



SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall, Somersham on
Wednesday, 2nd March 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors: T Hallatt (Chairman)
S Whiting
S Barrell

In Attendance J Blackburn – Clerk
District Cllr John Field

SPC1/020322 – APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE AND APPROVALS

Apologies had been received from Cllr Caston, Cllr Wright, Cllr Rook and County Cllr Oakes all of which were approved.

Following the apologies sent from Cllr Caston it was agreed that Cllr Hallatt take the Chair for the meeting.

SPC2/020322 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

SPC3/020322 – APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

SPC4/020322 - PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

SPC5/0203122 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY 2022

It was AGREED: That the Minute of the meeting held on 2nd February 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

SPC6/020322 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Oakes was not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

SPC7/020322 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Cllr Field's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

He briefly reported the following:

- The budget had been agreed with a 0% raise in Council Tax
- £5.1 million would be spent from reserves on a variety of projects
- 'Green' public transport initiatives were being explored

SPC8/020322 – CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) **TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had nothing to report in addition to what was on the Agenda.

b) **TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the Council's current financial position and stated that the balance in the accounts as of 28th February was £54,812.00.

c) **TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS**

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Feb)	£295.05
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance / Exp (Feb)	£33.20

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £328.25 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

d) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was AGREED: That the Bank Reconciliation be deferred to the next meeting.

e) **INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2021/22**

It was AGREED: That Trevor Brown CPFA (Local Council Financial Services & Internal Audit) be appointed as auditor for the purposes of the 2021/22 audit.

f) **EXTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2021/22**

It was AGREED: That the external audit arrangements would be different this year due to the receipt of a large amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (CiL) which had taken the Parish Council over the £25,000 threshold thus meaning that an External Audit would be required.

SPC9/020322 – POLICES AND PROCEDURES

a) **REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

It was AGREED: That the Review of Internal Audit Control and Risk Management Arrangements be approved.

b) **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS**

It was AGREED: That the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be approved.

c) **PUBLICATION SCHEME**

It was AGREED: That the Publication Scheme be adopted.

d) **DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY**

It was AGREED: That the Document Retention Policy be adopted.

e) **DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

It was AGREED: That the Data Protection Policy be adopted.

SPC10a/020322 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/22/00649 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extensions, erection of new front porch, application of external render, minor changes to fenestration, conversion and extension of existing outbuilding and associated works - Peripull, Mill Lane, Somersham

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

Ref: DC/20/05895 - Full Planning Application - Installation of renewable energy generating station, comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays and battery-based electricity storage containers together with substation, inverter/transformer stations, site accesses, internal access tracks, security measures, access gates, other ancillary infrastructure, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements including Nature Areas - Land To The South Of Church Farm, Somersham, IP8 4PN And Land To The East Of The Channel, Burstall, IP8 4JL In Suffolk

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no further comments to make. **Clerk to action.**

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It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no further comments to make. **Clerk to action.**

Ref: DC/22/01017 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey side and rear extension - Little Park Bungalow, Flowton Road, Somersham

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

SPC10b/020322 – PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decision was noted:

Ref: DC/21/06938 - Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extension. 83 Springfield Road, Somersham - **Granted**

SPC11/020322 - NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

A report had not been received.

SPC12/020322 – UPDATE ON QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE ARRANGEMENTS

Cllr Hallatt reported that another meeting had been held with all interested parties and activities had been agreed, which would be held on the Playing Field and at the Duke of Marlborough public house.

He stated that due to the insurance requirements and financial cost fireworks would not be included in the celebrations.

Another meeting was planned to finalise the details including planting around the village.

SPC13/020322 - REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON ANY MEETINGS ATTENDED

None had been attended.

SPC14/020322 – MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Members wished to congratulate Cllr Caston and his wife on the birth of their second child, a son and wished them all the best.

SPC15/020322 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the next meeting would be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday, 6th April 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.40pm.

Chairman: Dated:

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