

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL

G. R. Blackmore
Clerk to the Council
Somercotes Parish Hall
Nottingham Road
Somercotes
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55 4LY



Telephone Office: 01773 603810

Parish Hall: 01773 609397

E-Mail: somercotespc@btconnect.com

Website: www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council held at 6.30pm, on Friday, 16th January 2015 in the Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

Minutes

Present: Cllr. P. Smith (Chairman); Cllr. B. Lyttle (V. Chairman); Cllr P. Curran-Bilbie; Cllr T. Marriott; Cllr. J Parker; Cllr S Walker (from 6.42pm); Cllr. S. Grotier; Cllr. J. McCabe
G. R. Blackmore (Clerk to the Council); S. E. Massey (Assistant Clerk) PCSO Davis;
2 members of the public (public speaking only).

1/2015: To receive apologies for absence: Cllr M Barron (apologies)
Cllr P Price; Cllr C Langton

2/2015: Social Media: The Council welcomes the use of social media

3/2015: Variation of Order of Business: None

4/2015: (i) Declaration of Members Interests:
Cllr B Lyttle – All Planning Matters: 12/2015

(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.

5/2015: To consider any Councillors' Request for dispensation: None

6/2015: Public Speaking – (30 Minutes)

(a) Linda Coleman made representations to the council on behalf of 'Somercotes Against Development Group' and the proposed development of land off Somercotes Hill, as these are the last green fields in Somercotes and they are used for walking and activities by local people. A public meeting is to be held and councillors are invited to attend.

The chairman explained that the council had supported removing the Birchwood Lane & Rugby Club sites from the Core Strategy and nothing further can be undertaken by the council until a planning application is submitted.

(b) **Police Liaison Officer:** The main area of concern is theft and attempted theft from motor vehicles. Many are opportunist thefts when drivers leave their car doors unlocked. The Chairman asked about an incident where a lady was attacked by a dog – police enquiries are on-going.

County Council: Cllr P Smith reported - Leabrooks Road is currently being patched ready for surface dressing: Speed Activated Signs are to be erected at junction of Leabrooks Rd/Victoria St, and Wood Street/Main Road.

The lighting problems reported by Cllr Marriot on Nottingham Road are being addressed, with two repairs completed and one outstanding.

The poor road surface repairs, after STW work, outside Somercotes Medical Centre, Nottingham Road has been reported to DCC.

The Clerk informed the Council that yesterday the bus shelter on Swanwick Road (owned by the Parish) had been demolished after an RTA. DCC are dealing with the procurement for a new shelter and the insurance claim.

Cllr Grotier enquired about the action on our request for a survey on the A38 slip road. Despite several enquiries the Highways Agency have failed to respond.

Borough Council Member:

Cllr McCabe said that the A38 slip road, off Nottingham Rd, is to be cleared of rubbish next week.

A number of tickets have been issued for parking in the disabled bays on Market Place, Somercotes.

Cllr Lyttle said that the Council is currently receiving a number of planning applications including several large plans. The Core Strategy has been deferred until March 2015.

7/2015: The **Council RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on: The Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st November 2014 and the meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee on 13th November 2014 & the Village Hall Service Users Sub-Committee on 20th November 2014.

8/2015: To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded - None.

9/2015: Chairman's Announcements:

Carol Service: The Chairman thanked all those who were involved with the service and commended the guides, brownies and rainbows that sang so well and entertained everyone. Collection £200.00 – To be donated to Cancer Research.

10/2015: Report of the Clerk on:

(a) **Market Place**

(i) **Former Public Toilet area Feature Area / Transfer of land:** AVBC have been requested to make good the footpath, as was agreed on transfer of the land, but the work is still outstanding. Cllr McCabe to speak with AVBC.

(ii) Designs for garden area: Designs were made available to members. The **Council RESOLVED** that the public or school children (prize to be awarded to best design) are to be asked their views in the next Newsletter. Contact is to be made with landscape gardens for designs.

(b) **Report on Village Hall**

(i) **Refurbishment of the toilets** – Scheduled for school half term period, in February to cause least disruption. The hall will be closed during the daytime for large groups for this period.

(ii) **New furniture** – The **Council RESOLVED** to purchase 25 stacking tables and 150 chairs, in the next financial year, at a cost of £3,144.75 (exc. Vat) – subject to price changes.

- (c) **Allotments:**
- (i) **The Council RESOLVED** that the Children's Allotments Competition is advertised in the March Newsletter and with the Allotment Associations.
 - (ii) The **Council RESOLVED** that there will be no increase in the Allotment Rents for 2015-16: Bridle Lane, Birchwood Lane and Drunken Close – Sleetmoor Lane no charge due to the continuing redevelopment programme.
- (d) **Councillor Vacancies:** Two vacancies – the post will now be open for election on 7th May 2015 for the Parish Council Elections.
- (e) **St Thomas Parish Church: Flag Pole** – Agreement signed.
- (f) **Wild Flower Areas – B600:** Application submitted to DCC re 'Cultivation of roadside verges' has now been granted. The **Council RESOLVED** that Planting arrangements to be made for the spring/summer.
- (g) **Community Youth Provision:** The funding will be released in quarterly tranches based on the progress of the project. Sporting Futures has withdrawn their project due to insufficient funding.
- (h) **Code of Conduct Complaints:** Letter from Mr. P Benski (Democratic Services Manager - AVBC): The members noted the content.
- (i) **Annual Parish Meeting:** Due to the Parliamentary & Local Elections on 7th May 2015 the **Council RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Friday, 15th May 2015. If the meeting was well attended and continued beyond a reasonable time the APM & PC Ordinary Meeting, on the same evening, would be deferred.
- (j) **Festive Lighting:** There have been a number of issues regarding the festive lighting not least an additional cost of £1705.00 plus Vat, for replacing faulty timers & repairs. The **Council RESOLVED** that the Clerk arrange a meeting with LITE Ltd to discuss the cost, call-out fees and future of the festive displays – returning to all festive lights being on shops and businesses buildings, as opposed to street light columns.

11/2015: Finance

(a)	Accounts for Payment bet 22.11.2014 and 15.01.2015: (Accounts Approved 21 st November 2014 – Appendix 'A') The Council RESOLVED to approve the Accounts for Payment	£16,315.83
(b)	Income (to 15/01/15). Interest	£ 4,569.22 £ 25.96
	Total	£ 4,595.18

- (d) **National Salary Awards:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the NJC Rates for Council staff have now been agreed from 1st January 2015, and the non-consolidated (one off) payment for employees (irrespective if the staff are on the Living Wage). The **Council RESOLVED** that staff be paid the Living Wage increase from 1 April 2015.
- (e) **Precept 2015-16:** The **Council RESOLVED** to increase the precept by 2% to meet the requirement of the budgets, as the government grant reduces over the next 4 years. The council took into account the requirement to pay 50% of

the Parliamentary Election cost (not previously charged), as well as the Parish Council Elections. Clerk to seek clarification with AVBC re election costs. The £3k community grant was removed from the budgets.

- (i) The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the increase in charges for using the Village Hall for Elections, as approved by AVBC - £158.00.

12/2015: To consider planning applications:

Planning matters – AVBC

2014/0722 Single storey extension to an existing Aldi retail store. The extension is to incorporate a new full height glazed shopfront, a new gabled frontage and an extended glazed canopy. For Aldi, Nottingham Rd, Somercotes

2014/0964 2 No 3 bedroom detached dwellings and 1 No detached double garage at land adjoining The Lodge, Lower Somercotes for Mr S Egan, The Lodge, 400 Lower Somercotes.

2014/0955 1 No detached dwelling on private garden to the NE of existing dwelling at Nether Farm, 208 Birchwood Lane, Somercotes for Mr Jeff Harris, 208 Birchwood Lane, Somercotes.

2014/1006 Agricultural prior notification for steel portal framed building to store bales for Mr matthew Watson, Birdswood Farm, 145 Sleetmore Lane, Somercotes

2014/1015 Change of use to Class B8 (Storage or Distribution) at Unit 1, Wimsey Way, Somercotes for Screwfix Direct Ltd, Trade Houes, Mead Avenue, Yeovil

2014/1090 Construction of 12 No dwelling houses on the former site of the Rifle Volunteer PH. These will be 6 terraced dwellings with 3 bedrooms to be constructed on Birchwood lane and 3 pairs of semi detached dwellings with 3 bedrooms to be constructed on Douglas Road. This is an alternative scheme to 2013/1074

2014/1058 Single storey rear extension at Winster House, 378 Lower Somercotes for Mr Whitesmith.

2014/0949 Erection of livestock building at land east of Birchwood Farm, Cockshutt Lane, Somercotes for AKA Agricultural contractors, Hobsic Farm, Selston, Nottingham.

2014/0950 Erection of livestock building at land east of Birchwood Farm, Cockshutt Lane, Somercotes for AKA Agricultural contractors, Hobsic Farm, Selston, Nottingham.

2014/1068 Side kitchen extension at 46 Leamoor Lane, Somercotes fore Mr P Minkley.

2014/0183 Tree pruning to Beech trees at Birchwood Methodist Church, Birchwood Lane, Somercotes. Prune around street lamp and prune to clear NE corner od the Church Tower by 2m. Yew tree prune to achieve a clearance to the building of 2m for Mrs Lynne Walmsley, Birchwood Methodist Church.

The **Council RESOLVED** to make representations regarding 0949/2014 & 0950/2014, that will impinge upon a footpath that has been in use for over 20 years that may not be adopted, as it is well used by walkers.

Planning matters determined AVBC

2014/0819: Unit, Garnham Close, Somercotes, to erect plant and equipment to provide a back-up electricity generation facility **Permitted**

2014/0026: Bridge Waste disposal, 66 Main Road, Pye Bridge, Residential development **Permitted**

2014/0770: Land West of Birchwood Way, Somercotes, New Industrial Unit for B1, B2 & B8 use **Permitted**

2014/0722: Aldi Store, Nottingham Road, Somercotes, single storey extension to existing Aldi retail store **Permitted**

2014/0921: Leabrooks Upholstery, Birchwood Way, Somercotes. Change of use from B2 use to B8 use with ancillary office & accommodation and on site car parking **Permitted**

2014/0964: land adjoining The Lodge, Somercotes, 2 No detached dwellings and 1 No detached double garage **Refused**

The **Council RESOLVED** not to make any comments on any of the planning matters determined.

13/2015 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils: 23/2014 – 27/2014

14/2015: Items for information only:

- **AVBC – Street Trading Consents Policy & Guidance**

15/2015: Staff Matters: The **Council RESOLVED** to increase the hours for the Assistant Clerk, by 4 hours per week.

16/2015: Date of next Parish Council Meetings: 6.30pm, Friday, 20th March 2015.