



**Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council held on
30th March 2021 by Zoom videoconference**

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

Members of the public : Ruth Power, Tony Callow, Catriona Renk, Cllr Mike Kerford-Byrnes (MKB), Rachel Woods

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

03.21.01 Apologies: Apologies had been received from Andy Corner

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

03.21.03 Minutes of the last meeting held on 26th January 2021 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

03.21.04 Public Participation : MKB reported that CDC's budget for 2021/22 is balanced and that CDC's Castle Quay project is progressing with work on-going to occupy the retail outlets. There will be changes to water collections with weekly food bin collections being made. Garden waste will be collected fortnightly and it is likely that a charge will be made for this service.

03.21.05 Clerk's Report and Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
01.21.06	CF to submit a precept request to CDC of £10,772.60 for 2021/22	CF	completed
01.21.09	Defibrillator - AS to ask David Wilson if he would take on regular inspections of the defibrillator	AS	Completed - agenda item 9
01.21.10	NC to look at the bus shelter and report back.	NC	Completed agenda item 10
01.21.12	CF to follow up on the Highways report following flooding	CF	Drains have been cleared but silt was left on the side of the bank and cleared up by NC.

03.21.06 Presentation by Rachel Woods, Community First Oxfordshire
Rachel explained that Community first Oxfordshire works with town and parish councils to review specific issues and will initiate communications and can facilitate focus groups in order to make decisions. It was suggested that

Community First would be able to assist with the Allotment/Recreation project and **AS will liaise with Rachel, share the Yarnton questionnaire and set a date for a Somerton working group meeting.**

03.21.07 Update on Somerton Resilience Fund

No meeting has been held. An additional trustee is required and it was agreed that the PC agrees in principle to support the nomination of an individual once AS has spoken to him/her.

An application for funding has been made for £120 to finance a lunch for senior members of the village in September. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the SRF committee.

03.21.08 Allotments

Two meetings of the Allotments group have been held. Land has been identified and the landowner has agreed to sell a 1 acre plot for £15000. This is to include a water supply and the land will be prepared and available in September. It is thought that slightly more than 1 acre will be required and this will be negotiated with the landowner. It is proposed that the PC obtain a loan from the PWLB to cover the cost of the purchase, fencing, legal fees etc. the PC will be responsible for the VAT. A Legal Development Certificate will be required (no planning permission is needed) which AS will obtain at a cost of £133.50. A title Plan is required at a cost of £24 and membership of NAS at a cost of £55 is needed. AS proposed that the PC purchases the land and pays for the set up of allotments with a loan from the PWLB and was seconded by NG. AS will lead on the project and keep the PC informed as to progress.

03.21.09 Defibrillator

Phil Holman is dealing with Health & Safety matters on the Village Hall Committee and it has been agreed that he will take on the responsibility for the Defibrillator. It was noted that a label on the outside of the defibrillator cabinet is peeling off and it is thought this may be due to a dripping gutter on the village hall. A new sticker and light fitting has been ordered.

03.21.10 Bus shelter

The bus shelter is extremely dilapidated and overgrown. It is seldom used as there is no bus through the village apart from the school bus. It was agreed that the bus shelter should be removed, and Ian Corner will be asked to remove it as part of the clean up of the allotment site. .

03.21.11 Play Area

No update was available.

03.21.12 Highways

There had been significant flooding in the village following heavy rain. OCC Highways had attended and pumped out the drains, but it appears there are traps on the drains, so silt will continue to wash down the drains and cause blockage. MKB reported that OCC have a list of work required in villages following the flooding and suggested that the PC should consult Cllr Arash Fatemian. NC will lead on flooding issues.

The matter of parked cars preventing access for farm vehicles, particularly at harvest time was discussed. It was agreed that face to face discussions would best solve the problem, and NG and AS will make a note of regularly parked

vehicles and Ruth Power will find out names of farmers involved and likely times they will need clear access and turning space.

03.21.13 Planning - the following planning documents had been received :

21/00407/TCA 2 Canal wharf Notice of intent of Treeworks APPROVED
21/00028/TCA 2 Adams Cottages, Heyford Road Notice of Intent of treeworks APPROVED

03.21.14 Finance - the following accounts were approved for payment

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
OALC	Subs	146.16	24.36	
CDC	Play area rent	30.00		
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Feb	191.18		S/O
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Mar	191.38		S/O
HMRC	PAYE	123.80		

The Barclays account remains open with a balance of £4.25. **NG to make further efforts to close the account and transfer the balance to the PC's Unity account.**

AS and NG are the only signatories on the Unity account with remaining councillors having no access. **AS to contact Unity to find out what is required to add them as signatories.**

Date of next meetings

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

Signed **Alison Smith (Chair)** Date

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

No	Action	Owner	Update
03.21.06	AS will liaise with Community First, share the questionnaire and set a date for a working group	AS	
03.21.12	NC to lead on flooding issues NC/AS to note regularly parked cars causing issues for farm vehicles Ruth Power will obtain contact details for farmers and dates/times clear access is required	NC NC/AS Ruth Power	
03.21.14	NG to make further efforts to close the Barclays account and transfer the balance to the PC's Unity account .AS to contact Unity to find out what is required to add them as signatories	NG AS	