

# **SOMERFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at The Schoolroom, Davenport Chapel.

## **Public Forum**

There were 3 members of the public present.

A resident wished the gully outside Keepers Nook to be emptied. The white lines from the Woodlands to Stoney Croft were dangerous due to vehicles over taking near the left hand bend and needed reviewing by highways.

A resident from opposite the Kingfisher development was very concerned about the speed of the traffic now it was becoming a more built up residential area with more children walking to the bus stop and playing outside. The wagons literally made the buildings shake due to the speed.

## **Declaration of Interest**

None Declared

## **30/15 Election of Chairman**

It was acknowledged that Councillor P Crompton was under pressure due to his work commitments at this time. All members wished him to stay as Chairman but understood he needed some sabbatical time.

**Resolved** if in agreement Councillor P Crompton would be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

## **31/15 Election of Vice Chairman**

**Resolved** Councillor G Bell would be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

*Councillor G Bell chaired the meeting.*

**32/15 Present** Councillor G Bell, Councillor S Kenyon, Councillor S Hughes and Councillor M Harnett and the clerk.

**33/15 Apologies** Councillor P Crompton due to work commitments, Councillor K Wainwright due to holidays and Councillor J Wray – no apologies given

## **34/15 Minutes.**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>th</sup> March 2015 having been circulated be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

## **35/15 Annual Parish Meeting and 1<sup>st</sup> Neighbourhood Plan Consultation on 25<sup>th</sup> April**

There had been a turnout of 50 members of the public. This was an excellent response

and the team's hard work and effort was recognised. There had been many comments made by the public, good, poor and improvement areas. The Clerk would circulate so the members could be aware.

### **36/15 Neighbourhood Plan**

The progress was excellent and the work commitments were going to plan but there was a great deal of hard work involved and many items to still to fulfil.

Councillor S Kenyon discussed the following points;

- Area still not designated

This was a big concern as Cheshire East were asking for the NP Steering Group/ Parish Council to agree to the following *“Somerset Parish Council accept the proposals outlined in the Local Plan Strategy for Cheshire East, and will not introduce any neighbourhood plan policy that would conflict with, challenge or otherwise seek to prevent the delivery of strategic sites and key infrastructure, including the Congleton Link Road.”* before Cheshire East would designate the area.

The Parish Council did not deem this acceptable as the point of the Neighbourhood Plan would be reduced significantly.

**Resolved** the Clerk would draft a letter to send to Mr T Evans and Mr A Fisher in response.

- Funding Application

This had been completed now for £7,768.00. We were still awaiting approval but it may be delayed due to not having the designation of area.

- RSPB Land

This land had been refused by Cheshire East as a Community Asset. At the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March with the PC, NP steering group and RSPB, it was concluded that although Mrs Reade had left the land to them in order to preserve it from development, they did intend to sell it for housing. They were liable to make the best use of their assets for their charity. It did seem they would be negotiable to try and assist the Parish with some compromise.

**Resolved** the Clerk would draft a letter to the RSPB land requesting some viable options if the land was to be developed against their wishes.

- Survey

This was currently in circulation for return

- Finance

The spend to date was £539.76

- Next events

There was a business breakfast on 28<sup>th</sup> May at Hoofers Cafe in Somerford Park Farm. This was £3 per head for a bacon sandwich with tea or coffee.

There was a cream tea event on 10<sup>th</sup> June at Davenport Chapel to circulate the 'Visions and Objectives '

### **37/15 Somerford Parish Councils Constitution**

**Resolved** this would be accepted by the Parish Council

### **38/15 Village Green Application**

Councillor G Bell updated the members that the Judicial Review Application draft was nearly due for completion to submit to the Queens Council. This was the same QC whom drafted the application to the PROW committee at CE. If any history could be retrieved in addition to what they had it would be invaluable from 1935 to 1950. The residents had contributed £3,700 to the fund which was excellent news.

The proposal that the Parish Council would now pay £1,250 for the application to proceed.

FOR GB, SK.MH and SH. AGAINST NIL

**Resolved** the residents would contribute £1,250 to the Parish Council and the Parish Council would pay the relevant payment of £2,500 in due course.

A letter had been written to Mr P Jones at Legal & Democratic Services CE about the refusal of the Village Green application on 14<sup>th</sup> April There had been no response. The Clerk would pursue.

### **39/15 Planning Application**

- 36 Black firs Lane, Somerford, CW12 4QQ – Approval of reserved matters 12/0874C – outline application for the erection of 2 no detached 2 – 2.5 storey residential dwellings with garage.  
**Resolved** No objection
- 15/1536C Land adjacent to Oak House, Blackfirs Lane, Somerford CW12 4QQ – 1 detached dwelling  
**Resolved** No Objection
- 15/1368C 6 Chelford Road, Somerford CW12 4QD Resubmission of previous application 15/0259C to take account of revised boundary and new windows.  
**Resolved** Objection

- PRE/0382/15 Approved for outline residential 14/0134C Erection of 70 dwellings  
There was a meeting required with Congleton West about this application – Councillor G Bell would attend. The Clerk was asked for feedback from the residents on Holmes Chapel Road.
- 14/4518C Somerford Park Farm - appeal in progress.  
No actioned required

## 40/15 Accounts

To note the balance of accounts = £3,476.03

### Payments

- £18.00 Davenport Methodist Chapel (room hire for Parish Council only 8 meetings paid not 9)
- £80.00 Crewe Colour Printers
- £881.15 Cranage Parish Council (Clerk salary Jan to March)
- £119.58 Clerks expenses (Jan to March)
- £47.88 Congleton Chronicle
- £20.00 CCA Annual payment
- £36.00 CPRE Annual payment
- £99.94 CHALC Affiliation Fee
- £8.50 CHALC Good Councillor Guide
- £54.00 Davenport Chapel (NP meetings)
- £317.93 Zurich Insurance
- £110.00 Blackfirs School 25.04.15
- £234.14 Mrs R Langhorn NP expenses
- £21.74 Mrs J Mason NP expenses

### Receipts

- £3,500.00 Precept CE
- £132.00 Council tax support

**Resolved** the above payments be signed for and accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Resolved** Councillor M Harnett would act as an additional signature on the Natwest account.

## 41/15 Internal Auditor

**Resolved** the Internal Audit was accepted by full council and signed in accordance.

## 42/15 Highways

Siren on A54 at 2am.

Councillor S Kenyon found this unnecessary through the night as there was no traffic. The Clerk would investigate.

Route Review on A54

This had been completed in February and no feedback had been given. Due to the comments in the public forum time the Clerk would pursue with the ward Councillor.

Cyclist accidents on Radnor Bank

The Clerk would arrange a site visit with highways and Councillor K Wainwright

**43/15 Clerks report**

Vacancy

There had been six Councillors for seven seats therefore at the next meeting a co option could take place. Mrs Angela Chambers had expressed an interest. She would e mail some details and attend the next Council meeting.

The meeting concluded business at 9.05 pm.

X

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Chairman

