



**Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council held on
26th January 2021 by Zoom videoconference**

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

Members of the public : Cllr Mike Kerford Byrnes (MKB), Ruth Power

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

01.21.01 Apologies Apologies had been received from Cllr Arash Fatemian

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

01.21.03 Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th November 2020 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Clerk, (pp'd for the Chair.)

01.21.04 Public Participation : MKB reported that CDC's major concern remains the budget which has been hit hard by the demands of Covid. It is a legal requirement that the budget is balanced and if it does not the only action is to borrow or make cuts. There is a £9m shortfall and work is on-going to resolve the issue.

01.21.05 Clerk's Report and Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
Oct20.01	As to chase Resilience Fund members to submit funding request to MKB	AS	Completed
Oct20.03	NG will write to OCC requesting white lines in areas where cars park in order to discourage parking (copying in Cllr Fatemian)	NG	
Nov20.01	Clerk to transfer funds to Resilience Fund account	CF	Completed
Nov20.02	NG to investigate condition of bus shelter	NG	Agenda Item 10
Nov20.03	AS to speak to make investigations regarding use of bus shelter	AS	Agenda Item 10
Nov20.04	NG to obtain clarification re Orchard Way Planning application	NG	Not required.
Nov20.05	AS to circulate proposed letter opposing the Great wolf Appeal	AS	Completed

01.21.06 Precept
The draft budget and proposed precept request had been circulated prior to the meeting. The proposals were discussed in detail and it was resolved that CF should submit a precept request to CDC of £10,772.60 for 2021/22. A grant to the church was included in this figure and was agreed it should be made clear it

is for St James Church use only (for the benefit of Somerton Residents) and not for the Church of England.

01.21.07 Update on Covid situation

No further update. The village hall remains closed.

01.21.08 Update on Somerton Resilience Fund and approval of payment for Christmas gifts

Funds had been transferred from the PC current account to the Somerton Resilience Fund account. Poinsettia plants were purchased at Christmas to be given to nominated people in the village; (Approved by SRF) AS proposed and NG seconded that the amount of £159.68 should be reimbursed.

01.21.09 Defibrillator

The defibrillator is required to be checked regularly. **AS to ask David Wilson if he would take on this task.**

01.21.10 Bus shelter

A resident had offered to refurbish the bus shelter but its condition is currently unknown. **NC to look at the bus shelter and report back.** There was concern that if the shelter is refurbished it may be open to abuse.

01.21.11 Play area

The play area remains open to residents only and will remain so until lockdown is lifted by the Government. Thanks were extended to Malcolm Thompson for maintaining the sanitiser station.

01.21.12 Highways

Following flooding in various areas of the village in December, Highways had attended and cleared the drains and found there are no silt filters. **CF to follow up**

03.19.14 Planning - the following planning application had been received : 20/03606/CLUE Troy Farm, Ardley Road - no objection.

03.19.15 Finance - the following accounts were approved for payment

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
RT Gardens	playground	144.00		24.00 paid 27/11/20
Cathy Fleet	clk sal (Dec)	191.19	(£176.26)	paid s/o therefore £14.92 owing)
Cathy Fleet	salary shortfall	£14.92		
Moore	external audit	240.00		40.00
Cathy Fleet	clk sal (Jan)	191.18		
HMRC	PAYE	146.40		
TP Jones	payroll	54.90		9.15
Valley News	contribution	137.00		
Cathy Fleet	clk exp	18.80		
Alison Smith	reimbursement	28.32		

Other matters

It was agreed that JG would lead on creating an Emergency Plan for Somerton.

Date of next meetings

Dates for 2021- last Tuesday of alternate months by Zoom for the foreseeable future:
30th March, 25th May 27th July, 28th September, 30th November

Signed Alison Smith (Chair) Date

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

01.21.06	CF to submit a precept request to CDC of £10,772.60 for 2021/22	CF
01.21.09	Defibrillator - AS to ask David Wilson if he would take on regular inspections of the defibrillator	AS
01.21.10	NC to look at the bus shelter and report back.	NC
01.21.12	CF to follow up on the Highways report following flooding	CF
	JG creating an Emergency Plan for Somerton	JG