 3			£0.00	DD
	Electricity - Millennium Sports Facility - QRT 2			£0.00	DD
	Gas - Millennium Sports Facility - QRT 2			£0.00	DD

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£26.09</u>	<u>£352.21</u>	£378.30
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Optimum Card

September-20

Katie Ixer	PPE, social meeting supplies	£0.00	£186.00	£186.00	Ca
Penny Bryant	Amazon UK - PPE	£0.00	£7.89	£7.89	Ca
	Amazon UK - Tablet	£34.83	£174.17	£209.00	Ca
	BrightPay - cloud access	£0.56	£2.82	£3.38	Ca
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£35.39</u>	<u>£370.88</u>	<u>£406.27</u>	<u>£4</u>

Cheques

Mr C Ison	Topping grass - Station Land	£16.20	£81.00	<u>£97.20</u>	To
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