

Report 2024/25 for Somersham Parish Council APM

Somersham & District Community Association (S&DCA)

- S&DCA is an association of groups and individuals from Somersham, Little Blakenham, Nettlestead and Flowton who are interested in the maintenance of the playing field and activities/facilities.
- These villages form our area of benefit.
- We are a registered charity with an established purpose to provide recreational facilities, playgrounds, community centres and other amenities of a similar character for the benefit of the community. We manage the playing field under a Declaration of Trust between Somersham Parish Council and ourselves.
- Our projects and activities are devised, funded and delivered in the interests of social welfare, and with the object of advancing education, furthering health, relieving poverty, distress or sickness by improving the conditions of life of the persons residing within the area of benefit.
- We are proud to be able to provide the community with the opportunity to enjoy sport and leisure both casually and in an organised way.
- Currently organised activity includes youth club, tennis, football (both youth and senior) and cycle speedway.
- We believe the facilities could be used for more organised activity, for example: exercise/running, netball, hockey, cricket (fielding training) creative projects and additional youth and female football.
- The new play equipment has been well received and we have now moved on to a new project with the aim to upgrade our pavilion to provide facilities that comply with current sporting regulations for changing and gender expectations, and to address the needs of the Youth Club and local community.
- With the funding support of the parish council we will soon have an outline plan. A forthcoming stage of the project will be to consult with the community on this design and also to identify how the use of the facilities can be broadened.
- We have made the tidying up of the field boundary a priority this year and we are being assisted by the parish council. Also the care of the local amenity trees surrounding the playing field, including the high-quality hedging on the north-side of the boundary

Somersham Wheelie Fun Day

- Wheelie Fun Day is the main fundraising activity for the S&DCA, to help us afford the costs of managing the community playing field and sports pavilion.
- The event is planned & organised entirely by volunteers, who support this great day out for Somersham and area villagers and visitors from further afield to enjoy.
- The 2024 event took place on 7th July and despite some dreadful weather we managed income of £5,728.70. After expenses, the net profit was £3,300.71. We were pleased with the resilience of our event model and central to that is our independent funding from our sponsors and the Wheelie Dart Tournament held at the Duke of Marlborough.
- The **2025 event will be held on Saturday 5th July** from 10am to 10pm.
- Planning is well under way for this year's event on the playing field and we should have a good selection of food & drink, market stalls, games, vintage and classic vehicles, cycle speedway, demonstrations - and of course live music on our stage all day!

Terry Fordham
Chair, S&DCA

(11 April 2025)