

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SOMERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

At the Millennium Sports Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham PE28 3JS

www.somersham-pc.gov.uk

PRESENT WERE:

Cllr B Bruce
Cllr A Chapman
Cllr N David

Cllr C Dolby
Cllr D Potter (in the Chair)
Cllr D Sutton

Mrs J Turney, Deputy Clerk

Seats Fifteen (15), Councillors Present Six (6), Vacancies five (5), Quorum Five (5).

IN ATTENDANCE

District Councillor Steve Criswell

623/1/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and approved from:

Cllr Reid – personal
Cllr Sansom – personal
Cllr Woolway – work commitments
Cllr Skeggs - ABSENT

Executive Officer, Mrs I Healiss - personal
County Councillor C Lowe - personal

624/1/26 PARISH COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

625/1/26 PUBLIC FORUM

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 19:31 for a period of time to hold a public forum. Standing Orders still apply.

- A member of the public raised concern regarding large lorries/buses passing through the village, causing a danger to the public and damaging pathways. It was suggested that a limit regarding the size of lorries permitted through the village be considered. The Deputy Clerk will report the damaged kerbs to CCC Highways once a location is confirmed.
- A member of the public stated that it is not widely known that the Parish Council discuss and submit comments to HDC Planning regarding local Planning Applications. The PC confirmed that planning applications are always included within the meeting agenda, which are then displayed in the village noticeboards and on Somersham Parish Council's website. A notice will be included in the next issue of the S4U Newsletter to further advise residents.

The meeting reconvened at 19:55.

626/1/26

REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The HDC Planning Portal advises that District Councillor Criswell is available to help planning applicants and objectors. The Parish Council is only a consultee to Huntingdon District Council on planning applications. HDC have a set criteria when assessing planning applications, and will only refuse an application if a valid reason is identified that does not meet policy.

Sadly, Mr Dave McCandless from the Community Road Watch passed away in December. The Parish Council will now need to consider how Speed Indicator Devices are managed moving forward. The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) announced that local elections may be postponed this May. There will be a vote (HDC) on Wednesday 14th January to ascertain whether elections will be supported. The Parish Council will bear the full cost of an election should HDC decide not to go ahead this year.

Cllr Criswell will chase a response from HDC Planning regarding the request made by the Parish Council on Oct 8th 2025, requesting which travellers sites in the area have planning permission.

627/1/26

PLANNING MATTERS

a) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS – response dates extended if required**

b) **PLANNING REFUSED**

25/01052/FUL	The Stables, Long Drove, Somersham, PE28 3HY Change of use from grass yard to open storage including the siting of 10 shipping containers mounted on ground screws and addition of hoggin rack.	15/12/25
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25/02227/PIP	Land North East of The Gates, Colne Road, Somersham Permission in principle for 2 self-build custom dwellings	30/12/25
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628/1/26

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER 2025

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman, and RESOLVED as approved. There were four (4) votes in favour and one (1) abstention due to absence.

629/1/26

AGREE COSTS FOR A BUILDING SURVEY PLAN AT THE MILLENNIUM PAVILION

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Bruce and unanimously RESOLVED to accept the quote from 'Site Focus' at £995 plus VAT, as per the report submitted.

630/1/26

AGREE COSTS TO REPAIR THE GUTTERING/FASCIA BOARD AT THE NORWOOD BUILDING FOR £1080.00 BY PPG ROOFLINE

It was proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED to accept the PPG Roofline quote of £1080.00 (including VAT) which includes replacement guttering and fascia board at the Norwood Building.

631/1/26

CONSIDER ACCEPTING OWNERSHIP OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATED OUTSIDE 'TESCO' ON THE HIGH STREET

It was proposed by Cllr Bruce, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED for Somersham Parish Council to accept guardianship responsibility for the defibrillator outside Tesco on the High Street, following a request received from current owners, Somersham Town Football Club. The East of England Ambulance service confirmed that the pads and batteries have been replaced and that the device is now fully operational following a manufacturers software update. The PC will

ensure that the defibrillator is registered with The Circuit and carry out regular checks. It will also be added to the PC's asset register.

632/1/26 POLICE REPORT

- Neighbourhood Safety Emails
- Police Report- noted

633/1/26 EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- i. CAPALC bulletin & NALC CEO bulletins
- ii. Neighbourhood Alerts
- iii. Cambridgeshire ACRE bulletins and updates
- iv. Huntingdonshire DC – press releases and updates
- v. Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) announcement on local elections in LGR areas – agree a response to correspondence received regarding May 2026 elections. The decision whether to postpone the Parish Council Elections will be made after HDC's announcement on Wednesday 14th January 2026.

634/1/26 FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT MATTERS

- i. Monthly Accounts (Appendix One)
The monthly accounts were proposed by Cllr Sutton, seconded by Cllr Chapman and unanimously RESOLVED as approved.
- ii. To Note: Somersham BAND D tax base confirmed as 1477.3
- iii. Christmas Lights Update: Monies received for the Christmas Lights 2025
 - Collection boxes, bucket donations, and other donations £507.96 (as at 17th Dec)
 - Draw tickets sales £1656.00 (including Sum-up payments.)

Noted by Councillors.

635/1/26 DISCUSS HOLDING A CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT THE NORWOOD PLAYING FIELD IN DECEMBER 2026.

It was noted that the weather in December may cause damage to the Norwood Field, and also reduce the number of people attending. A solution may be to use a marquee or hold the event at the Millennium Pavilion car park. It was also suggested (as an alternative) to have stalls to the North side of the Church during the 1st December 'Christmas Lights Switch On' event. It was agreed to defer this item until the March meeting when further details are known.

636/1/26 HIGHWAY MATTERS INCLUDING PUBLIC FOOTWAYS - REPAIRS/ MAINTENANCE

- CCC Highways have advised that an LHI application would be required next year to fund any alterations to the parking restrictions and the introduction of white lines for curbed parking along the High Street, Somersham.
- The Deputy Clerk will enquire why scheduled work on the High Street was not carried out between 10th and 17th December 2025.
- The Deputy Clerk will request the removal of the boarding at the front of the East Newlands development and enquire when the ditch / hedge maintenance will be completed.

637/1/26 REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Community Library raised £171 at their coffee morning in December and are holding a fundraising quiz in February. Arrangements for the new CCTV system are currently underway. The Victory Hall Film Night took place last Friday. There is no agenda as yet for the next VHMC meeting.

638/1/26 NOTICES & MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None raised.

The next meeting of Somersham Parish Council will be on Monday 9th February 2026 at 7.30pm in the Millennium Pavilion, The Trundle, Somersham, PE29 3JS.

There being no further issues the meeting closed at 20:48 hours.

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Chairman

Appendix One

ACCOUNTS from 9th Dec 25 to 6th Jan 26

		Vat	Net	TOTAL	Cost Centre
Payroll	Salaries	£0.00	£7,705.13	£7,705.13 Bacs	Salaries Dec 25
Pension payments	Pension Fund	£0.00	£2,096.86	£2,096.86 Bacs	Pension Dec 25
HMRC	Tax & NI	£0.00	£2,957.64	£2,957.64 Bacs	HMRC Dec 25
GDA Electrical	Connectors and cable ties re Xmas Lights 1st Dec 25	£30.49	£152.46	£182.95 Bacs	Christmas Lights
Human Capital Dept	Retained HR Support 3rd Dec 25	£15.80	£79.00	£94.80 Bacs	Office
J Turney	Expenses re travel to Bank Huntingdon Nov/Dec 25	£0.00	£14.40	£14.40 Bacs	Expenses
PSK Installations	GSM/3g line rental on remote CCTV system Oct,Nov,Dec 25	£11.85	£59.25	£71.10 Bacs	CCTV
Royal British Legion	Donation re Christmas Lights Switch On 1st Dec 25	£0.00	£50.00	£50.00 Bacs	Donations
Somersham Town Band	Donation re Christmas Lights Switch On 1st Dec 25	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00 Bacs	Donations
Online Playgrounds	Repair parts for Youth playground 16th Dec 25	£49.55	£247.77	£297.32 Bacs	PC equipment
P Peck	Claim for expenses inc parking and petrol Sep - Dec 25	£0.00	£66.21	£66.21 Bacs	Expenses
R Adams	Strength & Balance 4 x sessions Nov 25	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
First Aid 4 Less	Saline cleaning wipes x 100 for Norwood First Aid box Dec 25	£1.94	£9.70	£11.64 Bacs	First Aid
M Tabrett	4 x session Tai Chi December 25	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00 Bacs	Changing Lives
CCL Suplies	Millennium Pavilion nappy bin service 16th Dec 25	£0.00	£44.00	£44.00 Bacs	Millennium
Cole & Day	Tractor fuel 1st Dec to 15th Dec 25	£9.92	£49.57	£59.49 Bacs	Kubota
PSK Installations	Call out to door Fob system 14th Dec 25	£16.00	£80.00	£96.00 Bacs	CCTV
SLCC	Clerks Manual and PC VAT Guide books 17th Dec 25	£0.00	£103.50	£103.50 Bacs	Office
		£135.55	£14,165.49	£14,301.04	£14,301.04

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Talk Talk Business	01487 841359 & internet Dec 25	£9.34	£46.70	£56.04 DD	Administration
British GasLite	Electricity - Lake sea container - Dec 25	£0.67	£13.39	£14.06 DD	Lake area
British GasLite	Electricity - Norwood Building - Dec 25	£6.68	£133.50	£140.18 DD	Norwood Building
British GasBusiness	Gas - Norwood Building Dec 25	£5.83	£116.67	£122.50 DD	Norwood Building
British GasLite	Electricity - Library - Dec 25	£69.14	£345.72	£414.86 DD	Library
British GasLite	Electricity - Millennium Sports Facility - Dec 25	£9.73	£194.64	£204.37 DD	Millennium
British GasLite	Gas - Millennium Sports Facility - Dec 25	£4.49	£89.80	£94.29 DD	Millennium
British GasLite	Electricity - multi sports area -	£3.03	£53.57	£56.60 DD	Multi sports area
HDC	Lake area sea container rates Dec 25	£0.00	£66.00	£66.00 DD	Administration
HDC	Millennium Sports sea container rates 24/25	£0.00	£81.00	£81.00 DD	Administration
Unity Trust Bank	Bank service charge	£0.00	£14.25	£14.25 DD	Administration
Unity Trust Bank	Manual credit handling charge	£0.00	£23.50	£23.50 DD	Administration
Scribe / Civicly	Civicly asset register management Dec 25	£28.20	£141.00	£169.20 DD	Administration
Scribe / Civicly	Civicly asset register management Jan 26	£28.20	£141.00	£169.20 DD	Administration
	TOTAL	£165.31	£1,460.74	£1,626.05	£1,626.05

LLOYDS CARD

NO PAYMENT TAKEN between 9th Dec 25 and 6th Jan 26