

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF OLD SOMERBY PARISH COUNCIL

Held at St. Mary Magdalene Church on Wednesday 30th May 2018 at 7.30pm

15 members of the public attended.

Local County Councillor Bob Adams

Councillor Skelton introduced Maggie Welton who had volunteered to be Acting Clerk until a permanent appointment was made.

Present-

Councillors- Tom Jonason, Sally Skelton, Tracy Heaney and Veronica Stephens

1.ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Proposal for Sally Skelton as Chairman by Cllr. Stephens, seconded by Cllr.Jonason. Cllr. Heaney proposed Cllr. Jonason as Chairman and Cllr. Stephens as Vice Chairman. Cllr. Jonason did not wish to be the Chairman and Cllr. Stephens did not wish to be Vice Chairman. Cllr Skelton elected Chairman by 2 votes to 1. Clerk handed her the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2.ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN AND DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Stephens proposed Cllr Jonason and this was seconded by Cllr Heaney. This proposal was accepted unanimously. Clerk handed him the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3.COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Dealt with under Agenda Item 1 and 2.

4.WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman expressed how pleased she was that so many villagers had attended the meeting. She welcomed new councilors to the council. The Chair told the council and villagers how delighted she was that Old Somerby had a newly formed Parish Council.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Welsh asked if councilors were prepared to answer his questions. He had distributed six questions to the Parish Council for

their response. The clerk informed him that councilors would get back to him at a separate meeting. The Clerk requested that all responses be emailed to her.

Bob Adams informed the meeting that regarding the Neighborhood Plan

Discussions would be held with Planning Officers and an Independent Inspector. This would be a lengthy process. The plan was being produced within the National Framework. Mr. Welsh pointed out that he felt that the procedure was different in content to SKDC and it was the community to determine the content. Bob Adams said he would look into the matter.

7.DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

a] To receive reports on members disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to the agenda and

b] Any dispensations in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr. Skelton declared she had an interest under Agenda Item 11 re GA Jenkinson & Sons planning application

Mr. Welsh asked the Chair if she had a conflict of interest regarding the Neighborhood Plan. The Chair moved the meeting on.

8. SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

To resolve and accept the Clerks notes of the parish Council meetings held on 8th November 2017 and 10th January 2018.

It was noted that the Clerk for those meetings had recently resigned. The clerk informed the meeting of the following-

- Minutes belong to the council and not the public
- Any complaints must follow procedure
- Mr. Welsh and Cllr. Skelton feel that the minutes are inaccurate,
- Mr. Welsh needs closure regarding this issue.
- The issues would have to be dealt with at another meeting.

9.FINANCE

Clerk informed the meeting of the following-

- Cllr. Skelton had frozen the bank account following the resignations of four councilors. Concerned some cheques had been signed following resignations. Cllr has received a Mandate for the Local Authority to HSBC. All Cllrs. to complete and sign mandate after close of meeting. Two signatures required for each cheque.
- Outstanding payment and overtime of the previous clerk
- Audit not complete. Previous clerk had requested an extension to 2nd July
- Clerk aware Insurance needs paying. Requested an invoice.
- Unsure if grass cutting payment has been received from LCC.
- A sum of 2,553 from SKDC received as precept and 203.88 received for cleaning
- Balance carried forward at bank to 5th may is 10,016.89
- A meeting to be arranged to resolve these outstanding issues

10.NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Mr. Holmes gave an update on the planning process. See attached.

He informed the meeting that the Steering Group members are Mr. Peter Burrows, Mrs. Betty North, Mr. Gordon Thompson and Mr. Nigel Ord and himself.

- New consultant Mr. Bob Keith an experienced town planner had been appointed as consultant
- NP almost complete. Completion date 31st March 2019
- Cllr. Skelton asked about Terms of Reference and membership in relationship to the Parish Council Mr. Holmes stated that at least one member of the Parish Council should attend. More recently have met without a member to enable the Steering Group to proceed with the formulating process.
- Cllrs. questioned the timings of the meetings as currently excluded Cllrs who work. Mr. Holmes agreed to inform Clerk of future meeting dates and times.

- Funding for the NP goes into Parish Council account and the Finance Officer keeps the NP accounts up to date. Unsure if the consultant had been paid. Cllr. Skelton thought he had been paid in January.

Mr. Welsh asked if there was a hold at the moment as to why the direction of the NP had been changed.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Holmes for his update.

11.PLANNING MATTERS

a] Planning Application S18/0779 W and C Grocock

- Cllr. Jonason and Heaney had visited the site.
- Comments regarding planning application to go to the Clerk to then forward to Planning Department.
- Cllr. Jonason pointed out anyone is entitled to comment on the SKDC web site.

Mr. Welsh referred Cllrs. to his Question 6 regarding the planning application. See attached questions.

b] Old Quarry Planning Application S17/1836

- Application has been refused

c] GA Jenkinson & Sons Ltd S18/0602

- Planning Application has been withdrawn

d] The Manor House S17/1746

- Cllr. Skelton had added this as a late agenda item
- Permission has been granted by the Planning Department.

12]HIGHWAYS

a] Flooding Grantham Road

- Cllrs. happy for Mr. Skelton to continue his enquiries
- Folder with correspondence regarding this issue dating back 2012

b] Footpath on School Lane

- Health and Safety issues continue to be a concern as children are dropped off nearby.
- Bob Adams explained difficulty for Highways regarding shortage of money
- Currently hedge from quarry overhangs the path and salt bin. Clerk to find contact details for Invicta for Cllr Jonason to discuss hedge cutting with them.
- Cllrs. advised by Bob Adams to ensure footpath is commented on to Planning Department with regard to the Grocock application.
- Cllr. Skelton questioned why the footpath had not been addressed in the NP.

Mr. Gray at this point expressed his concern regarding speeding. Monitoring of this as stopped with the resignation of Mr. Ord

13]FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Mr. Welsh requested information from the parish Council which he did not receive. Consequently he complained to the Commissioner for the Freedom of Information Act. His complaint has been accepted and the parish Council has to investigate this. Difficulty is currently apart from Cllr. Skelton all are new to the parish Council. The Parish Council have been given an extension to the 26th June to resolve this matter.

14.GENERAL DATA PROTECTION

- New regulations came into effect from 26th May 2018
- Parish Council being a public body have to abide by the rules
- Cllr. Jonason suggested the need for the Parish Council to improve their correspondence and communication. He proposed a consent form for villagers to agree to the use of their email address.
- All enquiries/complaints to go directly to Clerk and not to councilors to ensure protection of privacy.
- All decisions to be made at meetings and not via emails.

15.PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

- Co-option vacancy
- Clerk to advertise vacancy on notice boards

Meeting closed at 9pm?

Next meeting Wednesday 18th July 2018 at 7pm

Venue- Church

Maggie Welton

Acting Clerk to Old Somerby Parish Council