

SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on October 2, 2019 at 7.30pm
at the Village Hall

PRESENT

Cllrs James Caston, Penny Pearson, Sam Barrell, Shaun Innes Whiting and Keith McKeown were present, together with one member of the public and the Clerk Rod Caird. County Cllr Kay Oakes and District Cllr John Field were both present.

1/021019 Apologies and approvals of absence

Stephen Wright and Will Caston Cook had sent their apologies and their absence was approved.

2/021019 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

3/021019 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on September 3, 2019

The Minutes were approved.

4/021019 To receive comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda, and reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor

On the question of the proposed dropped kerbs in Church Close and Princes Gardens Cllr Oakes confirmed these could be done but at a cost of about £6,500. It was agreed this was very expensive and a decision to go ahead was postponed until the specific need for them could be clearly established. Cllr Field submitted a written report which will be published with these minutes. In discussion about the Hopkins Homes planning application (18/03114) it was noted that the Development Control Committee had that morning referred the matter to the Referrals Committee for further consideration of the proposed Highways "solution" to the Pump House Corner pinch-point on Main Road. Cllr Field's presentation to the Development Control Committee is also published with these minutes.

5/021019 To receive and consider a Neighbourhood Watch report

Colin Burrows was unable to attend but his report was read to the meeting. The Parish Council expressed sincere condolences on the recent passing of Mrs Burrows.

6/021019 To consider updates on current planning applications, including:

**DC/18/05313 Outline Planning Application (Access and Layout to be considered)
Erection of 32 dwellings on Land On The South Side Of Bildeston Road, Offton,
IP8 4RR – *this application was refused by the Mid Suffolk Development Control
Committee on the grounds of its environmental impact, lack of sustainability
and the fact it is not perceived as being in keeping with the village***

**DC/18/03114/15 Land South West of Main Road, a development of 42 new homes
– *as already discussed this has been sent for further consideration by the
District's Referrals Committee, with special reference to the Highways issue.***

**7/021019 To consider an update on installation of the new Speed Indicator
Device**

Cllr Caston and the Clerk will identify sites for poles and complete the
required County Council paperwork.

8/021019 To discuss installation of dropped kerbs in the village

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

**9/021019 To consider the Local Government Boundary Commission
consultation**

This was held over to the next meeting

**10/021019 To receive reports from Parish Councillors on meetings attended and
to consider an update on the Land Trust**

Cllr Caston Cook was not present, so the Land Trust discussion was held
over; it was agreed the Clerk would research existing paperwork in time for
the next meeting so that proper consideration may be given to bringing the
Trust back under the wing of the Parish Council. The AGM of the Duke of
Marlborough had been held and a new Treasurer has been appointed. A
new chef and deputy manager are also in post.

11/021019 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including any payments due

A current bank reconciliation was presented showing a balance of £21,946.13 and this was confirmed against the bank statements by Cllr Whiting.

The online cash book is available for inspection on the website and via the link provided to Councillors.

Payments were made as follows: Rod Caird, clerk pay, £284.20; CAS Ltd., insurance renewal, £234.08; Somersham PCC, churchyard mowing, £84.00.

Payments were made under sections 111 and 112 of the Local Government Act 1972.

A draft budget for 2020/21 will be considered at the November meeting.

12/021019 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

In response to correspondence from a resident it was noted that that the playing field gate is on Community Association land and is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Land on the other side of the gate is private. Cllr Caston will raise with the Police Community Support Officer reports of persistent unlawful parking outside the school during drop-off and pick-up times. The PCSO would be requested to be present during those times on selected school days in order to deter parking.

Cllr Caston will be unable to attend the November meeting.