

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Saturday 18 May 2024 at  
St. Peter's Church, Louth Road, South Somercotes**

**Present:** Chair Cllr Mr Antony Baker

**Also Present:** Clerk Mrs Binal Sawjani

**Members of Public** 17 of the Public  
**District/County** None present

**APM 01/24 Welcome to the Meeting:** The Chair opened the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) at 14.32 and welcomed everyone and new Parish Clerk. Refreshment were available and offered to parishioners.

- Chair opened with summarising the many items that have been addressed by the new council:
  - New parish clerk employed. This has made an enormous difference to the effectiveness of the council.
  - Church yard and Jubilee field will be maintained and cut regularly
  - Bank accounts streamlined and using online banking to save time and cost
  - Two Defib emergency points installed in the village
  - Outstanding debts and penalties paid and cleared with authorities
  - Returns to regulatory bodies completed, and accounts audited by internal and external auditors
  - New councillors and clerk have undertaken training courses to help discharge the duties of the parish effectively and efficiently
  - Better communication via website, Facebook and village magazine to keep parishioners abreast of news
  - Events in the village for promote community among the villagers
- We are in need to recruit more councillors for the parish to thrive as we have unfortunately had two resignations recently. Chair explained that it was not an onerous task and we would probably have bi-monthly meetings once parish business was settled. We have made huge progress since the beginning of the year. If you want to know more there is a flyer or speak to one of the councillors.
- Keen to know your ideas of what you would like from of your parish

**APM 02/24 To approve the draft notes as minutes of the last meeting held on the 10 May 2022:** No record of meeting in 2023 so the minutes of 10 May 2022 was RESOLVED to adopt and sign the notes as accurate minutes, and they were dated and signed by the Chairman.

**APM 03/24 District and County Councillors Report:** No report

**APM 04/24 Community Groups:** Community groups represented at the meeting

- Jill Brown North Somercotes WI – vibrate group in the area with an array of activities from crafting to days out and talks. 50 members
- Christine Wells Big Breakfast – this is an initiative that has been going since 2012 and they have had over 100 covers but the average 80 covers. Very popular in the local area and worth a try with different breakfast options.
- Jo Ridley Can't Sing Choir – They have been going for three years and have four clubs in the local area with the nearest one being North Somercotes in Village Hall on Thursday nights at 7.30pm
- Gerry Baldwin Bowls Club – This local group has 40 members playing locally at the bowling club near the playing fields in North Somercotes. They play in three leagues all year round. They have outdoor bowls in the summer months and once the weather becomes inclement they move to indoor bowls. Very sociable activity give it a try.

**APM 05/24 Questions from the Public:**

- Request from parishioner to move the benches on the field to the edges so that they can be used by the villagers.

- Parishioners agreed that this was a good meeting and could we advertise locally to encourage more people to attend.

### **APM 06/24 Summary and Close**

- The clerk then summed up the meeting thanked everyone for attending and introduced both Cllr Lewis and Cllr Stretton who were in attendance. Cllr Lewis reiterated that the parish needs more councillors and that it is not a big drain on your time and Cllr Stretton wanted to echo this message and thank the parish clerk for the hard work, time and dedication to her role since January.

**Close of Meeting:** 16.17

DRAFT