



**Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council held on
26th November 2019**

Present: - Alison Smith [chair], Neil Good, Andy Corner, John Gatley, Neil Clare

Members of the public : Rosemary Arnold, Cllr Mike Kerford-Brynes (MKB), John Fawcett

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

11.19.01 Apologies were received from Ruth Power

11.19.02 Declarations of Interest : There were no declarations of interest.

11.19.03 Minutes of the last meeting held on 1st October 2019 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

11.19.04 Public Participation : John Fawcett was attending the meeting to make a request for assistance with funding for the Church for the next financial year (Agenda Item 16)

11.19.05 Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
07.19.06	AC will forward emails regarding police training on the Base to Mike Kerford-Bynres	AC	Agenda item 5
07.19.07	AC will speak to Damien Gayler regarding formalising his hours and duties.	AC	Agenda Item 5
10.19.08	AS to make enquiries regarding the remains of the Manor House)	AS	Action closed
10.19.09	NG to contact the PCSO for the village to discuss the possibility of CCTV	NG	Agenda Item 11
10.19.10	AS to write to landowners in the village to investigate the possibility of buying or rent land for use as allotments	AS	Agenda Item 12
10.19.11	JG to lead on the possibility of identifying suitable land for tree/flower planting throughout the village	JG	Agenda Item 13
10.19.12	NC to confirm with OCC the exact area which affects Somerton regarding the Byeway Open to All Traffic Determination	NC	NC confirmed that Somerton is not affected by the changes.

11.19.05 Highways

Data has been downloaded from the SID and shows that the average speed in September/October was 23mph - significantly lower than previous speed surveys have shown. It was agreed that the PC should purchase another SID and that £2K should be included in the budget when setting the precept request.

The matter of police training on the base was discussed and Cllr Kerford-Byrnes will make further enquiries as it appears it is not only TVP who use the base but many other police forces.

The 20mph speed limit on the perimeter road is largely ignored. This road is adjacent to the bridleway and speeding vehicles cause issues for horse riders. MKB will also investigate this matter.

There was discussion around the hours worked by Damien Gayler who looks after the playground. Damien has undertaken various tidying jobs around the village, but it was decided that he would be asked to only come to Somerton once a month until Spring when there would probably be more work for him.

CF to email Damien to this effect.

AC will make enquiries as to the cost of a road sweeper to deal with the leaves on the roads/pavements around the village.

- 11.19.07 Monument (remains of Old Manor house)**
The remains have been inspected and it is confirmed that there is a large amount of brambles and weeds surrounding it and invading the brickwork which could cause damage. **AS will speak to Jeremy Brown and ask for permission for a working party to clear the area.**
- 11.19.08 High Sherriff Awards**
The PC wish to make a nomination and **AS will complete the paperwork.**
- 11.19.09 Old Persons Housing survey**
Survey forms have been distributed by MCNP and will be distributed throughout the village (possibly using the services of the Valley News distributors)
- 11.19.10 Rural Communities Priorities Forum**
- 11.19.11 CCTV**
Contact had been made with PCSO Louise Beaumont who passed on information regarding a meeting to be held on 22nd January in Ardley Village Hall where such matters as village security matters will be discussed.
- 11.19.12 Allotments**
AS had written to all landowners in the village and 2 possible sites have been identified. AS will speak to Peter Clark suggesting that a committee be formed to formulate further ideas as to how the potential allotments would be run and the practicalities of establishing allotments should suitable land be acquired.
- 11.19.13 MCNP Tree/Wildflower planting initiative**
JG reported that he has not managed to identify any land which might be suitable for planting trees as the Woodland Trust's minimum quantity for this initiative is 150 which would require a large area of land. Land required would need to be 'donated' to the parish council and have full access to the public. Somerton PC will not be taking up this offer and JG will respond to MNCP accordingly. The planting of wild flowers in the village is a project which Sustainable Somerton may like to take up - **AS will pass on the information.**

11.19.14 Planning
 19/02279/F Portway Cottage, Ardley Road - Cllr Kerford-Byrnes is fully supportive of this application and will call it in rather than allowing it to go to appeal. Somerton PC will also support the application.

11.19.15 Finance
 The following accounts were approved for payment and will be authorised online by AS and NG

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
Damien Gayler	Inv 608 November	100.00		
Damien Gayler	Inv 597 October	100.00		
Damien Gayler	Inv 406 August	150.00		
Cathy Fleet	Clerk salary	150.46		Paid S/O
Cathy Fleet	WFH	9.00		Paid S/O
Cathy Fleet	Expenses	10.00		paid S/O

A grant application form had been received from the Church and John Fawcett was attending the meeting to explain the income, expenditure and fundraising efforts to support the application. The church is in need of an additional £4-6K per annum and is asking the PC for £2K. To be discussed at the precept meeting.

A meeting to discuss the precept request will be held on 13th January at 7.15 at John Gatley's house.

Date of next meetings

Proposed dates for 2020:

Village Hall 8.15	Church 7.15
28 January	26 May
31 March	July tbc
November tbc	September tbc

Signed Alison Smith (Chair) Date

No	Action	Owner
11.19.05	CF to email Damien re his hours AC will make enquiries as to the cost of a road sweeper to deal with the leaves on the roads/pavements around the village	CF AC
11.19.07	AS will speak to Jeremy Brown and ask for permission for a working party to clear the area around the monument	AS
11.19.08	AS will complete the paperwork for the High Sherriff nomination	AS