

SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on April 3, 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

PRESENT

Cllrs James Caston, Penny Pearson, Keith McKeown, Stephen Wright, Sam Barrell, Will Caston Cook and Shaun Innes Whiting were present, together with three members of the public and the Clerk Rod Caird. District Cllr Anne Killett and County Cllr Kay Oakes were also present.

1/030419 Apologies and approvals of absence

None

2/030419 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

3/030419 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on March 6, 2019

The Minutes were approved.

4/030419 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda, and reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor

Cllr Oakes said that Highways engineers have inspected the Flowton Road culvert together with Cllr Pearson, noted the badger damage and will present a report. She also reported that she has met with flooding engineers concerning the 42-home planning proposal off Main Road. A further meeting will take place and Cllr Oakes will circulate the outcome. There is a serious question about what will happen to excess water on the site when (and if) the houses are built.

Cllr Killett reported that the proposed Planning Committee visit to the Offton housing site may take place at the same time as a visit to the Somersham 42 house site. It is now possible both these proposals will be discussed by the Committee in late May.

She also noted that the SnOasis planning reserved matters have been delegated to planning officers, but an overseeing body of councillors has been established to observe progress. A meeting will be called of the SnOasis Parish Alliance to discuss.

This was Cllr Killett's last meeting, as she is standing down from the District Council ward at the forthcoming election. Parish Councillors thanked her warmly for her contributions to the Parish and in turn she thanked the

Council for making her welcome.

5/030419 To receive and consider a Neighbourhood Watch report

Written reports were presented to the meeting; Colin Burrows was unable to attend. It was noted that he is in contact with PC Stefan Henriksen, Police Community Engagement Officer, who had attended the last Parish Council meeting.

6/030419 To consider updates on current planning applications, including:

DC/19/01438 5 Chapel Lane, Somersham: erection of a two-storey side extension and extension to front entrance porch – *no objection was raised.*

DC/19/00157 The Glebes Hall Lane Somersham: Erection of a single storey front/side extension. Replacement of garage and carport/workshop – *granted*

DC/19/00161 5 Chapel Lane Somersham: Erection of a two-storey front extension – *pending*

DC/17/03481 Land North West of Flowton Road: Erection of one dwelling and removal of agricultural building – *appeal lodged against refusal*

DC/18/05313 Outline Planning Application (Access and Layout to be considered) Erection of 32No. dwellings comprising 9 Local Need Homes, 2 Affordable Homes, 21 Open Market Homes and public reading room. Creation of new accesses to Bildeston Road and Castle Road, 9 parish allotments and a community car park. Location: Land On The South Side Of Bildeston Road, Offton, IP8 4RR - *pending*

DC/18/03114/15 Land South West of Main Road, a development of 42 new homes – *pending*

DC/18/03681 Land adjacent to Little Park Bungalow, Flowton Road, erection of three dwellings – *pending*

Clerk will record no objection to the Chapel Lane application. The current position on all the other applications was noted.

7/030419 To consider an update on the new Vehicle Activated Sign

The sign has arrived and should be installed very soon. *NB since the meeting a fault has been found and the sign has been returned to its supplier for review.*

8/030419 To review nominations for the Parish Council elections on May 2

Nominations are in hand and should result in a full complement of Councillors.

9/030419 To receive reports from Parish Councillors on meetings attended

Cllr Pearson had attended the meeting mentioned earlier with Highways concerning the Flowton Road culvert. Cllr Wright had attended a Viridor liaison meeting. Recycling equipment is undergoing a refit and material has been sent temporarily to Norfolk and Essex. The landfill planning permission (close to the SnOasis site) runs to 2024 and an extension is sought to 2036.

10/030419 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including any payments due

A bank reconciliation to date was presented, showing a balance of £14,179.70. £291.30 has been spent in the year to date against a budget of £16,748.

Payments were made as follows: £228.80 to Rod Caird for clerk pay, and £62.50 to Somersham PCC for grass cutting.

The payments were made under the General Power of Competence conferred by the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8.

11/030419 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

It was agreed to purchase new pads and probably a new battery for the defibrillator at a likely total cost of approx. £320. A cash account would be set up and reported at each meeting for defibrillator maintenance funds. Proceeds from a Duke of Marlborough Quiz Night would be contributed to the fund. The matter would be discussed further at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be the AGM of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday May 20 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Local organisations will be invited to contribute reports.

Volunteers are sought to help on Wheelie Day, Saturday May 11. The contact email is wheelieenquiries@btinternet.com