

**DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 at
St. Peter's Church, Louth Road, South Somercotes**

Present:

Chair	Cllr Paul Rickett (appointed)
Vice-Chair	Cllr Edward Mossop (appointed)
	Cllr Stephen McMillan (appointed)
	Cllr Densie Day
	Cllr Susan Colebrook
	Cllr Sarah Stepney
	Cllr Anthony Baker

Also Present:

Clerk	Ms Binal Sawjani
Members of Public	9
District/County	Cllr Bayliegh Robinson
Apologies	Cllr Daniel McNally

Item 0526/10 Welcome to the meeting: Chair opened meeting at 19.06 and welcomed the public. and explained that the APM that had been held before the council meeting and parishioners were invited to speak once we have elected chair and vice chair.

Item 0526/11 Election of Chairman: The chair asked for nominations and Cllr Paul Rickett was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED. The chair iterated that there are four councillors from the parish the council is quorate and the appointed councillors should step down. The chair confirmed that this would happen at the next meeting.

Item 0526/12 Handover to new Chairman: Not required

Item 0526/13 Appointment - Vice Chair: Cllr Anthony Baker was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED.

Cllr Mossop left the meeting

Meeting opened to the members of the public: no comments

Chair invited Cllr Robinson to speak

- Speed watch – would council consider a scheme with sister villages and the Cllr wanted to gauge the reposes in the village. Much discussion proposed voted more time at 19.26 as the discussion continued proposed, seconded and RESOLVED – finally clerk as for a show hand with he parishioners that were there and no votes.
- Roundalls at the start of the village and a 30mph sign with white fences with slow sign on the road. The Cllr will check with highways
- Cloddygate and Ings Lane no update. Mill Lane is on the list of works for this year.
- From that last meeting a parishioner asked about speeding in the village and if we could extend the speed limit to the end of Mill Lane to 30 or 40 mile an hour. Clerk to refer to Cllr and he is reporting back that this does not meet the criteria

Meeting started 19.32

Item 0526/14 Apologies for absence: Cllr Daniel McNally accepted

Item 0526/15 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations: Cllr Colebrook declared an interest will refrain from any discussion and votes on matter 18c

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Item 0526/16 To approve the draft notes as minutes of the last meeting held on the 8 April 2026: RESOLVED to adopt and sign the notes as accurate minutes, and they were dated and signed by the Chair.

Item 0526/17 Training: Training available to all Staff and elected Members and clerk recommends councillors to view training schedule. Training for all new councillors (in person) was on 13 May and the councillors were unable to join. The next two online training are 20 July and 17 September 2026. Clerk will continue to circulate the LALC training schedule.

Item 0526/18 Parish Matters:

- a) Graveyards new plan – grass cutting contract for 2026/27 has started and all is looking well
- b) Community Trees – to discuss what we do with the community trees – however Clerk has said that a complaint has been made about what has happened with the trees and we will need to go into closed session to deal with it and then resolutions from the closed session will be published for the community
- c) Bullgauds Field – Clerk was asked at the last meeting to write to the owner and had done so the response was that the brambles will be cut at the right time and the village should be pleased that we have a beautiful piece of land in the village. No further action required.
- d) **Item 0526/19 - Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2025/26:** Internal audit complete and forms need to be signed and sent to the external auditors. It was RESOLVED to adopt and forms signed by chair and RFO. Sent to the external auditor.
- e) Benches – bids have been sent in and three received prior to the meeting they range from £20 to £150 the top three bids are £150 x 2 and £140 x 1. All three bids are from South Somercotes residents. Clerk will inform all bidders if they were successful or not. Clerk will coordinate the payment and collection of benches.
- f) Definitive footpath – this is a planned footpath on the list on the register DMO257 – councillor who raised wanted an update referred to the county councillor and defer to the next meeting.
- g) Litter picking and Dog poo signs – Cllr has contacted the council who are sending the litter picking bags and dog poo signs. Clerk mentioned that there are litter pickers in the container
- h) Proposed Removal of Guidepost Signage Assembly at Town Street/Billings Gate – proposal from Lincolnshire council to remove the sign from the corner of Town Street – clerk showed the image and council voted against. Proposed, seconded and RESOLVED
- i) Bees in the Churchyard – Cllr contacted to Church Trust whose response was to leave them alone
- j) Community Emergency Plan – no appetite to do this
- k) Highways – covered in correspondence

Item 0526/20 Correspondence: To receive and dispose of correspondence received since the last meeting.

- Defib check email circulated – checked and submitted
- Parishioner asked if planning permission has been given to
 - property on Billingsgate for change of use as there are new patio windows and doors replacing a stable door and a static caravan down a bridlepath way to Saltfleet – clerk has sent to planning and they have asked for further clarification
- Temporary traffic order
- Lins bus information – to be on the website
- Signpost information as covered in parish matters
- Help with Oil costs for the parishioners – details on website
- Confirmation of percept

Item 0526/21 Date of next meeting: 1 October 2026 at 7pm

Item 0526/22 Financial matters:

- a. To note bank balances on bank statements as of May 2026 £12,682.11
- b. To note income: Precept £7,000 Book collection £11.87
- c. To authorise the signing of orders for payment for previous months

Date	Payment To	Expenditure Details	Amount
15/04/2026	Anthony Baker	Spray paint	£ 24.98
28/04/2026	Binal Sawjani	Salary to the PC	£ 264.00

Chair asked the parishioners to leave as we needed to go into a closed session.

Public left at 20.00 Start of closed session 20.04

Resolutions from the closed session

Item 0526/23 - There has been a complaint regarding the removal of the trees from Jubilee field. The matter has been discussed in closed session and one of the councillors admitted on acting without consent of the council. The matter has been dealt with and action taken to ensure that this will not happen again. Any of the resident that have a tree from this incident will not be asked to return the trees.

Item 0526/24 – Clerk has resigned and will work until 31 August 2026, which will provide enough time to support the internal and external audit process as well as the public notice period.

Meeting ended 20.31