South Somercotes Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6 October 2026 at St Peter`s Church, Louth Road, South Somercotes

Present;	**Chair**	Cllr Anthony Baker
	Vice Chair	Cllr Susan Colebrook
		Cllr Denise Day
		Cllr Sarah Stepney
Also Present;		
	Members of the Public	3
	District/County	Cllr Bayleigh Robinson
	Apologies	Cllr Paul Rickett

Item 0526/25 welcome to the meeting; Vice Chair opened the meeting at 19.00 and welcomed the public and invited any comments prior to the start of the meeting.
Members of the public asked about the arrangements for a clerk and RFO, Christmas arrangements and whether the state of the trees in the church yard needed to be checked, the vice chair said those items would be covered as agenda items, also the arrangements regarding the purchase of a wreath for remembrance Sunday was queried and were told that a member of the public would provide the wreath as she has for many years.

Item 0526/26 Cllr Bayleigh Robinson addressed the meeting regarding road repairs for Cloddy Gate, Ings Lane, Mill Lane and Fen Lane which were under review, Southfields Lane has had work done. Scufam lane diversion was mentioned and was the responsibility of the water board. Confirmation of repainted roundels coming into the village.
It was announced that grants on a first come first served bases were available of up to £3000 for smaller items and £10,000 for larger. Possibly for speed camera warning signs. The footpath DM 257 will be reviewed and prioritised in November/December.

Item 0526/27 19.15 Following the resignation of Cllr Rickett a new Chairperson was required, Cllr Baker was proposed, seconded and resolved. A new Vice Chair was now required, and Cllr Colebrook was proposed seconded and resolved.

Item 0526/28 Following the resignation of the previous clerk a new temporary clerk and RFO was required and Cllr Stepney was appointed.

Item 0526/29 The chair was asked if the records and laptop and been returned by the previous clerk but explained that having made two dates in early September both of which were cancelled by the previous clerk and then going on holiday for two weeks himself and an arrangement to drop the items at a third party address were not possible due to that person being ill, the present arrangement was for them to be brought over this week. It was pointed out that the clerk left at the end of August and it now being October sufficient time had elapsed and perhaps we should be taking advice from LALC on the best way to expedite the matter. The chair assured council that every effort would be made to regain the items by the end of the week.

Item 0526/30 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Rickets and accepted.

Item 0526/31 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in the agenda items not previously recorded on members register of interests. None received.

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Item 0526/32 To approve as correct the records and notes of the council meeting held on 6th October 2026 and authorise the chairman to sign the official minutes.

Item 0526/31 Chairpersons report.

Item 0526/32 Training – Staff and elected members to receive the latest training availability via the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (LALC) and consider and book relevant places for staff and elected members.

Item 0526/33 Parish Matters; To receive updates from and in respect of;
a; Graveyard, It was decided that the grass cutting plan adopted last year was a disaster and that we would ideally revert to the original plan of general grass cutting.
It was also decided that due to the weather in the summer and general ground movement we would seek a report on the safety of the trees in the churchyard. Cllr Day to contact Guy Bishell and ask for him to look at the trees.
b; Christmas Event. It was confirmed that once again this year the village ladies would undertake the organisation of the event without input from the council.
c; Highways. See updates from Cllr Robinson

Item 0526/34 The Chair proposed the adoption of the following policies;
HR policy
Training policy
IT policy
Publication policy
GDPR
Data Protection
Risk register policy to follow…

Seconded and resolved

Item 0526/35 Correspondence; To receive and dispose of correspondence received since the last meeting. Resignation of Cllr Ricket as Chairperson.

Item 0526/36 Date of the next meeting - Wednesday 18th November 2026 at 18.30

Item 0526/37 Financial Matters;
a; To note bank balances on bank statements as of October 2026 - £8,996.13

b; To note income;

Date	Payment from	Income Details	Amount
27/05/2026	Resident	from Sale of Bench	£150.00
27/05/2026	Resident	from sale of Bench	£150.00
27/05/2026	Resident	from sale of Bench	£140.00

c; To authorise the signing of orders for payment for previous months

Date	Payment to	Expenditure Details	Amount
01/06/2026	Binal Sawjani	2024 Holiday Pay	£415.80
01/06/2026	Binal Sawjani	2025 Holiday Pay	£462.00

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Item 0526/38 Meeting closed at 19.39 and brief closed session commenced to discuss applications for the post of clerk which was resolved and an offer to an applicant would be made by the chair.