

SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on December 5, 2018 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

PRESENT	Cllrs James Caston, Penny Pearson, Keith McKeown, and Shaun Innes Whiting were present, together with two members of the public and the Clerk Rod Caird. County Cllr Kay Oakes and District Cllr Anne Killett had sent their apologies
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1/051218 Apologies and approvals of absence

Cllrs Sam Barrell, Will Caston Cook and Stephen Wright had sent their apologies and their absence was approved.

2/051218 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr James Caston has a family interest in the proposed building on land to the west of Black Barn Close where a materials variation is being sought on an existing planning permission (18/03055). It was not felt this required a dispensation although Cllr Caston said he would take no part in any discussion. The matter was not on the Agenda as it had been received since publication but would be considered during Item 6.

3/051218 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on November 7, 2018

The Minutes were approved

4/051218 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda, and reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor

It was noted that a newly appointed Police Community Support Officer had visited the shop and contact details are available there.

District Cllr Killett had submitted a written report which is circulated with these minutes and will be published on the website.

5/051218 To receive and consider a Neighbourhood Watch report

Reports have been received for September as follows:

Somersham - Criminal Damage, small amount of damage to Community Shop front storage area.

Offton: Burglary - on or near Castle Lane

Mid Suffolk South Area Crime: total number of crimes reported for September

was 164. The four most noted crimes were: Crimes of Violence: 51; Burglary: 28; Anti Social Behaviour: 19; Vehicle Crime: 16

6/051218 To consider updates on current planning applications, including:

- **18/05187 – Malling House, Main Road, erection of first-floor side and rear extensions and single storey rear extension following removal of existing conservatory – *to consider***

No objection was made to this proposal.

- Noted
- **18/04390 Erection of one dwelling at Church Farm, Church Lane – *application withdrawn***
- Noted
- **18/03114/15 Land South West of Main Road, a development of 42 new homes – *pending***
- Noted
- **18/03681 Land adjacent to Little Park Bungalow, Flowton Road, erection of three dwellings – *pending***

In addition, the materials variation for the proposed building with existing planning permission (18/03055), on land to the west of Black Barn Close, was discussed and no objection was raised.

7/051218 To consider further correspondence with Needham Country Practice concerning the planned closure of the doctors' surgery in the Village Hall

It was agreed to keep this on the Agenda for future meetings and await more correspondence, the practice manager at Needham Country Practice having left.

8/051218 To consider an update on purchasing a new Vehicle Activated Sign

This matter was held over to the January meeting.

9/051218 To consider appointing a Road Safety Advisor to the Parish Council

It was agreed to appoint Chris Hakes to this role, which he accepted.

10/051218 To receive reports from Parish Councillors concerning meetings attended

Cllr Pearson attended a SITA meeting at the Great Blakenham waste facility. There have been some personnel changes and other developments are as reported in In Touch magazine. The Duke of Marlborough has received a grant from Cllr Killitt's budget for new kitchen equipment, which is very much appreciated. It was agreed the January Parish Council meeting would include

an Agenda item allocating specific responsibilities to Parish Councillors.

11/051218 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including any payments due, and to review a draft budget for 2019/20 together with the precept requirement for that year

It was agreed to hold over the budget and precept for 2019/20 to the January meeting. Payments were made as follows: £254.35 to CAS Insurance for premium renewal; £228.80 to Rod Caird for clerk pay; £171.60 to HMRC for PAYE. All payments were made under the General Power of Competence conferred by the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8.

12/051218 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

It was agreed to subscribe to regular roadworks reports from roadworks.org which will be circulated to Parish Councillors and placed on the noticeboard.

Cllr Caston agreed to seek neighbour agreement for the proposed new grit bins.

The next meeting will be held on January 2, 2019.

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