

## Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2016

At The Parish Hall, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: - **Councillors:** C. Hamilton (Chair), D. Carrington (Vice Chair), P. Bilton, G Scott & A. Harding **Clerk:** K. Traill **Members of the Public:** L. Meikle

1) Apologies for absence: - Cllr C. Currie.

2) Declarations of interest: - C. Hamilton in respect of West Woodburn First School & A. Harding in respect of the Corsenside Leek & Vegetable Society.

3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: - LM attended the meeting in order to raise the issue of speeding traffic through West Woodburn. LM stated that although we have the flashing speed signs & very occasionally the mobile police camera, there are no other traffic calming measures within West Woodburn's 30mph zone. LM informed all that many vehicles travelling South do not slow down at all & some only start braking once they pass the school. LM also pointed out that part of the main foot path leading to a public crossing which takes residents, children & elderly included, to a cluster of houses across the field, is outside the 30mph zone. Traffic speeds down the hill at such a rate it leaves little time to brake should anyone be crossing. LM suggested that West Woodburn could do with some kind of speed reminder. All agreed that the 30mph zone within West Woodburn was a cause of concern. Cllr C. Hamilton explained the proactive action CPC have always tried to take with regards to this & the obstacles they had faced. Cllr C. Hamilton explained the scheme Northumberland Police have for training members of the public with regards to using the speed cameras. These courses however come up very rarely & sometimes at the last minute. KT explained that the speed survey which was conducted a couple of years back, showed the average speed in this location to be 56mph. Extra traffic calming measures were mentioned by NCC however these measures just included the additional use of the mobile speed camera. KT to contact N. Snowdon asking him what measures we could use under highway regulations. KT to add this to the action list as a new point. LM also informed all that on Good Friday at 8.30am he came across an electric cable on the pavement that had apparently been knocked down by a hay wagon which was clearly stacked too high. LM, a retired electrician, was able to test the cable & discovered that the cable was live with 250 volts. LM contacted NEDL who attended around 2 hours later. LM spoke with NEDL who stated that the cable was at regulation height & therefore nothing could be done about it. LM has spoken with residents who state that the cable has previously been clipped by over stacked wagons. KT to contact NEDL requesting that something be done. Lastly LM mentioned the Monday Club in Wark which are a group of retired residents who donate their time on behalf of the Parish Council to carry out small repairs etc. LM mentioned that he was aware of at least 4 residents within the Parish of Corsenside who would be happy to do a similar thing however it would have to be under the umbrella of CPC so that volunteers were covered by the relevant insurances.

4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2016: - Signed as a true & accurate record.

5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda: - None

6) County Councillors Report: - None

7) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the chairman's discretion, under item 17 below: - KT & GS had matters for discussion.

8) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: -KT explained that she was working on more detailed risk assessments for the defibrillators. KT also informed all that she had not yet completed an action bullet point list of help & NCC contacts for members of the public whose homes suffer due to flooding. KT had contacted MKM Building Supplies asking if they were able to donate any sandbags that could be handed out to those within the parish that often suffered from flooding. MKM was able to kindly donate 30 empty sandbags to CPC who will make them available to those at risk. CPC wishes to thank MKM for this donation.

9) Action point list: - 28. Jubilee Stones – Cllr D. Carrington explained that she had been informed that there would be a worker at the quarry from Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 12pm – 12pm on the 21<sup>st</sup>. If CPC were able to organise transport of the stones, then access to the quarry could be arranged for sometime within these dates. Cllr D. Carrington & S. Carrington will look into what, if any, transport could be arranged.

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

78. Overflowing Drain at East Woodburn – KT has emailed K. Westerby requesting an update. KW had responded stating that a Michael Banks would get in touch. M. Banks emailed stating that there would be further ditching work carried out in this area as soon as possible in the coming new financial year. KT emailed back asking about any planned work for drainage/ditches on the A68 in Ridsdale. M. Banks replied stating that he will contact the gully cleansing supervisor and have him check and clear all the gullies in this vicinity. KT explained to M. Banks that the problem in Ridsdale was the lack of a gully/ditch running down the A68. KT also attached a photo of the A68 in WW highlighting a drain that was completely block & the area which was tarmacked over approx. 8 yrs. ago where it's believed drains were covered over. KT still awaiting information.

80. Armstrong St & Whitearce - Cllrs felt that NCC had postponed this resurfacing now for too long. Various promises have been made over the last year with regards to when this would happen. KT to chase NCC up regarding when resurfacing will happen.

86. Community Asset Transfer, The Green, West Woodburn – KT explained that J. Heads of NCC responded apologising for the delay & that she would review the matter & come back with suggested wording. KT was copied in to an email sent from our solicitor to NCC solicitor on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April asking - 'May I please now hear from you without further ado so that the matter can be concluded '. KT to contact NCC stating that the process is being held up by NCC & costing CPC extra money in solicitor fees. KT also explained that she had e-mailed J. Alderson enquiring to see if he had been able to inspect the village green trees as well as the overhanging trees on the road to East Woodburn, unfortunately he has not.

88. Ridsdale Speed Signs - KT informed all that D. Mutch had emailed with order confirmation documents & an invoice for 50% of total cost to be paid before work would start. KT had contacted D. Mutch sometime later asking if he could confirm payment & what the next step would be. DM emailed to say they had received the money, the order had been placed & that someone would be in touch to discuss installation. KT informed all that a S. Elliot had just emailed requesting that CPC complete a questionnaire before installation. CPC felt that the questionnaire was a mistake as SWARCO were after information that had already been asked & quotes given & accepted on. KT to contact S. Elliot stating that SWARCO already had the answers to the questions asked.

89 Children Playing Signs East Woodburn – A. Fisher of NCC emailed stating that he hoped to have the pedestrian and no through road signs soon however with all his programmed work he was not able to start these works until the 18th April however if staff became available he would get these done sooner. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of March PB informed KT that pedestrian signs were now in place & the Monkridge sign would follow. PB

also informed KT that a local resident had erected 'No Through' signs on their land, KT to inform A. Fisher & ask if these are suitable. KT had still not heard from AF.

10) Parish Hall: - Cllr C. Hamilton explained that the Parish Hall meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March had been poorly attended & that only 2 or 3 people had signed up to help out. Cllr C. Hamilton explained that events have often been poorly attended & the PH was therefore unable to cover its annual outgoings. The committee need new members who could create a new business plan. The PH AGM in May will be the last opportunity for members of the public to help out or else the committee will begin the process of closure. Cllr C. Hamilton also informed all that he had received an email from T. Pender suggesting that a meeting be held to discuss the possibility of holding regular community events within the same month & hiring a marquee. Cllrs discussed this & felt that The Corsenside Village Show fits this bill already & that anymore events may just be overload. Cllr A. Harding was concerned that the focus on fundraising for the show would suffer if other events were also to be held. Cllr A. Harding explained that the Corsenside Leek & Vegetable Society would be happy for others to benefit & make use of the facilities. During the show weekend various tents are free at points throughout the weekend. The Corsenside Show Committee would be happy for others to use these. This suggestion will be made to all committees at the AGM in May.

11) Play Area – West Woodburn: - Cllr C. Hamilton informed CPC that the play area had not been inspected over the school Easter Holidays however all appeared to be in good working order beforehand & that he would inspect the play area now that the children were due back at school. KT explained that the school was having some water pipe repairs done over the Easter Holidays therefore C. Mowatt could not use the schools water. KT to contact W. Goddard once the children are back to ask if C. Mowatt could use the school water in order to jet wash the play area.

12) Wind Power Stations: - KT informed Cllrs C. Hamilton & P. Bilton that she had forwarded on their names with regards to the steering group & its creation.

13) Defibrillator Update: - Cllr C. Hamilton explained that the extra pads & kit for the Ridsdale defibrillator are now within the defibrillator & cabinet. There was not enough room within the defibrillator to store the paediatric pads therefore they are stored within the cabinet. CPC to create a sign stating that if the casualty is a child to please make sure the paediatric pads are also collected. KT pointed out that the pads & kits come with 'use by dates' therefore will need replacing in the future however replacements can be purchased using the grant money received from The Ridsdale Village Hall Fund. KT explained to all that Damien the First Responder from Rochester had called to inform her that he had turned up to carry out defibrillator training at both West Woodburn & Ridsdale as advertised in the last Rede Valley News. Damien informed the clerk that not one person had turned up at either venue. Damien donates his time voluntary to which we are grateful, please keep an eye out for future training opportunities which are open to all residents of all ages. A great deal of effort was put into raising funds for the defibrillators & we are very fortunate to have 2 located within the parish.

14) Planning Matters: - a) For decision – i. Planning Ref: 16/00782/COU Change of use from C3 (Residential) to B1 (Office) 15 Armstrong St. Cllrs discussed the application & were happy to support it.

b) Decisions from NCC – Planning ref:15/04222/RENE – Erection of a 73m temp anemometry mast – Ray Wind Farm - GRANTED

15) Other Correspondence: -

a) Annual BDO Audit – KT informed all that the annual financial audit had now been received. KT read out page 1 of the document completing the answers as agreed by CPC. Page 1 of the document was

signed & dated. KT informed all that H. Goodall had once again kindly agreed to view the accounts.

b) CAN News Spring edition was made available to Cllrs.

**16) Finances: -**

a) Invoices for Payment – i. SLCC membership £77, ii. Clerks wages £186.23, iii. Clerks expenses £8.75, iv. Clerk reimbursement for printer & Microsoft Office, vi. The Bay Horse room hire - request to make payment to The Great North Air Ambulance - £40.

b) Bank Balance - £13,752.95

c) Monies Received – i. £500 grant from The Ridsdale Village Hall Fund to be spent on maintenance & supplies for the Ridsdale defibrillator, ii. £3.65 Bank Interest.

d) New monthly bank charges - £6/month – KT explained that as from June 2016 The Unity Trust Bank would be charging all its customers a monthly fee. CPC will be charged £6 per month for the services offered with the account we hold. Cllrs discussed this & believed that all banks now charge monthly fees & that The Unity Trust Bank had so far offered CPC a good service therefore Cllrs decided to stay banking with The Unity Trust Bank.

e) End of Year financial report – KT presented Cllrs with the End of Year figures & budget. All info will be made available to members of the public during the auditing process via making a request to the clerk or viewing the documents on CPC website.

f) Requests for Assistance – Requests were discussed & Cllrs decided to award grants to the following: -

i. The Great North Air Ambulance - £75, ii. The Stephen Carey Fund - £75, iii. Sports Tynedale - £50.

g) Bay Horse room hire – Air Ambulance donation – See point 16a.

**17) Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion: -** KT informed all that she had just completed the VAT claim for April 2015 – March 2016 & would now send it off. The claim is for a total of £1221. KT also informed all that the closing date for articles to be placed in the Rede Valley News was April the 24<sup>th</sup>. Cllr C. Hamilton will submit an article regarding speeding issues within the parish. KT lastly informed Cllrs that Cllr C. Currie had stated that equipment & rubble from works carried out on the Blackburn Bridge appeared to have been left behind & that the work did not seem to be of a high standard. KT contacted M. Harrison of NCC who explained that work had had to stop over the winter months due to the condition of the access road. He believed work would be completed over the next couple of weeks & that he would be inspecting the work before signing it off. Cllr G. Scott apologised for having not been able to remove the branches from jubilee Triangle & asked if CPC could request that C. Mowatt remove them instead. KT to contact C. Mowatt & also ask him to remove some branches at Sarelaw bend.

**18) Next Meeting: -** Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May - The Annual Parish Meeting - 7.00pm at The Parish Hall, West Woodburn followed by CPC AGM.

Signed : .....

Date: .....