

SOMERTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5th JANUARY  
AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: R Starling (Chairman) R Walters (Vice Chairman)  
J Clift B Barker  
D Crane I Wright  
T Jones G Lack (clerk)

1. To consider apologies for absence. None received
2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. R Starling declared a pecuniary interest in Item 8(d).
3. **To consider a motion to suspend the meeting to allow members of the public and the Borough/County Councillors the opportunity to inform the meeting: -**

Public discussion – 15 minutes allowed. No residents present.

4. Report from Borough Councillors/County Councillor – if present
  - Cllr Galer sent his apologies and asked the meeting to be informed that there would be a meeting of the Footpath Working Party Group soon.
  - Cllr Bensly noted that there was a survey asking what residents would like to see in the new Winter Gardens
  - Cllr Hanton noted that the 3rd river crossing was underway

**Reopening of the meeting:-**

5. Report from the PCSO – if present. No PCSO present
6. To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 3rd and 17th November 2020. Cllr Barker proposed that the minutes of 3rd November be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Crane and agreed by all councillors. Cllr Clift proposed that the minutes of 17th November be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Barker and agreed by all councillors.
7. To report matters arising from the minutes not already on the agenda, for information only.
  - a. 5. Cllr Starling had emailed PC May regarding the speed of traffic on Horsey Road and he said he would pass on the request. Nothing has happened to date.
  - b. 8(e) Completed. Safety equipment had been distributed to those people who participate in the litter picks.
  - c. 10. Collis Lane/Mill Lane Permissive Path. Emails had been sent to the landowner regarding this but no response had been received so far regarding Coronation Lane/Mill Lane access using the track past the single wind turbine form a circular route.
  - d. 11. Kissing Gate Church to Collis Lane Footpath. Landowner had been contacted and the problem rectified.
  - e. 13. Upper Thurne Working Group. Cllr Starling attended the meeting on 20th November but the broadband crashed halfway through the meeting and Cllr Starling missed the presentation on the Broadland Futures Initiative. Cllr Starling noted that Information was not being received regarding flood risks from the Environment Agency.
  - f. 14.(c) Tree works, the single oak tree on the north side of the staithe boat dyke alongside the Horsey Road were approved by Broads Authority and the work was carried out on the 19th December.
8. Accounts
  - a. To review year-to-date position. The clerk had already circulated the year-to-date position and noted the cash position of £7191.99. The clerk showed the bank reconciliation statement to evidence this.

	Budget	Actual	Variance
	£	£	£
Grass Cutting	1,025.00	839.50	185.50

Village Hall Hire	100.00	-	100.00
Insurance	300.00	340.64	- 40.64
Clerk Salary	1,000.00	991.20	8.80
Clerk Expenses	250.00	-	250.00
Bus Shelter	250.00	- 250.00	500.00
Admin	82.00	139.03	- 57.03
Church	760.00	760.00	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,767.00</b>	<b>2,820.37</b>	<b>946.63</b>
Opening Balance		6,220.11	
Add: receipts		4,142.00	
Less: payments (inc VAT)		- 2,323.51	
Movement on community account		- 846.61	
Closing Balance			7,191.99
<b>Balance per Bank Statement as at 31.10.20</b>			<b>7191.99</b>

- b. To agree payments in accordance with the budget. Cllr Jones proposed that the following payments be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Crane and approved by all councillors present.

Payee	Cheque No	Amount
G Lack	818	198.40
HMRC	819	49.40
R Starling	820	100.87
		348.67

- c. Reimbursement from Somerton Staithe & Boat Dyke Charity £329. Noted
- d. Reimbursement to R Starling £100.87. Noted - see above.

9.

**Planning Applications and Decisions**

- a. Planning Application BA/2020/0376/HOUSEH  
Conversion of wash house, disused WC and coalhouse into a garden room and a utility room. Insertion of a window to the first floor bedroom at rear of main property. Address : Broadmarsh , Horsey Road, **Approved**

10. Provision of Parking Area, Manor Farm Road/Ruined Church: To report feedback from residents and to decide whether to proceed to request parking area or not. The Chairman noted that objections had been received from nearby residents and a landowner's representative. Cllr Jones proposed not to proceed to request the parking area. This was seconded by Cllr Clift and supported by one other councillor. Cllr Barker proposed to proceed with the request. This was seconded by Cllr Walters with no other votes. On the basis of the votes it was confirmed that the Parish Council did not support the creation of a formal parking area.
11. Low Road: Update from County Council regarding improvements to the Restricted Byway (Right of Way). The Chairman noted that the road was more of a problem at the Winterton end. No other comments.
12. Light Pollution - Broads Authority's Dark Skies Policy : To report information received. It was noted by Cllr Starling that this was voluntary and there was nothing further that the Broads Authority could do other than to comment on new planning applications. No further comments.
13. Church Lane - Damage to verge & hedge: To agree any suggestions to County Council for improvements. The Chairman informed that the landowner had agreed to cut the hedge. Cllr Barker proposed that the island be removed and this was seconded by Cllr Wright. No one was in favour. It was agreed that no changes should be made since the island prevented cars from driving straight across the junction and onto the main Somerton to Winterton Road.
14. Matter Dealt with since previous meeting;
  - a. SAM2 sign moved from Martham to Horsey Road. Noted
  - b. Mud on Church Road. Noted and rectified.
  - c. Drainage Board emailed on 15th December 2020 to request dykes be cleaned, west side of river. Noted and done.
  - d. Cllr Starling noted that the bus shelters had been swept and sanitised.
15. Correspondence

Date	Sender	Details	Action Taken/to be Taken
16.12.20	Gary May	Rural Crime newsletters various	Circulated
16.12.20	Gary May	Parish Newsletter Norfolk Constabulary	Circulated
15.12.20	NALC	Bulletin November & December 2020	Circulated
15.12.20	NCC	Temporary Closure Cottage Road	Circulated
11.12.20	Norfolk Police	Latest Scams and Alerts	Circulated
26.11.20	Claudia Dickson	Update Flegg Community Land Trust	Circulated
8.12.20	NALC	NALC update	Circulated
9.12.20	UTWG	Follow up water plant cutting meeting	Circulated
24.11.20	Cllr R Hanton	Members Divisional Allowance	Circulated
20.11.20	Natalie Beale BA	Extension to consultation on peat guide	Circulated
17.11.20	BA	Recruitment of new independent person	Circulated
12.11.20	John Packman BA	Broads Briefing	Circulated
12.11.20	NCC	Emergency Road Closure Collis Lane	Circulated

There have been many emails regarding Covid-19 which I have circulated but which I have not included on this list.

16. Items for next agenda. None

17. Date of next meeting 2nd March 2021

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.26,