

DRAFT MINUTES OF SOMERTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND JULY 2019
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, COTTAGE ROAD, SOMERTON AT 7.00 P.M.

Present:

R Starling (Chairman)

B Barker

D Crane

G Lack (clerk)

R Walters (Vice Chairman after election)

J Clift

I Wright

Also present: 6 residents, Borough Cllrs J Bensly and N Galer, Borough Councillor R Hanton

1. Appointment of Vice Chairman. Cllr Clift proposed Richard Walters, seconded by Cllr Crane and unanimously agreed by those councillors present.
2. To consider apologies for absence. Cllr T Jones had sent his apologies.
3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. None
4. **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: -**
5. Public discussion – 15 minutes allowed.
 - a. Council House Horsey Road. It was noted that the work should go out to tender in August. Concern was expressed that this matter had been going on for a number of years and there seemed to be a certain amount of inertia within the Borough Council to progress this matter. It was agreed to include this as an agenda item for the next meeting to be held in September.
 - b. Trees on Horsey Road. An email had been received from Highways which stated that no evidence could be found to indicate a perpetrator and therefore the police had not been informed. Contact details for the landowner were being verified and the matter would be taken up with them. If further evidence does come to light the police would be informed.
 - c. Staithe Road. The clerk read out an email from a resident expressing concern about the problem of large vehicles trying to access the farm or other businesses at the end of Staithe Road when cars were parked along the road particularly at the narrow end. This often results in vehicles having to drive over residents' verges potentially causing damage. It was noted that visitors and other residents of the village were parking down Staithe Road because of the lack of public parking in the village. It was confirmed that the car park at the Staithe was owned by the parish council and managed and maintained by the Trustees to the Staithe and therefore it could not be promoted as a public car park because of the potential cost of repairs.
It was agreed to consult Highways on the possibility of restricting access with appropriate signage and to consult with all residents of Staithe Road to seek their views..
This would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
6. Report from Borough Councillors/County Councillor – if present.
 - a. Cllr Bensly welcomed the new members of the Parish Council. It was noted that the Marine Centre was to be knocked down and built at a different location. A resident asked if the tourism tax would again be applied to businesses and it was noted that this was to be voted on by the businesses themselves.

- b. Cllr Galer confirmed that the Marina Centre could not be renovated because of the bad state of repair. The new centre would be one third of the size and much more energy efficient.
- c. Cllr Hanton noted the very severe dips in Horsey Road and the fact that, despite this, drivers still sped along it.

Reopening of the meeting:-

- 7. Report from the PCSO – if present. The PCSO did not attend the meeting although a report had been sent and already circulated. The Chairman had written to PC May asking how many new policemen had been recruited since the rise in the constabulary part of the council tax had ostensibly been to recruit more policemen.
- 8. To confirm the minutes of previous meetings held on 7th May 2019 Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting and Special Meeting held on 28th May 2019. Cllr Barker proposed that the minutes be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Clift and unanimously agreed by all members present. The Chairman therefore signed the minutes
- 9. To report matters arising from the minutes not already on the agenda, for information only.
 - a. 15(b). Council House Horsey Road. The Chairman had received an email from GYBC stating that there was no exact date for the tender to be issued but this was expected to be August. It was confirmed that there would be refurbishment without development.
 - 15(c). War Memorial. Kerbing should have been done so will again be chased.
- 10. Accounts
 - a. To review year-to-date position. The clerk presented the year-to-date position as well as the bank reconciliation.
 - b. To agree payments in accordance with the budget. Cllr Crane proposed that the payments be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Clift and unanimously agreed by all members present. Payments were as follows:

Payee	Cheque No	Description	Amount
G Lack	771	Clerk salary	198.40
HMRC	772	PAYE G Lack	49.40
R Bird	773	Grass cutting	270.00
Somerton Village Hall	774	50% contribution. Cooker & Windows. Community fund	764.50
		Total	1282.30

Cash Position

Opening Balance 1.4.2019		5,629.49	
Add: receipts		1,883.50	
Less: payments		- 990.15	
Closing Balance year to date			6,522.84

The clerk noted that the above balance included £3171.48 surplus from the Community Fund. The balance did not include the above approved payments.

- c. Community Fund: Payment of £764.50 to Somerton Village Hall as contribution towards replacement windows and cooker. R Starling. Payment approved as above.

- d. Community Fund: To consider a request to contribute £500 towards the cost of the newsletter. Cllr Crane proposed that the contribution be approved and this was seconded by Cllr Walters and unanimously agreed by all members present.
11. Planning Decisions
- a. 06/19/0187/F. Amendment to condition 1 of previously approved application 06/19/0002/F - size of hut. **GYBC approved 25.3.2019**
 - b. Planning Appeal ref App/U2615/W/19/3225333. Appeal by Mr & Mrs D Ribbands. Conversion of Existing Buildings to single residential dwelling, Top Farm, Martham Road, Somerton. Application previously refused.
 - c. BA/2019/0139/PN. Relocate barn approved under BA/2019/00078/PN south by 12m. Farmhouse, Somerton Holmes Farm, Horsey Road, Somerton. **BA determined Prior Approval is not required 17.5.2019**
12. Community Land Trust - Update/report & proposed survey by Terry Harper.
- a. The Chairman welcomed Terry Harper who is the Parish Council representative on the Community Land Trust.
 - b. It was noted that the Parish Council had donated £500 to the Trust from the Community Fund.
 - c. Mr Harper noted that the Trust would act as a delivery vehicle for the establishment of community assets. Where a need was established, eg a new footpath, affordable housing, car park, community orchard etc the Trust would promote this need and grants applied for. Mr Harper noted that a member of the Trust Board had expertise in applying for grants.
 - d. Mr Harper would circulate a draft questionnaire to the Parish Council with the aim of publishing it in the newsletter for residents to express their wishes regarding what they would like to have in the village.
 - e. The establishment of community assets had been successfully achieved in other parts of the country.
13. Fly tipping. To agree future involvement of removing rubbish from dykes for collection.
- a. It was noted that rubbish was being dumped in the dykes which volunteers were retrieving and reporting to the Borough Council for collection. It was noted that Borough Council employees would not remove the rubbish from the dykes.
 - b. It was agreed that, in future, this would have to be done by the Borough Council and the landowners as volunteers were no longer willing to continue this practice.
 - c. It was noted that fly tipping had increased since NCC had introduced charges at their disposal sites both for commercial and household waste.
 - d. Cllr Wright proposed that GYBC be informed of this decision together with the Drainage Board and Norfolk County Council. This was seconded by Cllr Barker and unanimously agreed by all councillors present.
14. Bus Shelters - to decide future cleaning
- a. It was noted that the bus shelters were swept out every month washed inside twice per year by volunteers.
 - b. They could continue to be cleaned by volunteers or a contractor would have to be sought if not enough volunteers came forward. The appointment of a contractor would result in an increase in council tax.
 - c. It was proposed by Cllr Clift and seconded by Cllr Crane that the cleaning should continue on a voluntary basis and this was unanimously agreed by all councillors present. Cllrs Crane, Clift, Walters and Wright volunteered to help in future and it was agreed to put a notice in the newsletter requesting further volunteers.

15. Footpath No 5 (Staithe Road/river bank path) Kissing Gate: To agree replacement/repairs
 - a. The Chairman noted that no response had been received for a request for quotations.
 - b. It was noted that there had to be a gate as it was shown on the Definitive Map and, as such, should be maintained by NCC.
 - c. It was agreed to put a request for quotations in the newsletter.
 - d. It was noted that there was no dog waste bin and a request could be made to GYBC to put in a normal waste bin.
16. Parish Clerk Contract. The new contract was not yet completed. This item would be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.
17. Broadband update: G Lack . The clerk read out the following email from Karen O'Kane, Better Broadband for Norfolk:
 - a. *The position remains as previously advised, four new fibre enabled solutions are planned towards the end of the rollout late this year / early next. Planned coverage is as follows:*
 - i. *There are 115 properties - currently connected directly to the Winterton telephone exchange*
 - ii. *4 new fibre structures are planned under the current rollout*
 - iii. *85 in West Somerton with 83 properties expected to be fibre enabled*
 - iv. *30 in East Somerton with only 9 properties planned to be fibre enabled*
 - v. *Where coverage is not currently planned it will be assessed during survey*
 - b. *Just a reminder that the Government has introduced two grant schemes which may be of interest, the second offers the higher level of subsidy but you would need at least one other property to join in.*
 - c. **Scheme for businesses, even if they currently have a speed above 30Mbps**
 - i. *Offers a grant of up to £2,500 per business to contribute to access to Ultrafast broadband infrastructure, grants can be pooled, and any residential property which can be covered will be eligible for up to a £500 contribution:*
<https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/>
 - d. **Scheme for properties with speeds of less than 30Mbps**
 - i. *The Government has just announced a scheme for rural premises, experiencing speeds below 30Mbps, properties will be eligible for between £500 and £3,500 per small and medium-sized businesses (SME) and between £500 and £1,500 per resident to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections (Ultrafast).*
<https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/rural/>

It was agreed that the Parish Council would take no further action on this item.
18. Correspondence

Date	Sender	Details	Action Taken	Action to be taken
9.5.19	Karen O'Kane	Info about broadband	Already circulated	
10.5.19	NALC	Bulletin	Already circulated	
13.5.19	GYBC	Consultation on PSPO	Already circulated	
17.5.19	BA	Adoption of BA Local Plan	Already circulated	
22.5.19	PC D Potter	Policing newsletter	Already circulated	
22.5.19	BA	Managing the Broads	Already circulated	
23.5.19	NALC	Bulletin	Already circulated	

29.5.19	BA	Briefing	Already circulated	
30.5.19	Noel Galer	3rd River Crossing progress	Already circulated	
2.6.19	BA Survey	Flood Management on the Broads	Already circulated	
10.6.19	London Hearts	Defibrillator appeal	Already circulated	
10.6.19	Noel Galer	Flegg Community Land Trust	Already circulated and on agenda	
12.6.19	NALC	Bulletin	Already circulated	
21.6.19	Cllr Hanton	Various	Already circulated	
12.6.19	Hlghways	Invitation to submit bids Parish Partnership Schemes	Already circulated	
26.6.19	Karen O'Kane Better Broadband Norfolk	Programme for Broadband rollout	Already circulated and on the agenda	
26.6.19	Sue Stephenson	Hickling Broad update	Already circulated	
30.6.19	Residents	Staithe Road access	Already circulated (RS)	
30.6.19	PC May	Apologies and reports	Already circulated	
1.7.19	BA	Newsletter	Already circulated	
28.6.19	Historic England	Invitation to comment on Listing proposal for war memorial	Already circulated	<i>The clerk was asked to find out what the implications would be for future maintenance if listed particularly with regard to additional costs.. It was felt that there was no real advantage to having it listed. . Proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Walters and unanimously agreed by all present</i>

19. Items for next agenda
 - a. Council House Horsey Road
 - b. Kissing Gate
 - c. Bus shelter cleaning
 - d. Clerk Contract
 - e. Staithe Road access
20. Date of next meeting 3rd September 2019

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.58.