

Corsenside Parish Council (CPC)

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd of February 2015 At The Bay Horse, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: C. Hamilton (Chair), A. Pender (Vice Chair), G. Scott, P. Saunders, D. Carrington, K. Traill (Clerk).

- 1) Apologies for absence:- C. Currie
- 2) Declarations of interest:- C. Hamilton in respect of West Woodburn First School, A. Pender & P. Saunders in respect of the Parish Hall.
- 3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues :- None raised
- 4) Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th of January 2015:- Signed as a correct and accurate record.
- 5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda :- D. Carrington updated the Councillors with regards to the Dog Warden visiting Ridsdale. D. Carrington pointed out that the visit was made when there were 2 inches of snow therefore the extent of the problem was not visible. D. Carrington also informed the Councillors that she had spoken to PC H. Spencer regarding training for use of the speed camera. PC H. Spencer had explained that currently there were 6 members of the public throughout the whole of Northumberland that could be trained at one time and that there were currently no spaces left. PC H. Spencer also stated that usually the speed guns were only available for 30mph roads, however she would look into Ridsdale being an exception given its safety issues. D. Carrington has been looking into applying to the Wind Farm Funding in order to purchase some flashing speed signs for Ridsdale, however she is unsure that this fits the remit for funding, however will be able to give an update at the next meeting. It was suggested that perhaps we could also ask Councillor John Riddle if he were able to contribute funding towards some speed signs. D. Carrington stated that PC H. Spencer would like to attend our March meeting to discuss the speeding issue and other matters.
- 6) County Councillor's Report :- Nothing reported.
- 7) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the Chairman's discretion, under item 18 below:- A. Pender, C. Hamilton and K. Traill had matters they wanted included.
- 8) Action point list :-
 12. Ridsdale Speed Signs and Roundels – K. Traill stated that she had sent a couple of e-mails to M. Robinson asking for updates however had not heard back. C. Hamilton explained that he had attempted to contact M. Robinson regarding the safety inspection she had promised would be carried out, however she had been off work and would return back on the 3rd of February.
 28. Jubilee Stones – K. Traill explained that she had written another letter and posted that through the box up at the quarry in East Woodburn, however she did not believe that the mail box there was emptied much. K. Traill has also e-mailed the Marshall Stancliffe company directly. G. Scott informed the Councillors that she was hoping to purchase some stone herself from the quarry and that she would pass onto K. Traill the contact details of the manager who would be working there when the quarry reopened in April.
 53. Defects on Road at Little Ridsdale – Action re-raised as there are issues regarding the drainage/flooding on the road especially by the bottle bin and also the edge of the road in places is significantly higher than the grass verge causing concern of damage to cars and potential accidents. K.

Traill explained how she had e-mailed both Ray Wealleans (Neighbourhood Services Area Manager) and Kris Westerby (Technical Services Area Manager) informing them of the issues and concerns. R. Wealleans responded with regards to the drainage issue stating that they were aware of the drainage problems. He stated that there was already a task sheet issued for this, and that there is a gully at both sides of the road which they have tried to jet through with no luck, therefore an excavation is required in the layby to locate the pipes junction and install an inspection chamber. As of yet K. Westerby has not responded regarding the height of the road edging.

60. Speed Signs at The Brandy Bank is obscured by trees – K. Traill explained how both electricians she had spoken to were not confident enough in the use of solar panelling. C. Hamilton went on to explain how he knew of a local company that had an electrician with speed sign/solar power, experience and that they would look at the sign at a cost of £35/hour. A. Pender pointed out that the sign at the north end of the village was now also off.

74. Sharp bend at Sarelaw – Nothing further to report.

76. Leawell – Action to be removed from list as the CPC no longer need to be involved.

78. Overflowing Drain at East Woodburn - K. Traill had e-mailed R. Wealleans requesting an update. R. Wealleans replied stating that the works were programmed to be carried out and that he would know more after his meeting with the inspector.

80. Armstrong St & Whitearce – Nothing further to report.

81. Missing Stones at East Woodburn Bridge – Nothing further to report, work will be carried out in the future.

84. Dark Skies Initiative, energy efficient street lighting – K. Traill explained that she had contacted Richard Powell (NCC Liaison Officer) stating that the CPC had contacted G. Barlow 3 times requesting a response regarding the Councillors disappointment at not being one of the first areas for the initiative, and had failed to hear anything back. R. Powell will contact G. Barlow and ask him to give the CPC a response.

85. Map of Grass Cutting area/ Weed killing – tender 2015 – C. Hamilton informed the Councillors that he had completed the grass cutting map. K. Traill to check when the Grass Cutting Tender is due for renewal and how the CPC will advertise the Tender.

86. Community Asset Transfer, The Green, West Woodburn – K. Traill has spoken to a N. Easton requesting an update to the Councillors query regarding the issue of the land used by the school. N. Easton states that the query had been logged with the Head of Estates, however current policy was that NCC do not transfer any operational educational land. K. Traill enquired about what would happen in the unlikely event of school closure, N. Easton said that it was likely the CPC would automatically be given the transfer of the school field considering the CPC would be responsible for the rest of the green. The next step will be that the CPC should receive formal notification, and to appoint a solicitor. K. Traill to contact M. McGregor – Gibsons & Company. K. Traill explained that she had spoken to our Insurers who confirmed that once the CPC became responsible for the land we would be covered under public liability, however we would need a Risk Assessment in place and a maintenance schedule (i.e. divots smoothed, grass cut, tress etc). C. Hamilton explained to the Councillors that the school may actually be entitled to another 3 metres of land due to a possible miscalculation when the original fencing went up.

9) Parish Hall :- P. Saunders informed the Councillors that the insurance had been renewed and that M. Parr had been chasing up The Charity Commission as the details M. Parr had given them, had not been updated on the web-site. P. Saunders to follow up with M. Parr.

10) Play Area – West Woodburn :- C. Hamilton will replace the 2 swings when the weather improves as the original swings pose no health and safety risks. K. Traill informed the Councillors that she is waiting to hear back from R. Wealleans with regards to NCC being able to carry out jet washing of the safety matting in the Spring.

11) Wind Power Stations :- Nothing further to report.

12) Parish Council Web-Site:- P. Saunders believes the company that created our original web-site, is no longer operating and therefore we may not be able to correct the issue regarding not being able to upload the monthly minutes. P. Saunders suggested that we would be able to create a link from the original web-site that would take people to a new one. K. Traill gave information regarding the NCC web-site and the section dedicated to Town and Parish information. It is believed that information relating to Parish Council web-sites may be given at the up and coming NALC Road Show.

13) Interaction with the Community :- D. Carrington was concerned that Parishioners do not always get direct feedback and how the CPC could improve on this. D. Carrington suggested that the CPC promote itself more and inform Parishioners about who the Councillors are, what they do and what we have achieved. The Redes Valley News may be a good mechanism for getting information out there (A. Pender to look into whether the Rede Valley News is continuing), giving updates after AGM's, leaflet drops, web-site up and running correctly, minutes are currently available by e-mail and in future will be via a web-site.

14) CPC Assets :- K. Traill handed out information regarding what the CPC are responsible for, it's value, location and condition. K. Traill enquired as to who we could use to carry out the odd minor repair, it was suggested that the Corsenside Fusiliers may be able to help, K. Traill to contact R. Cross.

15) Planning Matters

a. For Decision – None

b. Decisions from Northumberland County Council – Planning App 14/04056/FUL, Land North of Autumn House – REFUSED

c) Definitive Map Modification Order (No 21), 2014 – Byway:- The Councillors looked at the information provided and felt that it was inappropriate to have a byway open to all traffic. At present the byway is, for most of its length, a rough track that partly runs through the middle of quiet residential dwellings where children play. CPC also wish to point out that this route does not give access to any landscape not already accessible by existing public highway. It merely cuts the corner between the A68 north of West Woodburn and the C201.

16) Other Correspondence :-

All information read out and made available to the Councillors.

17) Finances:-

a) Invoices for Payment

Clerks wages (£161.88) and expenses (£5, training fees)

Society for Local Council Clerks Membership - £82

B. Findler - £96 (re-fitting of a dog bin, Ridsdale)

NALC - £60 (Finance training)

b) Bank Balance - £10,173.60

c) Monies Receive - £98 (payment from the delivery company that damaged the dog bin), £282.50 (panto sales).

d) Requests for Assistance - None

e) Complete and sign banking Forms for new signatory – D. Carrington, sign letter to change C. Hamilton's authority – All signed.

f) i. Panto Costings – Rumblestiltskin, - Councillors were given a copy of the costings and A. Pender read

them out and issued a cheque of £282.50 (panto sales), made payable to the CPC.

ii. 2015 Panto booking – A. Pender discussed the panto (The Ugly Duckling) for 2015-2016. Councillors discussed whether the panto should go ahead again given the financial loss, it was agreed that it is something enjoyed by all who attend and it provides a service within a rural community, A. Pender to book it in for January 2016.

18) Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion:- A. Pender informed all the Councillors that Janet Somerville (a former County Councillor), had recently passed away. A. Pender explained to the Councillors that the Whitearce street sign was no longer readable, K. Traill to contact NCC. K. Traill stated that it had been mentioned to her that recently there had been more dog mess on the village green. K. Traill to look into the CPC purchasing a dog bin and to also contact the dog warden. C. Hamilton explained to the Councillors about the damaged dog bag dispenser, it was agreed that K. Traill would look into costings for 3 new ones (one for each dog bin) as an encouragement for dog owners to clear up after their dogs.

19) Next Meeting:- Monday the 2nd of March 2015, 7.30pm at The Bay Horse, West Woodburn.

Signed.....

Date.....

Karen Traill, Corsenside Parish Clerk,
Ridgeview, West Woodburn.

01434 270 722 corsensideparishclerk@hotmail.com

NB. Due to limited notice board space it is not possible to display the minutes in a larger font. However, minutes can be e-mailed by contacting the clerk using the above details.