North Somercotes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of North Somercotes Parish Council held in the St Mary's Hall on Monday 26th October 2026

There was 1 member of the public present. District Cllr Paul Rickett was in attendance. County Cllr Bayleigh Robinson was not in attendance. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and opened the public session at 7. PM

Public Session

a. Comments from District Cllrs Rickett/McNally

Councillor Paul Rickett commented on the National Planning Calling in Procedures being imposed.

b. Comments from members of the Public on agenda items or issues for consideration for future agenda:
i. Concern over dog/nuisance barking - the Clerk noted the issue which had been raised and advice given re contacting ELDC.

ii. Issue re flooding from drains on Churchill Rd – Resident also complained re wastewater on drive and blockage; this has been included in the letter to Anglian Water.
iii. Dog Fouling – especially Evison Way, Locksley Way, Keeling Street – This is being dealt with as part of the work with ELDC.

The Chairman closed the public session at 7.13pm and commenced the formal meeting

Monthly Meeting

26/10/26-1 a. Present: Cllr Stephen Brooks (Chairman), Cllr Neil Drewery (Vice Chairman), Cllr Stuart Arundel. Cllr John Kennedy, Cllr Roger Maidens, Cllr Danny McNally, Cllr Trisha Newman, Cllr Lynda Plater, Cllr David Wallis, Cllr Paul Walmsley, Clerk – Geraldine McCarthy, RFO – Sheila Pearce. District Cllr Paul Rickett
b. Apologies for Absence – none

26/10/26-2 To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest on any item on the agenda in accordance with the Localism Act and the Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders – none.

26/10/26-3 Minutes of 21st September 2026 Monthly Meeting – it was RESOLVED to adopt the notes as accurate minutes, and they were signed and dated by the Chairman.

26/10/26-4 Clerk's Report on matters outstanding – for information only
a. Cemetery Statutory Records digitisation and mapping – ongoing **b. Cemetery old, damaged Memorials -** need to identify location for those currently against chapel walls and get quote for repair/reinstatement once all plots mapped, ongoing **c. Quinquennial Inspection –** arranged for 9 November **d. Wildflower area –** Fencing obtained will be erected to designate different area, strimmed & weeded. **e. Cemetery Biodiversity Audit/Action Plan –** to be updated with input received from LWT **and Waste Management Plan** – in draft **f. Policies and Procedures updates** - ongoing **g. Chapel Field Future Use/Disposal –** see below **h. Static caravans on land at Common Lane –** see below **i. Static caravan on Marsh Lane –** see below **j. Cemetery Rules and fees for under 18s –** see below **k. Cemetery Headstone check** – to be rearranged l. **Dog fouling –** ongoing – ELDC contacted again and posters to be put up in appropriate locations. M. **Cyber Security –** see below, training for Clerk/RFO tba, Cllrs to sign forms, GDP Policy – see below n. **Bleed kits -** distributed to St Mary's, Village Hall, Axe and Cleaver and Bay Horse.
o. Brick Bench Keeling St – J Wilkinson repair done.

26/10/26-5 To consider any Planning applications received and RESOLVE the way forward on these and other Planning/Enforcement matters
a. Planning applications for consideration: to consider applications received and RESOLVE the way forward. None.
b. To note planning applications approved: none
c. To note planning applications outstanding:
i. 01293/26/FUL Willow Farm, Marsh Lane - Siting of a static caravan for seasonal holiday use (already in situ) and construction of hardstanding. Comments submitted, decision awaited.

ii. 00734/26/RVC Land RO Sycamores, Keeling St - Section 73 application to vary condition 1 (approved plans) as imposed on planning permission LR/569/68 (as amended by 00832/26/NMA) for the erection of 17no. dwellings and construction of access roads. – Comments submitted, decision awaited.

iii. 00854/26/FUL - Crowsfoot Farm, Common Lane - Change of use of domestic equestrian land to form a commercial holiday and lodge site, Including the erection of a fence, ancillary hard standing bases, a solar battery power unit and the installation of a toilet and shower (works commenced) – objection submitted, decision awaited

iv. 00685/26/FUL Pinewood (Lakeside), Warren Road- Change of use of land to form an extension to existing caravan park to site 18no. residential static caravans and construction of an internal access road – objection submitted, decision awaited.

d. To note planning applications refused: i. 01204/26/FUL - Shillingbury Churchill Road - Erection of 2m high wooden fence to replace existing hedge around existing dwelling.

e. Planning Applications appealed: none

f. Enforcement Issues/Actions: Any update on reported issues:
i. Static Caravans on land/stables on Common Lane – on hold pending outcome of planning application.
ii. Static Caravan on Marsh Lane – on hold pending outcome of planning application.
iii. Caravans on South Rd – Cllrs McNally & Rickett were requested to follow up on the fact that there is still no decision documented on the planning website despite being approved in May 2026.
v. South Rd - Removal of veteran hedging, contrary to planning permission, creation of additional entrance contrary to Highways requirements and planning permission –still awaiting update from Enforcement/Highways

g. Any other urgent planning matters/applications: None

26/10/26-6 Highways, Paths and Lighting:
a. <u>verbal update on problem log</u>/outstanding issues which have been queried with LCC Highways, including:

i. **Nirvana – flooding from the road –** contractors have done their work, no nearby drain so still a problem.

ii. **30mph round Church Lane and South Rd –** Cllr Robinson is still looking into this; noted that 30mph sign erected near Diamond Cottage South Rd end.

iii. **Warren Road Drainage** – **Oasis Lakes/The Bungalow** – awaiting date for works, still a problem at the Bungalow

iv. **A1031 – North Thoresby/Tetney/North Cotes** – Works now completed, road now open.

v. **Cloddy Gate** – dates awaited, though it looks as if some works have been undertaken.

vi. **Sink hole outside Fire Station –** work done 14/10

vii. **Drainage/Sewage issues along Jubilee Rd – Eubank – Keeling Street – Churchill Rd** – as noted in the public session, letter done to Anglia Water asking for investigation/works to be carried out- response awaited.

b. <u>any additional issues</u>/other urgent matters to be reported
i. Remembrance Observance – Road Closure approved plus confirmed with Bugler and Cllr Maidens doing the reading. Poppies distributed around War Memorial, Lampposts, and Cemetery gates and graves. Cllr Wallis agreed to lay wreath in the absence of the Chair. Refreshments to be served afterwards in the Village Hall.

26/10/26-7 To receive reports from councillors who are representatives on Village Organisations/Committees

a. Playing Fields Association - Cllr Walmsley – No report, other than youth club now back to Thursday evenings.
b. Police Panel – Cllr Newman – The police panel meetings to look at priorities and looking to start in Jan 207
c. Emergency/Flood Planning – Cllr Newman/Clerk – No report
d. Village Hall Committee – Cllr Plater – Music licence being renewed. Christmas fair Saturday 5th December 2-4pm and looking to appoint a new treasurer.
e. DTE Wildlife Group – Cllr Newman – No seals visible from the viewing area, but warden duties have commenced.
f. Youth Club – Cllr Wallis – will be able to assist now it is back to Thursday evenings.

26/10/26-8 Finance and 27/28 Budget - RFO

a) the bank reconciliation for October 2026 was received and signed

b) it was RESOLVED to approve the schedule of receipts of £26,986,69 and payments of £15,553.03 for October 2026

c) it was Resolved to spend up to £250 on the purchase of a Christmas Tree to be placed at the Axe and Cleaver

d) it was noted that the September RPI inflation figure was 3.9%. Following discussion, it was RESOLVED to proceed with the extension of the Grounds and Maintenance contract as per the RFO's figures.

e) The RFO noted that the Bowls Club had requested a donation of £300 for a heater and the Football Club £500 for indoor pitch hire over winter. This was discussed, but there are no available funds at present. This can be revisited in the new year.

f) Any other/urgent financial matters

26/10/9 Cemetery Matters – It was resolved to adopt the proposals for the Headstone Management and Checking procedure and the charges for the under 18's.

26/10/26-10 Cyber Security Evidence – It was Resolved to adopt the evidence

26/10/26-11 CCTV Policy – following discussion it was RESOLVED to adopt the proposed policy

26/10/26-12 Data Protection Policy Update – following discussion it was RESOLVED to adopt the proposed policy

26/10/26-13 General Correspondence for October Website Updates and Communication, inc information from Louth and Lindsey Blind Society – these were noted.

26/10/26-14 Agenda items for the meeting to be held on November 23rd2026, St. Mary's Hall
27/28 Budget setting narrative and first draft figures. It was confirmed that the meeting in December will not be required.

26/10/26-15 - Confidential Property and Personnel Matters – it was RESOLVED that the Council would move into closed session by reason of the confidential property matters to be transacted – there were no members of the public/press present in the meeting at this point.

a. Chapel Field Retained Land - the RFO updated on the current position which was noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 8pm.

Geraldine McCarthy
Parish Clerk