



Somercotes Village Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 4LY
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MINUTES

DATE: 16TH MAY 2025

The minutes have been written and produced by Matthew Evans, Clerk and Proper Officer to Somercotes Parish Council.

Members Present:

- Cllr. Scott Walker [Chairman]
- Cllr. Paul Curran-Bilbie [Vice Chairman]
- Cllr. Colin Addison-Lees
- Cllr. Julie Coles
- Cllr. Jason Parker
- Cllr. Paul Wardle
- Cllr. Elaine Sherman
- Cllr. Emma Watson
- Cllr. John Walker
- Cllr. Martin Baron
- Cllr. Paul Slater
- Cllr. Steve Tomlinson

Officers Present:

- Matthew Evans [Clerk & Proper Officer] and Kimberley Walker [Deputy Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer]

01/25: Election of Chairman of the Council

The Chairman opened the floor to nominations for the office of Chairman of the Council/

Cllr. P. Curran-Bilbie proposed, and it was seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that Cllr. S. Walker be elected Chairman of the Council.

Cllr. E. Sherman proposed, and it was seconded by Cllr. P. Slater that Cllr. J. Parker be elected Chairman of the Council.

Cllr. S. Walker declined the nomination for Chairman.

Cllr. J. Parker was duly elected as Chairman of the Parish Council by a majority of Councillors present. Cllr. S. Tomlinson requested that the vote be recorded

AYE

Cllr. E. Sherman
Cllr. J. Walker
Cllr. P. Slater
Cllr. C. Addison-Lees
Cllr. P. Wardle
Cllr. J. Parker

NO

Cllr. E. Watson
Cllr. P. Curran-Bilbie
Cllr. S. Tomlinson
Cllr. J. Coles

ABSTAIN

Cllr. S. Walker
Cllr. M. Barron

Cllr. J. Parker assumed the Chair for the meeting.

02/25: Election of Vice Chairman of the Council

The Chairman opened the floor to nominations for the office of Chairman of the Council.

Cllr. C. Addison-Lees proposed, and it was seconded by Cllr. P. Slater Cllr. E. Sherman be elected Vice Chairman of the Council.

Cllr. E. Sherman was duly elected as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council by a majority of Councillors present.

AYE: SEVEN (PASSED)

AGAINST: ONE

ABSTAIN: THREE

03/25: Acceptance of Office

Cllr. J. Parker and Cllr. E. Sherman signed their respective declarations of acceptance of office.

04/25 Apologies for Absence:

All Councillors were present.

05/25 Social Media:

The Clerk informed the meeting that he was recording the meeting for the purpose of accurate minute production.

One member of the public also indicated that they were recording the meeting.

06/25: Declaration of Members Interests:

Declarations of Interest were raised by Cllr. E. Watson for agenda item 11/25(b) Dispensation was granted by the Proper Officer, from Cllr. E. Sherman in item 15/25(Items 1 & 2), dispensation was not requested, and from Cllr. P. Slater in item 15/25(a), dispensation was not requested.

07/24: Variation of Order of Business

No variation to the agenda was agreed.

08/25: Public Participation:

(a) Members of the Public Section

Questions were taken from three members of the public in regards to the Bridle Lane Allotment Garden, John McCabe Memorial, P.O.S.T grant.

(b) Local Authority Section:

Cllr. E. Sherman gave the Council a report on her work as Cabinet Member for Community Safety at Amber Valley Borough Council.

Cllr. Stuart Bent introduced himself to the Council as the newly elected Reform UK Derbyshire County Councillor for Alfreton and Somercotes.

09/25: To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Friday 21st March 2025:

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. J. Walker that the minutes for the meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record, this was agreed upon unanimously by all Councillors.

10/25: To consider motions by Councillors in accordance with Standing Provision 9(b):

(a) Proposed by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and seconded by Cllr. E. Sherman

“Council **RESOLVES**: To instruct the officers of the Council to arrange a meeting with the officers of Amber Valley Borough Council and Derbyshire County to discuss and agree a way forward regarding HGV’s using Birchwood Lane as an access road.”

The motion was agreed upon unanimously by all Councillors.

(b) Proposed by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and seconded by Cllr. J. Walker

“Council **RESOLVES**: To instruct the officers of the Council to update the rules of Cllr. Jim Spibey allotment awards. And for the competition to be held again this year.”

It was amended by the Council that the Clerk and Cllr. C. Addison-Lee’s be given delegated authority to agree the rules outside of the meeting.

The motion was agreed upon unanimously by all Councillors.

11/25: To receive reports from the Clerk for discussion, adoption and resolution:

(a) Annual Review of Core and other Policies of the Council

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that the policies be adopted and this was agreed upon unanimously.

(b) Parish Hall Refurbishment Update

*Watson left the room for the vote.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that the Council **RESOLVES** to note the report. This was agreed upon unanimously.

(c) Floral Display Quotation

It was proposed by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that the Council **RESOLVES** to accept the quote as presented. This was agreed upon unanimously.

(d) Bridle Lane Allotment Update

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Parker and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that the Council **RESOLVE** to extend the rent deadline to 30th June 2025, and the Council engage as whole in discussions.

12/25: Appointment of Committees and Outside Bodies:

(a) HR Committee

The following members were proposed to be appointed to the committee.

- Cllr. E. Sherman [8 votes]
- Cllr. J. Coles [5 votes]
- Cllr. C. Addison-Lees [6 votes]
- Cllr. P. Wardle [6 votes]
- Cllr. E. Watson [2 votes]

There being more candidates than positions available, in accordance with standing orders the Council held a run off ballot. A vote was held and Cllr. E. Watson receiving the least number of

votes was eliminated from the ballot, Cllr. E. Sherman, Cllr. J. Coles, Cllr. C. Addison-Lees, and Cllr. P. Wardle were elected on to the committee.

.13/25: Parish Council Finances:

(a) Income and Expenditure March 2025 to April 2025

The Financial Accounts was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and agreed upon unanimously.

(b) Bank Reconciliation March 2025 to April 2025

The recorded income report was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and agreed upon unanimously.

(c) To approve delegation of authority for regular payments in accordance with financial regulations.

The delegation of authority was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees and agreed upon unanimously.

14/25: End of Year

(a) To receive and accept the Internal Auditors' Report

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees that the Council accept the Internal Auditor's report, this was agreed upon unanimously.

(b) To receive and accept the Annual Governance Report

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees that the Council accept the Annual Governance Report, this was agreed upon unanimously.

(c) To review and sign the Annual Governance Statement for 2024/2025

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees that the Council sign the Annual Governance Statement, this was agreed upon unanimously.

(d) To review and sign the Annual Accounting Statement for 2024/2025

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Tomlinson and seconded by Cllr. C. Addison-Lees that the Council sign the Annual Accounting Statement, this was agreed upon unanimously.

(e) Elector's Rights – to note and agree that dates of Exercise of Public Rights as Tuesday 3 June – Monday 14 July 2025

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. E. Watson that the Council agree the electors rights period as Tuesday 3 June – Monday 14th July 2025 this was agreed upon unanimously.

(f) To agree schedule of Council meetings for 2025/2026

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. P. Wardle that the Council agree to the meeting schedule as set out below:

Friday 18th July 2025 @ 6:30PM
Friday 19th September 2025 @ 6:30PM
Friday 21st November 2025 @ 6:30PM
Friday 18th January 2026 @ 6:30PM
Friday 20th March 2026 @ 6:30PM
Friday 15th May 2026 @ 6:30PM

This was agreed upon unanimously.

15/25: Planning

*Cllr. E. Sherman left the meeting due to conflict of interest previously declared.

(a) New Applications:

REF: AVA/2025/0223

ADDRESS: Walkers Bingo 92 Nottingham Road Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 4LY

PROPOSAL: Demolition of former bingo hall and construction of new residential development.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. P. Wardle that the Council object, this was agreed upon unanimously by all Councillors present.

REF: AVA-2025-0210

ADDRESS: NICHOLAS FLETCHER VOLVO SPECIALIST 33 Leabrooks Road Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 4HB

PROPOSAL: Demolition of existing building (Sui Generis) used in conjunction with car sales. Erection of 2-storey self storage facility (B8) and erection of site security

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. E. Watson that the Council not comment.

REF: AVA-2025-0162

ADDRESS: TA Mining Machinery Development Ltd Mining Machinery Development Ltd Cotes Park Lane Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 4NJ

PROPOSAL: Proposed two storey workshop extension

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Walker and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that the Council should consider the noise be considered, this was agreed upon unanimously by all Councillors present.

REF: AVA/2025/0127

ADDRESS: Birchwood Kennels And Cattery 123 Birchwood Lane Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 4NE

PROPOSAL: Proposed infill two-storey extension and replacement of main roof to form attic bedroom

NO comment was agreed.

(b) Planning Outcomes:

REF: AVA/2024/0859

ADDRESS: Land Off Stanley Street Stanley Street Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire

PROPOSAL: Variation of condition 2 (plans) of AVA/2022/1104 to vary plots 130 -134

OUTCOME: **APPROVED**

16/25: Correspondence:

Anti-social behaviour on Sleetmoor Lane was discussed.

It was agreed to publish notice to coopt a new councillor for the vacancy on the Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Walker and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that that the Standing Order 3(aa) be suspended for 1hr in order to allow for all business to be concluded. This was agreed upon unanimously by all councillors present.

17/25: Confidential Item(s):

(a) Exclusion of The Public:

It was proposed by Cllr. J. McCabe and seconded by Cllr. S. Tomlinson that Members of the press and the public are excluded from the meeting during the following agenda item by reason of the confidential nature of the items of business to be transacted. This is in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Schedule 12A (Access to Information) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following agenda items.

(b) Clerk Employment Update:

The Clerk presented a report on their employment.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Walker and seconded by Cllr. J. Walker that the Council note the report.

18/25: Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Friday 18th July 2025, in the Main Hall at Somercotes Parish Hall, Nottingham Road, Somercotes, DE55 4LY.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:53 PM