

Corsenside Parish Council

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

Present:-

Councillors: C. Hamilton (Chair), A. Pender (Vice Chair), G. Scott, C. Currie, P. Saunders, D. Carrington.

Clerk: K. Traill

PC Helen Spencer

County Councillor: John Riddle

Public: P. Bilton

1) Apologies for absence:- None

2) Declarations of interest:- C. Hamilton in respect of West Woodburn First School, A. Pender & P. Saunders in respect of the Parish Hall.

3) PC H. Spencer:- PC H. Spencer explained that there had just been a recent recruitment for the Volunteer Speeding System, therefore it would be some time before further recruitments. Usually the scheme is just for 20-30mph areas, however they are looking into Ridsdale as an exception given the speeding issues it has. The site has to be initially assessed for the health and safety of the volunteers, if it passes this assessment it then goes to the Chief Inspector for the final decision. PC H. Spencer also discussed the possibility of having the camera van located at Ridsdale, however given the number of other sites over the whole of Northumberland, Ridsdale was not one of the areas chosen. PC H. Spencer stated that she had requested a traffic survey be carried out by the police and explained the long process that had to be followed before this could be put in place. There will however be local speeding checks carried out on specific dates in March. C. Hamilton took the opportunity to explain that the highways inspector N. Snowdon had stated he would organise a speed survey. PC H. Spencer also informed the CPC that in response to recent criminal activity within the area, 3 individuals had been arrested. PC H. Spencer stated that the individuals were part of a group from County Durham targeting our area. PC H. Spencer urges residents to be vigilant and that if they suspect suspicious behaviour, call 101 to report it. Councillor J. Riddle explained that parishioners had informed him they did not receive feedback from the police when they reported crimes or suspicious behaviour which made them less likely to report anything in the future. PC H. Spencer stated that this was something the police force could improve on and informed all that when members of the public do report something, they should make a request then, that they would like feedback, a note will be made on the file. C. Hamilton, thanked PC H. Spencer for her work and on-going commitment to making the parish roads and in particular Ridsdale, safer.

4) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues:- None raised

5) Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd of February 2015:- Signed as a true and accurate record.

6) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda:- K. Traill gave the Councillors costings for an extra Dog Waste Bin for the village green area and dog bag dispensers. K. Traill to try and find a cheaper bag dispenser or an alternative suitable product.

A. Pender informed the Councillors that the Rede Valley News was continuing and that D. Carrington would be able to put 'Good News and Updates' regarding the work of the CPC in these quarterly additions. D. Carrington.

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to speak with C. Hamilton to discuss what the CPC has achieved in the last year.

D. Carrington explained that the next Wind Farm Panel Meeting was to be held on Wednesday the 11th of March. D. Carrington would therefore be able to update the Councillors on the likelihood of applying for funding for flashing speed signs in Ridsdale, at the next PC meeting.

7) County Councillor's Report :- J. Riddle informed the Councillors that despite the fact NCC had set a stringent budget this last year, he believes they have spent it more wisely and our area has achieved more. He stated that the C201 West Woodburn to Bellingham Rd was not yet completed, in Spring– Summer time there will be more patching and tar spraying carried out. The Environmental Agency are also involved so that issues with the road flooding can be looked into. Councillor J. Riddle stated that he was not in favour of the proposed planning review as there would be no local knowledge involved in the decision making. J. Riddle also informed the Councillors that he was against the move of County Hall to Ashington, as well as the proposed closure of some fire stations next year. Councillor John Riddle stated that he would authorise the funding of one flashing speed sign for Ridsdale from the Small Schemes Fund, however the CPC would have to sign an agreement to say they would take on the maintenance responsibility, K. Traill to contact Rueben Morgan for further information. D. Carrington brought up the concerns over the potential loss of the local bus service which currently operates once per week. Councillor J. Riddle reassured all that there would be a full consultation before this happened and he believed the service would not be cut.

8) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the Chairman's discretion, under item 19 below:- K. Traill & D. Carrington had items to discuss.

9) M. Parr's resignation – New Councillor Vacancy: - C. Hamilton read out M. Parr's letter of resignation. K. Traill to contact NCC election office and start the process of giving notice of a Councillor vacancy.

10) Action point list :-

12. Ridsdale Speed Signs and Roundels – C. Hamilton explained his discussions with M. Robinson who agreed to send out the highways inspector to assess the situation. C. Hamilton met with the inspector N. Snowdon on the 11/02/15 who agreed that the roundel's where not ideally located. N. Snowdon will arrange the relocation of the roundel's in the near future as well as a speed survey. K. Traill explained that she had contacted various people to find out what additional measures West Woodburn would get as a result of the speed survey carried out late last year in West Woodburn, however as of yet no one has responded. K. Traill to chase this up.

28. Jubilee Stones – K. Traill explained that she had spoken to S. Boam, the site manager for East Woodburn Quarry. S. Boam was more than happy to still provide the 2 stones as previously agreed. K. Traill to contact him again in early April when the quarry is due to re-open. K. Traill to inform NCC highways department of our intentions to erect the stones in the near future at the locations previously agreed.

53. Defects on Road at Little Ridsdale – (see point 7 County Councillor's report). K. Traill explained that she had tried contacting M. Rowe (Inspector), regarding the high edging of the C201, however had not had a response. J. Riddle informed all that Geoff Oliver had been out recently checking the edging height, it was also noted that the NCC had carried out some work during the week looking into the drainage/flooding issues around the recycling bin.

60. Speed Signs at The Brandy Bank is obscured by trees – C. Hamilton to chase up the electrician who will look at both signs to see why they are not working as they should.

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

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78. Overflowing Drain at East Woodburn - K. Traill had spoken to R. Wealleans for an update, R. Wealleans informed K. Traill that the inspector was on long term sick and that he would get the Inspectors apprentice out to look into the matter. K. Traill to also e-mail Councillor J. Riddle pictures of where the blocked gullies/drains are.

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 – Nothing further to report, K. Traill has had no response from G. Barlow. J. Riddle informed the Councillors that the latest the work could be completed would be by Spring 2018. He is expecting Kielder and Byrness to be done in the near future. J. Riddle to e-mail K. Traill map and data of the Dark Skies Initiative work schedule.

85. Map of Grass Cutting area/ Weed killing – tender 2015 – K. Traill explained that the map and relevant documents had been completed and the grass cutting for April 2015-April 2016 had gone out to tender with an advert in the Hexham Courant. C. Hamilton handed a copy of the grass cutting areas and descriptions around.

86. Community Asset Transfer, The Green, West Woodburn – K. Traill has spoken to a N. Easton who states that our application was discussed at a meeting on 24/01/15, he explained that there was progression however it can take time, N. Easton will follow up with the property team. K. Traill informed the Councillors that she had been in contact with Macgregor and Gibson Law who had estimated a cost of £540. C. Hamilton read out an e-mail that W. Goddard (West Woodburn First School Head teacher), had received from NCC regarding the additional 5 metres of land that should have originally been part of the field area used by the school. It is the schools intention to leave their current fencing where it is, and put an additional fence up encompassing the additional land and using this land as an orchard.

11) Parish Hall :- P.Saunders stated that it was still just showing M. Parr as the only trustee on behalf of the Parish Hall on the Charity Commission web-site. P. Saunders cannot take the matter any further until he hears back from M. Parr.

12) Play Area – West Woodburn :- K. Traill explained that she had spoken to R. Wealleans regarding NCC jet washing the play area and was awaiting a cost for this work. C. Hamilton presented the Councillors with his play area equipment checklist, evidence that it is being carried out on a weekly basis. C. Hamilton will replace the 2 swing seats when the weather improves as it is not a health and safety risk.

13) Wind Power Stations :- Work has started to take place on the Ray Estate which will accommodate up to 16 wind turbines. Councillor J. Riddle informed the Councillors that as well as Wind Farm funding, our area was also eligible for Landfill tax – Environmental Fund as Corsenside was within the radius of Newbrough as well as the old Woodburn tip. K. Traill to look up information.

14) NALC Roadshow: - K. Traill handed out information about topics being discussed at the recent NALC Roadshow. K. Traill discussed the new recording and broadcasting regulations with regards to Parish Council Meetings and documents that the CPC need to have in place to deal with such requests.

15) Planning Review :- K. Traill read out the Planning Review letter received from G. Paul NCC (Director – Planning, Economy & Housing) regarding the proposed changes to the Planning Service. Councillors discussed and agreed upon a response, K. Traill to e-mail the Councillors comments first thing on 03/03/15.

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16) Planning Matters

- a. For Decision – i. Planning Ref: 15/00161/CLEXIS – Use of storage, parking and maintenance of HGV's, plant and vehicles, former West Woodburn Service Station - The Councillors viewed the application and gave a response of 'No Objection'.
- ii. Planning Ref: 14/04193/CLEXIS – Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use – double garage – 1 Sarelaw Cottage – Ridsdale – The Councillors viewed the application and gave a response of 'No Objection'.
- b. Decisions from Northumberland County Council – None
- c. Planning Ref: 14/04098/FUL – Construction of a farm worker's cottage, land West of Armadale – Withdrawn at applicant's request. The Councillors believed this letter from NCC to be mistaken, K. Traill to query this with the Planning Department.

17) Other Correspondence :-

- a) CPRE Newsletter – Made available to Councillors
- b) John Bassett – Defibrillator – The e-mail was read out and Councillors gratefully accepted J. Bassetts offer. K. Traill to enquire with J. Bassett whether or not the device needs an electric power supply or not as this will be influential in its location.
- c) Residence Festival – Information shown to Councillors
- d) Flood Risk Strategy – E-mail read out to Councillors.

18) Finances :-

- a) Invoices for Payment
Clerks wages £254.38 and expenses £81.45
- b) Bank Balance - £10,051.22
- c) Monies Received - £282.50 – panto profit
- d) Requests for Assistance - None
- e) K. Traill finance training – K. Traill informed the Councillors of what the training had involved. C. Hamilton asked if the new application could do the clerks payroll. K. Traill informed the Councillors that it could record the clerk's wages however it could not be used as a P.A.Y.E system. Currently M. Parr enters the clerks wages and generates a payslip using his own finance package. As M. Parr has now resigned it would be helpful to look into how the CPC can take over that role. D. Carrington suggested using Payroo, a free application. K. Traill to speak to D. Carrington in more detail about this before the next meeting.
- f) D. Carrington now a signatory and C. Hamilton's level of authorisation has been upgraded to VSA.
- g) Barclay's Account – K. Traill asked if the historic Barclays Account could be closed down as there was £0.00 balance. C. Hamilton, as a signatory on this account, to look into this.

19) Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion:- K. Traill informed the Councillors that she had managed to get in touch with Spanglefish (web-site providers) regarding the issues we had been having around up loading documents onto the CPC web-site. Spanglefish have updated us to version 2 which seems to be working. The CPC web-site will need improving over time as in the very near future all information including the finances will need to be uploaded onto the web-site. D. Carrington informed all the Councillors that there is an on-line questionnaire to fill in regarding the local bus service. Questionnaires can be found via the NCC web-site, look for consultation and then scroll down to bus review link. Questionnaires can be filled in on other people's behalf before the 26th of March. The concern is that if the service is not deemed viable, Corsenside may lose it,

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causing isolation for a number of parishioners.

20) Next Meeting:- Monday the 13th of April 2015, 7.30pm at The Parish Hall West Woodburn.

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 or alternatively viewed through the Corsenside parish Council Web-site.

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