

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Annual Parish Council Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council** held at **6.45pm**, on Friday, 18th May 2012 in The Lounge, Somercotes Parish Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes

Present: Cllr P Smith; Cllr B. Lyttle; Cllr P Curran-Bilbie; Cllr T Marriott, Cllr Mrs B Hannant; Cllr M Barron; Cllr S Walker; Cllr P Price; Cllr C Langton; Cllr J Gardiner; Cllr Mrs E Pace; Cllr J McCabe
Clerk: Mr G R Blackmore and 11 members of the public

- 1/2012:** **Elect Chairman: RESOLVED** Cllr Paul Smith was appointed as chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year
- 2/2012:** **New Chairman to Sign Acceptance of Office:** Cllr P Smith signed the acceptance of Office
- 3/2012:** **Elect Vice Chairman: RESOLVED** that Cllr B Lyttle be appointed as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.
- 4/2012:** **New Vice Chairman to Sign Acceptance of Office:** Cllr B Lyttle signed the acceptance of office.
- 5/2012:** **Apologies:** None
- 6/2012:** **Declaration of Members Interests:** None
- 7/2012:** **Public Speaking (30minutes) -** None
- 8/2012:** **Acceptance of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 2011:** The Council **RESOLVED** to confirm as correct the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th May 2011.
- 9/2012:** **Election of Council Sub Committees**
- **Planning:** Cllr P Smith (Chairman); Cllr B Lyttle; Cllr Mrs E Pace
 - **Newsletter:** Cllr P. Curran-Bilbie (Chairman); Cllr T Marriott; Cllr J McCabe; G. Blackmore (Clerk); G. Kenney (Assistant Clerk); J Mosley (Caretaker)
 - **Parish Hall:** Cllr P Smith (Chairman); Cllr P Price & 1 available member; J Moseley (Caretaker); G Blackmore (Clerk)
 - **Allotments:** Cllr B Lyttle; Cllr C Langton; Cllr. J McCabe; G. Blackmore (Clerk)
- 10/2012:** **Review of Council Regulations and Procedures**
- Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.** New Standing Orders in were prepared and resolved by the Council in June 2012– there are no recommended changes.
- Financial Regulations:** The Financial regulations were updated and resolved by the Council in January 2011. There are no recommended changes
- Review of inventory of land and assets (including buildings and office equipment):** The review has the Council assets was conducted and accepted by the auditor. The assets were raised by £11k to include bus shelters.
- Review and confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks:** The Clerk reported that he had reviewed the insurance risk and verified the insurance cover with Aon Insurance & Came & Company Council Insurance. Both insurances have the required cover and the Council will be asked to consider the preferred insurer for 2012-13, at the next PC Meeting on 18th May 2012.

Review of the Council's Complaints Procedures: The review of the Council's Complaints Procedures was approved at the January 2011 PC Meeting. There are no recommended changes.

Review the Council's procedures for handling requests made under the FOI Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998. The relevant policy documents under the FOI and Data protection are in place and there are no recommended changes

Review: Establishing the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media: The policy and procedures were resolved by the Council in 2011 and there are no recommended changes.

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept all of the above, as recommended.

11/2012: The Schedule of dates, times and place of Ordinary Meetings of the full Council, for 2012-2013.

The **Council RESOLVED** that all PC Meetings will commence at **6.30pm**

Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 20th July 2012	6.30pm
Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 21st September 2012	6.30pm
Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 16th November 2012	6.30pm
Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 18th January 2013	6.30pm
Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 15th March 2013	6.30pm
Annual Parish Meeting	Friday, 10th May 2013	6.30pm*
APCM & Ordinary PC Meeting	Friday, 17th May 2013	6.30pm

*** Not a Parish Council Meeting**

12/2012: Report by the Chairman of Somercotes Parish Council on the previous 12 months business of the Council

The Chairman provided a brief appraisal of the work of the Council for the 2011-12 year.

The Chairman thanked all the members of the Parish Council for their work and commitment, during another busy year, over the last 12 months.

The Parish Council is taking on an increased number of services from the Borough Council and this has meant that the precept for Somercotes was increased by 3% to £137,766.00

Parish Council Financial Report for the Year 2011-12

Income: 152,734.51 Expenditure: £149,046.46

The council reserve at 31 March 2012 was £49,373.00

The Council has allocated £10,000.00 on Community Projects & £5,000.00 for Road Safety Projects, in the 2011-12 budgets, therefore the actual available funding at 31st March 2012 was £34,373.00. The Council is advised to maintain a reserve of £35,000.00 based on the current precept level.

The Chairman reported on the council business and provision including the new zip-wire and outdoor gym equipment on Somercotes Recreation Ground; the transfer of Market Place & Mill Lane Car Parks that will be finalised shortly; involvement in the strategic housing development for Amber Valley, discussions with AVBC at a PC Meeting; raising of concerns on the Incineration Plant proposed at Pye Bridge that affects local villages; installation of a safe pedestrian refuge at Hockley Way; litter clearing monthly at Sleetmoor Woods and supporting Pennytown Ponds (attained Green Flag status).

Concerns were raised on the loss of the public toilets on Market Place and having to seek a new location for the two Parish Wardens to store PC Equipment; DCC red-tape concerning the placing on lamp columns of floral displays and Xmas lighting.

The council will maintain its staff levels including two Parish Wardens. The Parish Office continues to provide more help and advice for the public and the website is being used regularly by the public to access council information.

13/2012: Report from outside bodies

Derbyshire County Council

Boundary Commission – County Council Electoral Division

The Chairman outlined the 3 options:

- **Status Quo:** Somercotes, Leabrooks, Pye Bridge, Riddings & Ironville
- **Boundary Commission proposal:** 2 elected members for the area above plus Swanwick & Alfreton
- **DCC proposal:** Somercotes (including Leabrooks) with Alfreton and Swanwick with Pye Bridge; Riddings & Ironville

The **Council RESOLVED** to agree that the options should be:

Preferred Option to keep the Status Quo

Boundary Commission proposal, as an acceptable option, but serious concerns over representation for electors

DCC Option – Not considered an acceptable option

The **Council RESOLVED** to submit a full response to be sent to the Boundary Commission

Hockley Way: The safe central refuge has been installed and drop curbs are to be put in to assist wheel chair/mobility scooter users.

Street Lighting Schemes: New LED low energy street lighting is or has been installed on Windmill Rise, Springfield Crescent and James Street (new development), Riddings. Switch gear is being installed on street lights in specific areas so the part-night lighting scheme can be implemented between midnight and 5.30am. Lighting will not be switched off where traffic calming is in place, OAP residential locations and high crime areas.

Somerlea Junior School: £150k has been allocated for improvements, new windows and enclosing the walkways, by DCC.

Highway Repairs: Concerns have been raised with DCC about the ever increasing number of pot holes on the highways. There is no major highways work for 2012-13. Surface dressing is to be carried out on Quarry Road.

Amber Valley Borough Council

AVBC has stated that they do not have any funding for projects due to the austerity measures being taken.

The public toilets on Market Place, Somercotes have been closed and will be demolished. The PC has requested that a landscaping scheme or an extension of the car park be made once the toilets are demolished. Community toilets are in operation at Chapman & Chubb Solicitors and Somerlea Park Community Centre.

Borough Councillors will continue to hold public surgeries on the first Saturday of each month.

Derbyshire Constabulary: Not present due to operational requirements – no report submitted.

The APCM closed at 7.20pm

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Somercotes Parish Council held at 7.20pm, on Friday, 18th May 2012 in the Somercotes Parish Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

44/2012: Apologies for Absence: None - Cllr Stringer given dispensation due to illness

45/2012: Variance of business: None

46/2012: Declaration of Members Interests:
Cllr B Lyttle – all planning matters
Cllr Mrs B Hannant – Agenda Item 58/2012 (c)

47/2012: Public Speaking – (30 minutes)
a) Public Speaking: None
b) Reports from Outside Bodies – Covered in APCM

48/2012: Minutes – The **Council RESOLVED** to confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th March 2012, and the minutes of the Parish Hall Sub-Committee on 25th April 2012

49/2012: Parish Hall Sub-Committee
The Council is asked to consider the recommendations of the sub-committee for approval. The **Council RESOLVED** to prepare a schedule of works & seek quotes for the Parish Hall refurbishments including interior painting; UPVC Front Doors; external fascia boards and drain pipes; Roof re-felting (under tiles).
○ Parish Hall – Licensing Hours & Room Hire Charges: The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the Sub-Committee recommendation for a variation of Licensing Hours which will be actioned once the change of licence holder is completed to Somercotes Parish Council.
○ Parish Wardens – Re-location: Negotiations are being undertaken with AVBC
○ Deaf Loop System (2 quotes): The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the quote for a DLS from Allensound.
○ The **Council RESOLVED** that the Parish Hall could be used as a community toilet under AVBC Scheme, subject to approval. Since the meeting due to concerns under Child Protection the matter is to be deferred to the next PC Meeting.
○ Drunken Close (under allotments section)

50/2012: Car Park Agreements
The agreement documents are ready for exchange and I have requested the transfer be effective from 1st June 2012

51/2012 Skateboard Park & Car Park – Recreation Ground
A meeting was held on Thursday, 10th May, with AVBC and SPC Members where the funding of the additional car park space for Somerlea Centre and a new skate park was discussed. An action plan was agreed. .

52/2012: The Queen’s Golden Jubilee Celebrations
The request for financial assistance for a flagpole for the church has been withdrawn

53/2012 Allotments:
(I) Bridle Lane: Palisade – The new palisade gates have been installed
(ii) Birchwood Lane – Requested to submit payments for orchard programme and ploughing – not yet received.
(iii) Sleetmoor Lane – Requested to cost up the installation of new water supply pipes.

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the quote for £1,357.00 and £42 (stop-tap) subject to approval of STW

Drunken Close: The land has been leased to Mrs K Dean, on 1st May 2012 as the other applicant withdrew her application on 30th April 2012.

The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the lease agreement to the above person.

54/2012: Christmas Lights/Hanging Baskets:

The application for the floral displays has been completed and forwarded to DCC. The strength test of the lamp columns showed that 4 columns were not suitable and DCC have been requested to repair these.

The application for the Xmas lighting is yet to be completed due to requirements for PAT testing – It is understood that this is not required according to Eric Pickles (MP). Letter re PAT testing, not required has been obtained and sent to Ian Richardson (DCC). An account for £17.42 has been received from **e.on** for 2011-12 electricity usage.

55/2012: Wild Flower & Plant areas:

It has been agreed that Derby & Derbyshire will undertake a works programme between summer & autumn so that a meadow display will grow for next June.

An information board has been installed to inform the public of the works programme.

The **Council RESOLVED** to seek additional quotes for the renovation work and painting of the winding wheel and the supply and installation of solar lighting.

56/2012: Clerk's Report

a) Newsletter: 'The Summer Edition' will be delivered towards the end of May.

b) Quality Council Status: Update – the portfolio has been submitted to DALC for consideration and advice

c) Annual Parish Meeting: No actions required from the APM

d) Safe Pedestrian Refuge – Hockley Way: Installed by DCC

e) Scoping Report: Clover Nook Surface Mine, Pinxton: The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the request submitted for an Impact Assessments requested re noise, dust migration, wild life habitat

57/2012: Planning:

Planning Applications:

2012/0100 Retrospective application for repositioning of refrigeration compressors for retail shop refrigeration units from the side of the shop to the rear roof of the shop at Owen Taylors Butchers, 27 Main Road, Leabrooks, for Mr Richard Taylor. This action has been carried out to reduce the noise nuisance to the neighbours.

2012/0220 Application for Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use for mixed use of agriculture and the storage of caravans at Birchwood Farm, Lower Birchwood, for Mr Kevin Dye.

2012/0342 Residential development at Dog and Doublet, 94 Main Road, Pye Bridge, for Mr Abid Ali.

TRE/2012/0043 Horse chestnut (T1) – remove competing stem (west side) and upper structural branch (south side) at 33 Leabrooks Road, for Mr Richard Smith.

2012/0353 Provision of bedsit to first floor existing side extension – resubmission of AVA/2012/0051 – at 53 Main Road, Leabrooks, for Mr & Mrs H Whysall.

2012/0333 Proposed two storey office extension at Mining Machinery Development Ltd., Cotes Park Lane, for MMD Design and Consultancy Ltd.

2012/0458 Prior notification for Demolition of Public Conveniences, Somercotes Hill, for Amber Valley Borough Council.

2012/0444 Application for reserved matters approval. Access, (in existing position). Appearance, landscaping, layout, scale, (single storey dwelling with driveway in front,

garden behind), at 54 Leamoor Avenue, for Mr S Smith, Copper Beech, Cromford Hill, Wirksworth.

Planning Matters Determined:

2012/0061 Field Shelter and Secure Store at Cockshut House, Lower Birchwood.

Permitted

2012/0154 Change of use from retail outlet to residential unit (Ground floor only) at Howards Outsize, 54-55 Leabrooks Road, Somercotes.

2012/0243 Proposed 7 No. dwellings – Outline Permission all Matters Reserved, at Dog and Doublet, 94 Main Road, Pye Bridge.

Application Returned

2012/0257 New concrete hardstand and ramped access with parameter draining to replace existing concrete/gravel hardstand at 17 Birchwood Lane.

Permitted

2012/0114 Time extension renewal for VA/2009/0040 – Outline planning application for demolition of dwelling and redevelopment of site for residential development at Springfield House, Quarry Road. This is a departure from the Local Plan.

Permitted

2012/0215 Retrospective Planning Permission – Erect Boundary Fence at 583 Lower Somercotes. Permitted

2012/0100 Retrospective application for repositioning of refrigeration compressors for retail shop refrigeration units from the side of the shop to the rear roof of the shop at Owen Taylors Butchers, 27 Main Road, Leabrooks. This action has been carried out to reduce the noise nuisance to the neighbours.

Permitted

2012/0255 Change of use from commercial to domestic dwelling and conversion to provide 2 no. 2 bed flats and 1 no. 1 bed flat (Resubmission of AVA/2011/1202) at In Power Tools, 12 New Street.

Permitted

2012/0278 Retrospective application for a garage at 583 Lower Somercotes.

Permitted.

58/2012: Finance:

a) **Accounts for Approval:** The **Council RESOLVED** to approve the accounts paid (**Appendix 'A'**).

b) **Annual Audit for approval:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept Annual Return as presented by the RFO and was duly signed by the Chairman

c) **S137 Grants:** The **Council RESOLVED** to accept the S137 Grants as presented with exception of those to the 2 allotment associations. The Council agreed that there is specific funding in the budgets for allotments where the council financially supports projects.

The application for £50.00 to support the Diamond Jubilee Celebration event on 9th June 2012 was approved.

The **Council RESOLVED** to defer the application concerning the QEII Celebration at Crays Hill, until the next PC Meeting.

59/2012: Derbyshire Association of Local Council – Circulars

13/2012 – 19/2012: These are available to the Councillors in the PC Office

13/2012: VAT Returns; Local Govt Pay 2012-13; Campaign to secure some Business Rates for Town/Parish Councils

14/2012: Waste Plan for Derbyshire Worksop; Changes on National Park Governance: Redundant Skate Park Equip; Derbyshire Broadband

15/2012: Changes to Police Enquiry Offices

16/2012: National Planning Policy Framework; Unfair Dismissal; Vat for memorials; Future Homes Consultation responses.

17/2012: Play area inspection training; Sport England funding for public ping-pong tables

18/2012: Clerks' Day

19/2012: Localism Update; Delivery of Open Public Services; NPFF Could Benefit Local Communities

20/2012: Early Day Motion Planning Appeals & Planning Applications (Appeals by Town & Parish Councils) Bill

21/2012: Derbyshire 2012 Event Week; Neighbourhood Planning Champion; Neighbourhood Planning Web-Site; Vacancy – Elvaston PC

60/2012: Items for information

- Community Toilet Scheme
- AVBC: Plastic Fantastic – new bins to take all
- Olympic Torch Relay
- Local Government – Special Interest Groups
- AV Access – Disabled people
- AVSSP Newsletter

61/2012: Urgent Matters raised by Councillors: None