

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL



The Ordinary Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council held at 6.30pm, on Friday, 21st November 2014 in the Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

Present: Cllr P Smith (Chairman); Cllr. B Lyttle (V. Chairman); Cllr. T. Marriott;
Cllr. J. Parker; Cllr. P Price; Cllr. M. Barron; Cllr. J. McCabe
G. R. Blackmore (Clerk to the Council); Susan Massey (Assistant Clerk); 2 PCSO's; Mr B Hill
(Public Speaking session)

91/2014: To receive apologies for absence: Cllr. P Curran-Bilbie (family commitments); Cllr. S Walker (Alfreton Town Council Commitments); Cllr. C. Langton (family commitments); Cllr. S Grotier

92/2014: 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 effect on the meeting. Telephones and other such devices should be switched to silent mode or switched off completely.

93/2014: Variation of Order of Business.

94/2014: (i) Declaration of Members Interests: None

(ii) **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.

95/2014: Councillors' Request for dispensation: None

96/2014: Public Speaking – (30 Minutes)

- (a) Mr. B. Hill (Somerleas Park Centre) outlined the work of the charity and the use of the premises by local residents.
- (b) Police Liaison Officer: PCSO R. Plant outlined the current levels of ASB/nuisance calls for service that had improved in September, but increased in October/November, possibly related to Halloween. Local operations were on-going locally relating to vandalism.

County Council: Cllr P Smith – work has been completed on Nottingham Road, but there is on-going matters of litigation with the drainage being blocked with developments at the location. The road surface repairs are sub-standard and require a report to DCC.

Bus shelter refurbishments are completed, and any proposals for 2015-16 should be forwarded to DCC (B. Fearnley).

Street Lighting: The partial night time switch-off of street lighting has been agreed and a programme is in place to replace lamp units with LED's to reduce cost.

Cllr. Marriott raised the matter of street lighting – wall mounted on ASrchway Interiors building and lamp column 810, as well as outside Chapman & Chubb. Informed that DCC were aware of these columns and dealing.

Borough Council Member: Cllr McCabe outlined the proposal for resident's free parking at specified times on Amber Valley Car Parks. Wardens would be undertaking patrols locally on 24th November 2014 to educate people on dog fouling and thereafter prosecution.

Cllr Lyttle said there had been a heated debate on the Core Strategy in October, but it went through. Further proposals are scheduled for consideration on 15th December 2014.

97/2014: Minutes – The **Council RESOLVED** as a correct record the Minutes of The Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 19th September 2014 and the meeting with the Environment Agency & AVBC on 24th September 2014.

98/2014: To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded. None

99/2014: Chairman's Announcements: None

100/2014: Report of the Clerk on:

(a) **Market Place**

(i) **Former Public Toilet area Feature Area / Transfer of land:** The transfer from AVBC is now completed. AVBC have agreed to resurface and make safe the footpath that was agreed before transfer.

Works for area: Refurbish the bollards (paint); build a suitable wall planting area for floral displays; seating and general improvements: on-going. Proposal to be provided, in due course.

(ii) **Trees:** Cutting & Shaping trees on Market Place – The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the quoted from Tree Huggers. The work to be carried out in the New Year, at the appropriate time.

(b) **Report on Village Hall:**

(i) Refurbishment of the toilets: The Council considered the 3 tenders and **RESOLVED** to accept the tender from Pidcock & Beastall Ltd. Works to be undertaken in agreement with the builders. A building asbestos Survey to be carried out prior to the works.

(ii) Winter / Spring Plants for frontage & Winding Wheel – now completed

(c) **Allotments:**

(i) Bridle Lane: Land to be reclaimed for 6-7 new plots

(ii) Birchwood Lane: Bids being prepared for security fencing around the allotments.

(iii) Sleetmoor Lane: Works to be undertaken as on the Management Plan including and orchard, as well as purchase of machinery/tools.

All allotment associations to liaise with the Clerk re their projects.

(iv) Drunken Close

The **Council RESOLVED** to lay a stone base at the front of the first set of stables – work to be conducted in the spring.

Allotments Meeting held on 13th November 2014.

(d) **Parish Wardens Accommodation:** Former St John's Ambulance Hut -Transfer from AVBC now completed. The building is to be repainted inside and out, Oil filled radiators have been purchased. The building will be used for Parish Wardens accommodation, storing excess furniture and small meetings, if appropriate. The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the proposals.

- (e) **Councillor Vacancies:** Two vacancies, both by Co-option.
- (f) **WWI Commemorative Events:**
- The Commemorative Event was well received and the young people involved were a credit to the service & event.
 - The application to HLF has been successful for the WW1 Project. The project is to research all servicemen on the war memorial and who served; as well as look at how local people helped the war cause in local industry and on the land.
- (g) **St Thomas Parish Church: Flag Pole** – Despite the Archdeacon agreeing that the Church Wardens should sign the agreement on behalf of the church the document was sent to her, only last week, as it had been forgotten.
- (h) **Wild Flower Areas – B600:** Application submitted to DCC re ‘Cultivation of roadside verges’ has now been granted. The **Council RESOLVED** to undertake works on the land in the spring. Agreement to be signed and returned to DCC.
- (i) **Cambro landfill Site/Somercotes Hill** – The Cambro Site (Rugby Club) has been removed from the Core Strategy, but the Planning Application is live. The Somercotes Hill site will remain in the Core Strategy.
- (j) **Community Youth Provision:** Somerlea Community Centre charity has received funding from the Police Commissioners Grants for outreach diversionary activities to reduce ASB and other related offences that have been increasing particularly on and around the recreation ground. The Council accepted the report and **RESOLVED** to support the project with a grant of £2k, subject to on-going reports of the project.
- (k) **Community Transport:** DCC is proposing to cut 50% of the Community Transport Scheme - £600k in 2015/16 and in 2016/17 to provide no funding for the Dial a Bus Scheme. Parish & Town Councils should consider supporting Community Transport ‘Dial a Bus Schemes, but this would require an increase in the precept. The **Council RESOLVED** to consider support only if other town & parish councils were prepared to financially support the service.
- (l) **30 MPH Vehicle Activated Signs:** DCC proposal to erect 3 Vehicle Activated Signs – Junctions Leabrooks Road/Victoria St; Main Road/Wood Street & Greenhill Lane/James Street. Plans attached. The Council **RESOLVED** to support the installation of the Vehicle Activated Signs.
- (m) **Core Strategy: Further consultation period:** 27th October to 8th December 2014. The further proposed changes can be viewed on AVBC website www.ambervalley.gov.uk/communityplanninglatestnews

101/2014: Finance

- (a) Accounts for Payment bet 19.9.2014 and 20.11.2014: £20531.01
(Accounts Approved 19th September 2014 – Appendix ‘A’)

The **Council RESOLVED** to agree the Accounts for Payment 19.9.14 – 20.11.14

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|---------------------------|------------------|
| (b) Income (to 31/10/14). | £90928.96 |
| Interest | £ <u>5.95</u> |
| Total | £90934.91 |

(c) **UK Parliamentary & Parish Elections**

AVBC have estimates the cost of the elections and it could cost the Parish Council up to £6k. The Council is required to pay 50% of the UK Parliamentary Election cost, as

well as the Parish Elections (estimate £4k), if contested. The Parish Council will be required to make provision for these costs when setting the 2015-16 precept. (AVBC letter attached). Provision will need to be made from the Council's budget for 2015-16 – estimate £6k. 'The Electoral Commission – Parish & Community Council Elections in England & Wales Guidance for Candidates and Agents' is available for Councillors.

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the above and to make adequate provision in the budget (precept 2015-16)

(d) **Automatic Enrolment, Compulsory Pension Scheme:**

The categories are:

Monthly Earnings up to £833 – All ages can join if they wish.

Monthly Earnings over £833 – 16 to 21 years (can join if they wish); **22 to State Pension Age – must be automatically enrolled**; State Pension Age to 74 – can join if they wish. It is against the law to take any action to induce anyone to opt out.

The new pension scheme will have financial implications for the Parish Council and provision will have to be made once the requirement to join is implemented between 2015 – 2018.

DALC will be providing guidance on the new scheme, in due course

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the legal requirements and provision to be made in budgets at the appropriate time.

(e) **Street Lighting Repairs:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the 3 year contract with Platinum Lighting for Street Lighting Columns they own on Somercotes Recreation Ground.

(f) **Accident – Injury Claim:** Mill Yard Car park: M Leese (Letter attached)
The matter is with our insurers. The necessary works have been carried out on the broken bollards.

(g) **S137 Funding Request: Support funding for Amy Shaw (Somercotes Hill)**
The Council RESOLVED to make a payment of £100 to Amy Shaw (Somercotes Hill) for her school project..

(h) **Council Tax Support – Phased Reduction in Grant:** This will occur in tranches of £5,000 per annum over the next 4 years until the cost is removed and will become the responsibility of the Parish/Town Council. The Parish Council Grant is currently £31,800.

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the reduction in the grant over the specified period, at £7,950 per annum.

102/2014 To consider planning applications:

Planning Matters – AVBC

2014/0804 Residential development for up to 200 dwellings including landscaping, open space and storm water balancing at SHLAA Land off, Lower Somercotes Mr Roger Carter, Carter Construction Ltd C/o Pegasus Group, 4 The Courtyard, Church St, Lockington, Derbys.

014/0770 New Industrial Unit for B1, B2 & B8 use, land west of Birchwood Way, Somercotes for PMW Property, Ashbourne, Derbys.

2014/0819 Erect plant and equipment to provide back-up electricity generation at Unit, Garnham Close, Somercotes for Mr Graham Wright, Snelston, Derbys.

2014/0921 Change of use from B2 use with ancillary and office accommodation and car park to B8 use with ancillary office and accommodation and car park at Leabrooks Upholstery, Birchwood Way, Somercotes for Mr Geoff Lee, Kirby in Ashfield.

2014/0978: Demolish existing buildings and redevelopment for 13,565m² B1/B2/B8 employment and parking spaces for Leabrooks Upholstery, Birchwood Way, Somercotes for Ms Celine McAnenly Aventas Group, Derrylin.

Planning Matters Determined – AVBC

2014/0767 Erection of extension to existing workshop building at Akromatic, Cotes Park Lane, Somercotes **Permitted**

2014/0276 Dormer Bungalow to land west of 29 Norman Road **Permitted**

2014/0805 Erection of 2.4m high welded mesh perimeter fencing with 2 No corrugated steel storage units **Permitted with comment made**

The **Council RESOLVED** not to make any comment on the above planning matters..

103/2014 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils:20/2014 – 22/2014

104/2014: Items for information only:

- **Home Start Amber Valley Scheme** – closing from the end of November 2014 (due to DCC funding support being withdrawn – unable to secure additional funding).
- **Derbyshire Eco Centre:** The History and Mystery of Public Rights of Way.

105/2014: Staff Matters: The Clerk informed the Council of staff issues and the requirement for staff members to be aware of the inappropriate use of social media.

Caretaker & Relief Post: The **Council RESOLVED** that the Clerk & Assistant Clerk conduct the interviews

106/2014: Date of next Parish Council Meetings: 6.30pm Friday, 16th January 2015