

## **Somerford Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 July 2025**

#### **Holmes Chapel Community Centre, 7.00pm**

#### **Present**

- Councillor Geoff Bell (Chairman)
- Councillor Jeanette Hardman (vice-Chair)
- Councillor Paul Crompton
- Councillor Trevor Massey (left at 2030hrs)
- Mr Carlton Evans – Clerk

#### **Declarations of Interest**

- Cllr Hardman – any Loachbrook Estate discussions

#### **Part 1 Public Forum**

Cllr Robert Douglas, Congleton Town Councillor, updated the meeting on his further analysis of uncollected and unused s106 monies. He also spoke of his dissatisfaction about Cheshire East Council's failure to keep historical data on parking charges, and despite the public consultation about extending these charges they had gone ahead and introduced them regardless.

#### **100/25 – Apologies**

The Council **resolved** to accept and approve apologies from:

- Cllr S Hughes – travel commitments
- Cllr B Chorlton - travel commitments

#### **101/25 – Minutes**

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

#### **102/25 – Accounts**

**See Annex 1**

### **103/25 - Cheshire East Ward Councillor Report**

No report in Cllr Wray's absence.

### **104/25 - Planning Applications**

25/2047/Hous - Installation of air source heat pump

37 Field View Road, Congleton

The Council felt that it was unable to take a considered view until the Cheshire East Regulatory Services and Health team had delivered its opinion.

### **105/25 – Parish Liaison Group**

Cllr Crompton reported on the recent Parish Liaison Group meeting. The Council noted that the next meeting would take place on 13<sup>th</sup> October and that Somerford is due to chair it.

### **106/25 - Goodwins Pool**

The Clerk reported that the angling committee would discuss replacement of or repairs to the boundary fence, funds permitting, at their autumn meeting.

### **107/25 – Streetscape**

Chair Geoff Bell reported on the site visit he and the Clerk had made to Rhead's Meadows and Blackfirs Wood with Streetscape and Congleton TC representatives. They had stressed that they were somewhat overloaded over the July/August period but were keen to support us. They have already made some ad hoc visits to tackle the weeds and mow etc. and will continue to do so if possible. The Council **resolved** to accept the quote for their revised hourly rate and they and we will take stock after about ten man days of work at the sites. Meanwhile Congleton TC will draw up a longer term service level agreement for consideration.

### **108/25 - Rhead's Meadows**

See above. Chair Geoff Bell also reported that Streetscape had recommended installing larger dog bins on site. The Council **resolved** to purchase suitable replacements and the Clerk will ask Streetscape to install them, and reposition the ones replaced if a need is identified.

### **109/25 - Blackfirs Wood**

See above.

### **110/25 – Highways**

Cllr P Crompton will look again at the possibility of involving the Police and Crime Commissioner in the deployment of noise cameras along the CLR.

### **111/25 – Housing Developments**

Nothing substantive to report.

### **112/25 - Chairman and Members' Reports**

Clr Hardman urged Councillors to update their email accounts and the Clerk was asked to invite the new PCSO to a future meeting.

### **113/25 - Clerk's Report**

The Clerk had been in touch with a contractor about installing Christmas lights on the trees by the defibrillator and will put a proposal to the next meeting. The Council asked the Clerk to investigate other sources of funding for the installation of a water supply to Rhead's Meadows.

**The meeting ended at 2045 hrs.**

X

Chairman

## Annex 1 - Accounts

Bank Balance as of 01 July 2025: **£55,186.63**

**Received since 1 June 2025:**

- **£nil**

**Payments to approve:**

- **none**

**The Council noted the following payments:**

- **£48.42** – Clerk, NEST pension
- **£179.89** – HMRC PAYE
- **£41.25** – HCCC Room Hire
- **£50.00** – Mr G Roberts, Internal Auditor
- **£551.73** – Clerk Salary