



**Minutes of the meeting of the Somerton Parish Council Meeting held on  
27<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**Present:** Alison Smith (AS)(chair), Neil Clare (NC)

**Members of the public :** Ruth Power, Mark Durnin, Stewart MacFarlane, Richard Thompson

**In attendance:** Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

**09.22.01 Apologies** Apologies had been received from John Gattley

**09.22.02 Declarations of Interest :** There were no declarations of interest.

**09.22.03.** The minutes of the meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022 & 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

**09.22.04 Public Participation** - to receive submissions from members of the public relating to items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's code of conduct & standing orders. Mark Durnin was attending to discuss the bus shelter and request for dog bins

**09.22.05 Clerks Report and Actions from previous meeting**  
There were no outstanding actions from the last meeting.

**09.22.06 Highways**

Drainage/flooding – Thames water fixed the leak and in so doing damaged the drainage pipe and mended it with cement. AS sent a photo to OCC asking if the work is satisfactory. The culvert has been cleaned and major works are in next year's budget

Speeding vehicles - A meeting is to be held 13<sup>th</sup> October 5pm at Bodicote House. AS is unable to attend and requested that another councillor attends and let her know.

20 mph limit – The request has been made and Somerton is on the priority list for action in 2023

Path behind village hall – a lot of garden rubbish and rubble has been dumped behind the village hall which has caused damage to machinery attempting to cut

the grass. It was suggested home owners be contacted to discuss the issue.  
**AC will visit home owners.**

At the additional meeting held in August it was agreed to purchase metal art for installation on the roadside. (Edge Friction) This has now been done and installation is imminent once places have been decided.

Bus shelter – OCC were invited to inspect the bus shelter and advised that it was unsafe and should be demolished.

Mr Durnin expressed his concern about its legal demolition, the PC was advised by OCC it was un-safe and needed to be removed ASAP. (AS has since checked with OCC that we acted correctly, which they confirmed.)

Requests for quotation for a new bus shelter has been placed with OCC and an alternative location has been suggested, on the other side of the road at Aston View. AS will follow up Quote.

Dog bins – these have been purchased and are awaiting installation once a site has been identified. A bin will be fitted in Aston View after the best location has been identified. Mr Durnin is concerned about people depositing their poo bags in his bin and offered to speak to dog walkers to identify the best place and a decision will be made as soon as possible.

**09.22.07**

**SARA**

The report from the soil samples has revealed that there is marginally more arsenic in the soil than is recommended for allotments. There are 50 part per million ; the maximum recommended level is 46 parts per million. One mitigation would be to plough fresh soil into the existing soil. Feedback from an environmental specialist is awaited.

**09.22.08**

**Playground**

At the additional meeting held in August it was agreed to purchase metal art for installation on the roadside. This has now been done and installation is imminent. Items needing repair/replacement will be attended to by Andy Slater. Quotes for a maintenance contract are being sought.

**09.22.09**

**Risk Assessment**

The Risk Assessment need to be reviewed and had been circulated prior to the meeting. It is a live document and is on the g-drive. All were encouraged to add comments to the document and it will be approved at the next meeting.

**09.22.10**

**Code of Conduct**

NG proposed and NC seconded that the new Code of Conduct be approved and adopted.

**09.22.11**

**Meetings**

The S106 money meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> October at Bodicote House or on Teams - NG will attend this meeting.

The Neighbourhood Plan meeting will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> October – NC will attend this meeting.

**09.22.12 Communication**  
Mailchimp training – date to be confirmed

**09.22.13 Planning** The following planning documents were discussed:

<u><a href="#">22/02752/DISC</a></u>	North Aston Millhouse And Attached Bridge Somerton Road North Aston	Discharge of Conditions 4 (roof material for poolhouse), 5 (sample of timber boarding for poolhouse) and 7 (details of external paving around poolhouse) of 20/01254/F NO OBJECTIONS
<u><a href="#">22/02563/DISC</a></u>	Manor Farm Barns 1 The Stables Heyford Road Somerton OX25 6LW	Discharge of Conditions 3 (windows & doors) & 4 (schedule of work) of 22/01779/F NO OBJECTIONS
<u><a href="#">22/02564/DISC</a></u>	Manor Farm Barns 1 The Stables Heyford Road Somerton OX25 6LW	Discharge of condition 3 (windows & doors) 4 (schedule of work) of 22/01780/LB NO OBJECTION
<u><a href="#">22/02604/NMA</a></u>	Orchard Way Heyford Road Somerton OX25 6LL	Addition of first floor window in north elevation to bathroom (proposed as non-material amendment to 21/00995/F )
<u><a href="#">22/02616/F</a></u>	Wychwood Cottages Church Street Somerton Oxfordshire OX25 6NB	Demolition of existing side porch and rear lean-to structure and replacement with new entrance canopy and single-storey rear extension. Internal and external alterations NO OBJECTION

**Decisions**

22/01780/LB

**Manor Farm Barns  
1 the Stables**

**APPROVED**

**09.22.14 Finance** – the following accounts were approved for payment:

Payee	Details	Amount	VAT	Note
Playsafety	ROSPA Report	105.00	17.50	
TP Jones	Payroll Inv 1349	54.90	9.15	
Moore	External audit	240.00	40.00	
Cathy Fleet	Clk Sal Aug	194.15		S/O
Cathy Fleet	Clk Sal September	194.15		S/O
HMRC	PAYE	126.00		

Payment received  
CDC Precept £7100.00

The opt-out option of External Audit was discussed and it was agreed to take no action. The quarterly report was received. The current balance is £24,898.11 with £4000 ringfenced for traffic calming, £1500 ringfenced for the allotments and £10,000 ringfenced for Loan repayment contingency.

**Meeting dates for 2022** - last Tuesday of alternate months

~~29<sup>th</sup> November~~ changed to 6<sup>th</sup> December

Proposed dates for 2023

31<sup>st</sup> January, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Other matters**

to advise of items for next meeting or for information only

Signed (Chair) ..... Date .....

**ACTION LIST SUMMARY**

No	Action	Owner
Sept22.01	<b>AC to visit home owners regarding the dumping of rubbish on the footpath behind the village hall.</b>	AC
Sept22.02	Comments to be made to the Risk Assessment document on the g-drive	ALL