

SOMERCOTES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on Friday 21 November 2025 at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall

Present: Cllr J Parker
Cllr E Sherman
Cllr C Addison-Lees
Cllr M Barron
Cllr P Slater
Cllr P Wardle
Cllr K Judson

Cllr S Bent
Cllr J Kerry

C Hedley (Acting Clerk)

A number of members of the public were also present

73/25: Apologies for Absence – None received

74/25: Social Media – The clerk advised that the meeting was being recorded to assist with the formation of minutes.

75/25: Declaration of Members Interests
Cllr Sherman – Item 87/25

76/25: Variation in Order of Business – Cllr Parker announced that public speaking would take place as an additional item (76a/25) and that Items 89/25 & 90/25 would be taken in seclusion due to personal information which may be discussed. Also that Item **86/25 be taken into seclusion**.

76(a)/25: Request was made by a representative from Phoenix Bowles Club for financial assistance to help with the erection of a fence to combat vandalism and anti social behaviour. Council **RESOLVED** to consider the request at the next meeting in January 2026. Cllr Sherman agreed to query with AVBC whether any S106 monies were available. Tina Crookes outlined issues relating to a submitted FOI request and the subsequent response from the previous clerk. Cllr Parker responded that the matter was on the agenda and the clerk would liaise with her going forward.

A matter was raised about conflicts arising between different groups in the parish. Cllr Sherman congratulated the groups on the positive impacts which were felt in the community and acknowledged the need for youth facilities in the area.

A representative from Leabrooks Christian centre reported that since building had

taken place behind the building, their cellar had been flooded. Cllr Sherman agreed to raise this with the relevant officers at AVBC. She agreed to take the photographs provided for illustration and contact the representative with a response.

77/25: Items to be taken in seclusion

Cllr Parker read out the following statement:

“That in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, such that it would be prejudicial to the Public Interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the meeting resolves that the public and press will be temporarily excluded for Items: 89/25 & 90/25 and 86/25”

78/25: Cooption of councillors - Deferred

79/25: The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting on the 12 September 2025 and those of the EOPCM meetings on 17th October and 6 November 2025 were **APPROVED**.

80/25: Council **RESOLVED** that the clerk investigate the processes involved to introduce market stalls on the marketplace car park

81/25: Youth facilities – Council **RESOLVED** that youth provision facilities would be considered following clarification on the unitary council arrangements and what this will mean for parish councils.

82/25: Section 137 Application – Council **APPROVED** the grant of £82 for 1st Somercotes Rainbows.

83/25: Consideration of proposed Allotment lease. Council **RESOLVED** that further discussions with the allotment should take place and that proposals would be considered at a future meeting.

84/25: Somerlea Centre – Council **RESOLVED** that the clerk write to the custodians of the centre to request clarification on its current status

85/25: 2025 Carol Concert – Council were informed that the concert this year had been arranged for the 12 December 2025. Council **RESOLVED** that the parish bar be open for the event. Clerk to implement

86/25: Finance – See supporting documents. Council **NOTED** the payments made.

87/25: Planning – Council had no comments on the following applications.

AVA/2025/0702

AVA/2025/0424

AVA/2025/0482

AVA/2025/0486

AVA/2025/0512

AVA/2025/0470

AVA/2025/0626

PDR/2025/0050

AVA/2025/0702 (142 Somercotes Hill Somercotes Alfreton Derbyshire) had just been received for consultation. Cllr Sherman advised that she would be speaking against this at a planning meeting and advised members of the public to forward their objections if they had any.

88/25: Date of next meeting – The next ordinary parish council meeting is on Friday 16th January 2026

PART 2 – Taken in seclusion

89/25: Consideration of HR Issues – Council discussed the HR issues raised and **RESOLVED:**

- (a) That once all information has been received a further report be submitted to Council for consideration and decision.
- (b) That the council agreed to the terms of a proposal suggested by Clearpath Solutions.

90/25: FOI Request Response – Council **RESOLVED** that advice be sought from the Monitoring Officer on the way forward.

The meeting ended at: 20.45

DRAFT