

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council held at 7pm, on Friday, 20th January 2012 in the Somercotes Parish Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

Present: Cllr P Smith (Chairman); Cllr B Lyttle (Vice Chairman); Cllr P Curran-Bilbie; Cllr T Marriott; Cllr Mrs B Hannant (until 8.50pm); Cllr P Price; Cllr J Gardiner; Cllr S Walker; Cllr J McCabe **Clerk:** G Blackmore; PS Stokoe and one member of the public

A minutes silence was held in remembrance of Cllr Jim Spibey

1/2012: Apologies for Absence: Cllr M Barron (illness); Cllr A Stringer (Dispensation).
Cllr C Langton (u/k)

2/2012: Variance of business: None

3/2012: Declaration of Members Interests:
Cllr B Lyttle (All planning matters); Cllr J McCabe (Planning Application 2011/1114)

4/2012: Public Speaking – (30 minutes)

a) Mrs S Li reported arson on her stable buildings, on Christmas Eve, and asked the Council to place adverts for information leading to conviction and a reward.

The **Council RESOLVED** to place posters (as approved by the police) on notice-boards and a short information notice in the newsletter.

b) **Reports from Outside Bodies**

Police Liaison Officer: PS Stoke reported on his temporary move as Acting Sergeant to Alfreton until April and that PC Chris Anthony would take his place on the SNT. The following matters were discussed, local crime; PPO's in custody; KIN membership; Operation Rocky; Graffiti on Somercotes Recreation Ground; Thefts of diesel; Motorbikes around Pennytown Ponds and using footpaths and Bridleways

County Council:

Street Lighting: The Chairman is to meet with DCC to discuss £38k of funding that is available for Street Lighting in Somercotes and he will include Spencer Drive.

Youth Provision: DCC is proposing to close all Youth Clubs buildings and lease or sell to groups or organisations and 147 part-time jobs will be lost. Charities and Voluntary groups will be able to bid for funding to support youth projects. Petitions are being circulated and 7,500 signatures are required for DCC to debate the issue.

Central Refuge: DCC has agreed to install a pre-cast and bolt-on central refuge system on Hockley Way that can be moved if there are issues with the heavy lorries using the location. The installation should be made in early to late February.

Wall Lower Somercotes: Concerns were raised about the condition of the wall near Parkwood Lodge House, Lower Somercotes. Concerns are to be raised with DCC – Highways.

Pedestrian Crossing: The crossing area on Nottingham Road (outside Royal Tiger) still breaking up – Clerk to contact Highways

Borough Council:

The proposed development of large housing sites in Swanwick and Alfreton is being met with petitions from the affected localities. Mention has been made that the brown-field site of the old Viyella factory should be used for building housings before other land. The Council has already made representations that the site is used for leisure facilities.

The **Council RESOLVED** to invite Derek Stafford (AVBC) and the Lead Member to the next PC Meeting to explain the housing strategy and consultation with the parishes.

- 5/2012: Minutes – The Council RESOLVED** to confirm as a correct record the Ordinary Parish Council Minutes held on the 18th November 2011, Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting 2nd December 2011 and the Allotments Sub-Committee on 11th January 2012. Cllr McCabe asked that the words ‘Parliamentary’ Boundaries Changes be amended to ‘County’ on the Extraordinary Meeting minutes – resolved.
- 6/2012: Car Park Agreements:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the information of the solicitors’ letter re indemnity insurance from the solicitors and that the transfer of car parks should be from the 1st April 2012. The Clerk was thanked for all his work in resolving the car park issues.
- 7/2012: Public CCTV:** The Council noted the information and **RESOLVED** to wait for further updates from AV CSP on the CCTV camera.
- 8/2012: Neighbourhood Planning: The Council RESOLVED** to wait for further information on the requirements of Neighbourhood Plans and Council involvement. The issue of Neighbourhood Planning deferred to the next meeting.
- 9/2012: The Queen’s Golden Jubilee Celebrations**
The **Council RESOLVED** not to be directly involved in any planning for the Queens’ Golden Jubilee Celebrations, but would consider any support requested by organisation of public groups. This matter is to be put on the agenda of the next meeting.
- 10/2012: Parish Hall – Name & Advertising Sign**
Cllr Marriott outlined his proposals and rationale for renaming the Parish Hall to the Village Hall and having a new more prominent sign outside to attract business. The **Council RESOLVED** to rename the Parish Hall to Village Hall and to re-launch after the summer holidays when the redecoration was completed.
- 11/2012: Poop Scoop Bags:** In the 10 months of the Council’s current free provision of Poop Scoop bags around 90,000 have been issued. The **Council RESOLVED** to order 100,000 Poop-Scoop bags when the current supply is near to running out.
- 12/2012 Allotments: The Council RESOLVED** to support projects, as discussed at the Sub-Committee meeting, at all three allotments subject to available funds
Enquiries are to be made re the best way to lay new water supply into Sleetmoor Lane allotments. The Council had received very positive feedback for its support of the allotments associations.
Cllr McCabe re Memorial Trophy: The **Council RESOLVED** to provide an annual memorial trophy in the name of Cllr Jim Spibey based on best kept allotment plots. David Hewes has agreed to judge the competition. The Council further supports a vegetable show by the allotment holders.
The Council RESOLVED to provide the trophies and awards with the competition being run through the Allotments Sub-Committee.
- 13/2012: Clerk’s Report**
- a) **Newsletter:** Next edition is being finalised for distribution in February. Now that there is suitable material and a programme for producing the newsletter 4 magazines per annum can be produced.
 - b) **Carol Service:** The Carol Service collection raised £144.00.
The **Council RESOLVED** that all cost of the service be covered by the Parish Council budgets.
 - c) **Parish Council Calendar:** The calendars have all been sold and an excellent response has been received on the quality and picture content. The **Council RESOLVED** to produce a similar calendar in August with profits to a local charity.

- d) **Xmas Lights:** There have been issues with the new LED Xmas lights failing and thus the display being below the required standards. The lighting issues have been raised with LITE and they have been asked to rectify the problems to ensure a quality display in 2012.
- e) **Quality Council Status: The Council RESOLVED** to seek Quality Council Status
- f) **Community Awards:** The Community Awards for people of Somercotes will be held at the Infants School on the evening of 1st March 2012. Councillors are asked to attend and support the event.
The **Council RESOLVED** to support future Community Awards and the 'I Want to Be' Events, but not to be directly involved in organising them.
- g) **Letter from 11 Yrs old resident** re enlarging the Skate Park. The **Council RESOLVED** to arrange a meeting with AVBC Landscape Services to discuss the skate board provision and repairs, on the recreation ground. A letter is to be written to the 11 year old to inform him of the Council's action.
- h) **Localism Act:** From 1st July 2012 the Register of Members Interest of all Councillors is to be made available on Council websites
- i) **Parish Council Meetings:** Zumba is now holding a junior session on Friday evenings between the Cub/Beavers and the adult Zumba sessions, on Friday evenings. This may cause difficulties with conducting Council Meetings.
The **Council RESOLVED** to review the matter at the next PC Meeting and to make any changes of day or dates at the Annual PC Meeting in May.

14/2012: Planning:

Planning Applications:

- 2011/1101 Land rear garden including change of land use from open space (owned by Futures Homescape) to residential rear garden, at 1 Burke Drive, for Mr Mark Lewis
- 2011/1103 Land rear garden including change of land use from open green space (owned by Futures Homescape) to residential rear garden to include erecting timber fencing to the new perimeters of the garden area, at 7 Burke Drive, for Mr Mark Lewis
- 2011/1144 Single storey extension at 459 Somercotes Hill, for Ms Tracey Cole
- 2011/1202 Conversion of existing commercial building and change of use to domestic dwelling at In Power Tools, 12 New Street, for Mr Stephen Teather
- 2011/1114 The proposed building will act as extra storage for an expanding business.
The proposed building is an extension to an existing gable end. The area is currently an open area of concrete floor which will be covered with a steel frame, clad with Goose Wing Grey insulated panels, which will match to other existing gable ends on the site. One other gable has old, cracked fire cement sheets. This gable end will be re-clad to improve the visual impact of the road, at Akramatic Engineering Co. Ltd., Nixs Hill, Alfreton, for Mr Shaun Newham
- 2011/1215 Refurbishment of existing factory and offices at MMD Ltd., GE Capital Equipment Services, Cotes Park Lane, Somercotes
- 2011/1223 Demolition of fire damaged dwelling and erection of a new 4 bedroom detached dwelling at 7 Brenden Close, for Mr P Booth

There were no objections to any of the above planning applications.

Planning Matters Determined

- 2011/0925 Raise height of bungalow to create first floor extension (4 bedrooms and bathroom) at 128 Birchwood Lane
Permitted
- 2011/1037 Alteration of building footprint and amendment to the rear roof slope for previously approved application AVA/2011/0459, at 193 Birchwood Lane.
Permitted
- 2011/0884 Proposed industrial lean to building to be used to cover an existing yard area and for powder coating steelwork at Swift Tyre Repairs Ltd., Wimsey Way.

- 2011/0947 Permitted
Application or reconstruction and reoccupation of derelict farmsteading at Skew Bridge Farm on the existing site and as such does not represent new development, at Skewbridge Farm, Lower Birchwood.
- 2011/1101 Refused
Land rear garden including change of land use from open space (owned by Futures Homescape) to residential rear garden, at 1 Burke Drive
- 2011/1103 Permitted
Land rear garden including change of land use from open green space (owned by Futures Homescape) to residential rear garden to include erecting timber fencing to the new perimeters of the garden area, at 7 Burke Drive

15/2012: Finance:

- a) Accounts for Approval: The Council RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for payment, as appended (Appendix 'D'), except Chq No: 2676 cancelled.
- b) Financial Report & Precept:** The Council considered the financial budget information made available by the RFO, there being a £2k deficit for 2012-13. The **Council RESOLVED** to increase the precept by 3.5% (£4,656.00) the budget to rise from £133,000.00 to £137,656.00.
The **Council RESOLVED** a 1% salary increase for all staff, in line with Local Government pay agreements.

16/2012: Derbyshire Association of Local Council – Circulars

- 61/2011 General Circular: Derbyshire Wildlife Discipline Hearings, Clerk Vacancies**
- 62/2011 Training 2012, Clerk's Courses 2012**
- 63/2011 Model Contract of Employment**
- 01/2012 Index of 2011 DALC Circulars**
- 02/2012 Excessive Rises in Council Tax and the application of Local Referendum; Play area survey; the Allotments Regeneration Initiative**
- 03/2012 Local Council Review Subscriber Form**

17/2012: Items for information

- Gurkha Campaign
- AVBC – Purchase of Belper Leisure Centre
- Community Tree Planting Grants
- Community Sustainable Energy Programme; Peoples Postcode Trust; Healthy Hearts Grant
- Management of Motorised Vehicles in the Countryside
- AVSSP – Report on work undertaken in Somercotes
- Consultation Stakeholders Events (Children & Younger Adults)
- Environmental Works for Parish & Town Council (to be charged by AVBC)
- Alfreton & Somercotes – 'Have Your Say' 25th January 2012
- DCC – Parish & Town Councils Liaison Forum – 26th April 2012
- Lighting – Blackspot areas in Somercotes.
- Save Our Youth Service – Important Information:

18/2012: Urgent Matters raised by Councillors:

AVSSP: The **Council RESOLVED** to release the additional £500 grant based on the report received.

Youth Service Provision: The **Council RESOLVED** to support the Chairman on a petition against the cuts in the Youth Service and the closure of Youth Clubs. The Chairman read out a paper on the cost of the Parish Council operating the Youth Club provision on Somercotes Recreation Ground.

The meeting closed at 9.38pm