



# SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council to be held at 6.30pm, on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2014 in the Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.**

**Present:** Cllr P Smith; Cllr. B. Lyttle; Cllr. P Curran-Bilbie; Cllr. M. Barron; Cllr. S Grotier; Cllr. C. Langton; Cllr. T Marriott; Cllr. J. McCabe; Cllr. J Parker, Cllr P. Price.  
G. Blackmore (Clerk to the Council) and 12 members of the public (public speaking session only)

**52/2014: To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr. S. Walker

**53/2014: Social Media:**

The Council welcomes the use of social media, filming and recording at meetings, provided they do not disrupt or otherwise have an adverse affect on the meeting. Telephones and other such devices should be switched to silent mode or switched off completely.

**54/2014: Variation of Order of Business:** None

**55/2014: Declaration of Members Interests:**

Cllr B Lyttle: All Planning Matters  
Cllr J Parker: 61/2014 (o) – Rugby Club Site Proposals  
Cllr P Price: 61/2014 (C3) & (j)  
Cllr J McCabe: Planning Application 2014/0438

**56/2014: To consider any Councillors' Request for dispensation:** None

**57/2014: Public Speaking – (30 Minutes)**

(a) Members of the public raised their concerns re the consultation held at AV Rugby Club on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014, in that it is believed chemicals have been deposited alongside the site that may affect health. The Council listened to the comments and the chairman responded in that no planning application has been received and the clerk is pursuing the issue through the Environment Agency as per the request at the Annual Parish Meeting and through Council. The reply is expected to be received within 20 working days from 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

The **Council RESLOVED** that any group wishing to arrange meetings on this matter could have the use of the Village Hall.

(b) Police Liaison Officer – No police present

**County Council** – DCC Member Cllr P Smith informed the members that the Police Consultative Meetings need to give more notice than 1 day notice of their meetings. The local evening trial bus service has been extended to March 2015 following good reports from service users.

The new MUGA at Bonnington Drive has been built and soon used by local residents  
**Cold Calling Scheme:** This is being promoted after issue regarding the disabled and elderly having problems with cold callers. The Trusted Trader Scheme is being promoted to try to stop cold callers causing issues.

**Borough Council Member:** Cllr McCabe reported that lorries used for green waste bin collections are to have logo's and will be in place for next week.

**Dog Wardens:** There will be 5 or 6 wardens in vehicles with council motifs on them. The wardens have been instructed to issue FPN to owners allowing dog fouling and depositing litter.

Cllr. Lyttle said that Planning rule changes were being implemented so they would be smoother and quicker to deal with. Consultants have been called in to verify that the systems operate effectively..

Councillors have been given small community fund grants to assist deprived groups who need support for their projects.

**Housing Core Strategy:** Once the Core Strategy is released there will be a 6 week consultation period.

**58/2014:** The **Council RESOLVED** that the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014 – Special Parish Council Meeting and on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014 the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

**59/2014:** **To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded. If the Council decides to exclude the public it will be necessary to pass a resolution in the following terms:** None

**60/2014: Chairman's Announcements:** A thank you card has been received from Glynis Kenney on her retirement gift from the Council

**61/2014: Report of the Clerk on:**

(a) **Market Place**

(i) **Former Public Toilet area Feature Area / Transfer of land:** Solicitor now completing searches before finalising the agreement with AVBC.

**Works for area:** footpath re-laid; new bollards; land area & trees – these matters to be considered once land transferred and funding is available.

(ii) **Resurface work & re-lining – Tenders:** The tenders have been received and the Chairman & Vice-Chairman agreed on the tender from S. Brown Paving.

Further works quote (attached) for the VH Car Park & the former toilet area has been received.

The **Council RESOLVED** to agree both tenders for the car parks, but the former toilet area is to be considered when funding is available.

The scheduled works will take place between 8am – 5pm on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014 that will necessitate the closure of the car park. The Co-op Store and all affected residents to be informed, as well as signs informing the public of the closure.

(b) **Report on Village Hall**

(i) Village Hall: Internal Improvements – The new electric cooker and wiring has been installed.

(ii) Bar: Bookings have improved, but the bar takings are insufficient to cover the cost, at this time Only bottled beer (bitter) will be on sale due to stock losses.

(iii) Legionnaires – Water Testing has been carried out and procedures put into place, as recommended.

(iv) Wi-Fi Connection – now operative for Service Users.

(v) Asbestos Survey – H & S Requirement. To be arranged.

(c) **Allotments:**

- (i) Bridle Lane: No updates or information
- (ii) Birchwood Lane: Open Day – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2014. BLAA have been requested to inform all nearby houses.
- (iii) Sleetmoor Lane: The container is in place and being put to good use

**The Allotment Associations have nominated entries for the Jim Spibey Memorial Shield – Judging on w/e 26/27<sup>th</sup> July, by Chris Beal**

- (d) **Parish Wardens Accommodation:** Transfer of the building to Somercotes PC from St John's Ambulance Service is still on-going due to our solicitor completing final searches.
- (e) **Councillor Vacancies:** Two vacancies, both by Co-option.
- (f) **Somercotes Events Day – July 2014:** Cllr. J. McCabe: this event will not now take place.
- (g) **WWI Commemorative Events:**
- Proposed WWI commemorative event( to be held in the Parish, working with St Thomas Church & Local Groups on A commemorative service (11am) on, Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014 is to be held at St Thomas' Church and an exhibition in the Village Hall, with refreshments from 11am - 1pm.
  - An application to HLF has been prepared and to be submitted.
- (h) **Parish Newsletter:** Community Focus – the new format is being undertaken and has been well received.
- (i) **Flag Pole:** Use of the flag pole – A letter has been received from Mr. Michael Wood (Church Warden) regarding the use of the flag pole. The Council provided the flag pole for community & council use, as well as the church. The church does not permit installation of anything on church land unless it is owned by them.

The Council was disappointed by the stance of the church and hoped the matter could be resolved amicably. The **Council RESOLVED** that the church, as an important part of the community would be asked to agree use of the flag pole for the community or alternatively they could purchase it at the full cost including installation or it can be moved to a different location approved by the council.

- (j) **Bus Shelters: Damage** - There has been a spate of damage to bus shelter glass panels – 7 belonging to the Parish Council. There appears to be a pattern of attacks on bus shelter from Somercotes, Leabrooks and as far as Loscoe. The police will be undertaking observations and patrols in an effort to find the perpetrator(s).

**Cleaning of Bus Shelters:** The **Council RESOLVED** that the current window cleaner should continue working for the next 12-18 months until he retires. Thereafter, the tender process would be undertaken. The cleaner is to be asked to give 3 months notice before he retires.

Write to DCC to ask them to consider mid rails on the bus shelters outside the Off Licence, and opposite the Car wash on Nottingham Road.

- (k) **Proposed Street Lighting Maintenance Policy:** A public consultation is taking place between 16<sup>th</sup> June & 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014 regarding the part-time switching off of street lights between midnight & 5am. The **Council RESOLVED** that the street maps provided by the County Council be displayed in the village hall so the public could comment via questionnaires or via the website. The Council highlighted a number of areas of concern particularly on the recreation ground and where there were areas where too many lights appears to have been identified. The Clerk to respond to DCC on the areas identified.
- (l) **Wild Flower Areas – B600:** A meeting has been made with Groundwork Cresswell and an application is to be submitted to DCC re 'Cultivation of roadside verges.' A planting programme has been provided by Groundwork.
- (m) **Diocese Land Enquiry:** The Council was concerned that the letter was confusing very open ended and did not truly reflect the sale offer being made. The **Council RESOLVED** to seek further clarification.
- (n) **Register of Members Interest:** As a matter of good governance and best practice, members are reminded that they have a duty to keep their registration forms up to date annually or as and when changes to any of their registered interests occur.
- (o) **Letter to the Environment Agency re Cambro Site:** The **Council RESOLVED** that the council will wait until the full Environment Agency Response is received and if appropriate arrange a meeting with them and AVBC Head of Planning.

#### 62/2014 Finance

- (a) Accounts for Payment bet 16.5.2014 and 17.7.2014. The **Council RESOLVED** to approve the Accounts for Payment.
- (b) Income/interest: £ 854.51
- (c) **Audit** – The External Auditors (Grant Thornton) have approved the audit with no comments. The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the External Audit, as received.
- (d) **Banking arrangements:** Internet Banking & Credit Card now in place.
- (e) **Pay Roll:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the cost savings by using an external accountant for pay roll. The Clerk was designated to make the appropriate arrangements after obtaining the most competitive rate.

#### 63/2014: Planning applications:

- 2014/0384 Non material amendment to AVA/2014/0101 for new block paving path and thermoplastic road marked pedestrian walkway at McDonalds Restaurants Ltd., Hockley Way, Alfreton.
- 2014/0431 Change of use from A4 to D1 Veterinary practice. Alterations to existing ground floor bay window and entrance to form new shopfront. Demolition of existing single storey extension to side and formation of new access to ground floor unit with associated rear access. First floor converted to two 2 bed apartments with new access formed at ground. Existing rear brick outhouse demolished and existing rear car park increased to allow for 6 parking spaces/cycle parking and bin store, at Royal Tiger Inn, 159 Nottingham Road, Somercotes, for Mr Arnold Hurley, 34 Laurel Drive, Stockton, Southam, Warwickshire.
- 2014/0276 Dormer bungalow on land to the west of 29 Norman Road, for Mr M Martin.

- TRE/2014/0084:TPO 86. Two ash trees – crown reduce by 30% and remove dead wood, at 68 Sleetmoor Lane, for Mr Michael Johnson.
- 2014/0528 Agricultural building for storage of straw, haylage and equipment (no animals), at Shady Farm, Lower Birchwood, for Mr & Mrs Simpson.
- 2014/0405 Full planning permission for the provision of 6 no. Dwellings, following approval of Planning AVA/2012/0640 and Outline AVA/2012/0342, for Mr M Griffiths, 74 Springfield Avenue, Sandiacre.
- 2014/0438 Erection of extension to existing workshop building at Akromatic, Cotes Park Lane, for Mr Shaun Newham.
- 2014/0556 2 stables and store with hard standing area on land to west side of Corner House Farm, Sleetmoor Lane, for Miss Paula Ward, 5 Wheatley Avenue.

**The Council made no comments on any of the above planning applications**

#### **Planning Matters Determined**

- 2014/0262 Change of use from retail storage over hairdressers to a residential unit at 14 Victoria Street. **Permitted**
- 2014/0252 Change of use of former Building Society into three self contained flats at Derbyshire Building Society, Leabrooks Road, for Mr J Rolf, Ocean Capital Ltd., Warwick Park, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5TA. **Permitted**
- 2014/0384 Non material amendment to AVA/2014/0101 for new block paving path and thermoplastic road marked pedestrian walkway at McDonalds Restaurant, Hockley Way, Alfreton. **Permitted**
- 2014/0208 Outline application for residential development at the Black Horse, Lower Somercotes, with access off Cinder Road to include demolition of the Black Horse Public House. (This is a departure from the Adopted Development Plan).  
**Pending Decision**

#### **64/2014 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils: Circulars 10/2014 – 14/2015**

##### **65/2014: Items for information only:**

- **Ashfield District Council – Notice of Consultation on Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDS)**
- **Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine Direct**
- **Bonnington Drive Open Space (MUGA)**

**66/2014: To move the following resolution - “That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (in respect of the personal situation of an employee which could result in legal proceedings) it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.”**

**(a) Staff Matters:** Update on staff matters – the members were informed of the current health situation regarding one member of staff.

**New Staff:** Assistant Clerk – Susan Massey. Susan’s contract will commence on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014, when she returns from holiday.

**(b) CCTV:** This matter is yet to be resolved by AVBC.

**Mobile CCTV:** A mobile CCTV system is now available through the police service

**67/2014: Date of next Parish Council Meetings: 6.30pm Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

