

Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday the 10th September 2018

At Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: - **Councillors:** C. Hamilton (Chair), D. Carrington (Vice Chair), C. Currie, A. Harding, G. Scott, C. Hawman & R. Robson **Clerk:** K. Traill **Members of the Public:** One

- 1) Apologies for absence: - None
- 2) Declarations of interest: - Cllrs D. Carrington in respect of the Ridsdale Juniors & Seniors & the Green Rig Wind Farm Steering Group, C. Currie in respect of The Corsenside Parish Show, Cllr A. Harding in respect of the Ray Windfarm Steering Group & Cllr C. Hawman in respect of the Ridsdale Juniors & Seniors and Revitalising Redesdale Steering Group & funding.
- 3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: None raised.
- 4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd July 2018: Cllr C. Hawman pointed out that an action in point 20 regarding a carpet bowls pricing had been missed from the minutes.
- 5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda: - Cllr C. Hawman informed all that she had enquired about the price of carpet bowls for the Parish Hall and reported that the cheapest was over £900. All agreed that this was too much. KT informed all that a few residents had stated that if a walks leaflet was produced by CPC, that they would be happy to submit a walk.
- 6) County Councillors Report: - None
- 7) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the chairman's discretion, under item 21 below: - Cllrs C. Hawman, C. Currie, R. Robson & C. Hamilton & KT had matters to discuss.
- 8) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: - KT informed all that there was nothing new to report.
- 09) Action point list: - 80. Armstrong St & Whiteacre - KT informed all that there was little to report. There had been a small number of potholes filled on Whiteacre over the summer holidays. 91. West Woodburn Traffic Calming Measures – Cllr C. Hamilton informed all that he had called NS over the summer break & had been able to discuss the traffic calming measures. Cllr CH explained that for the third time NCC had missed the promised deadline. Cllr CH stated that he had strongly expressed his disappointment and frustration and was annoyed at NCC's poor progress with regards to the traffic calming measures. Cllr CH demanded to be given a definite date for commencement. NS had replied 3 days later to inform Cllr CH that NCC would carry out the works in October. KT to contact NS at the end of September to make sure this is still the case. Cllrs discussed what works were currently being carried out on the A68 at Ridsdale between the East Woodburn & the Knowsgate turning. KT to enquire with NCC as to what is happening as it appears the road is being raised which would seem unnecessary given that it is not an area prone to flooding.
92. West Woodburn First School – Nothing further to report. See point 13.
- 10) Play Area – West Woodburn: Cllr C. Hamilton explained that he had been informed by KT that the gate in the play area was no longer closing & that a resident believed the issue was with the self-closing spring. Cllr CH visited the play area & reported that the spring was indeed snapped & suggested that CPC source a local engineer to fix the problem as he was unable to do so. Cllr R. Robson will investigate this matter. Cllr C. Hamilton stated that he had not yet managed to sand & repaint the play area benches however he will

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endeavour to do this before winter sets in. KT informed all that she had spoken with CM regarding the use of weed killer around the equipment rather than a strimmer. CM has all certificates in place to carry this out. Cllrs discussed how they had originally requested CM use a strimmer rather than weed killer due to unsightly brown marks of dead grass around the equipment. Cllrs however once again discussed the issue of the damage the strimmer causes to the equipment. KT to ask CM about adjusting the guards on his strimming equipment so the strimming cable does not contact the equipment. Another solution is to investigate the possibility of metal protection to guard the wooden equipment can be sourced and if not, perhaps CPC will have to reconsider the use of weed killer.

11) Wind Power Stations - Cllr A. Harding informed all that the Community Interest Company (CIC) was now up & running with the first- & second-year's funding received. Cllr AH also informed all that the second £100,000 was now open for applicants with The Community Foundation with assessments being carried out on the 4th of December. All applications are judged independently on merit, it does not matter how many times a parish, organisation or group applies. Cllr AH stated that a local resident P. Scott had now filled the Parishes broadband representative position. Each of the 6 parishes within the windfarm area will have a broadband representative. These representatives will now look to identify any initial broadband related problems & look at what would need to be done. The representatives will check that all properties within the area are genuine residential properties. The committee will then look to instruct professional consultants to see what would be needed to allow every residence within the parish the accessibility to a long-term future proof superfast broadband solution.

12) Parish Hall: Cllr C. Hamilton explained that he had now approached 3 Parishioners with regards to representing the Parish Council on the Parish Hall Committee without success. Cllr C. Hawman will approach another local resident.

13) West Northumberland School Consultation: - Cllr C. Hamilton stated that he had attended both the scrutiny meeting & the decision-making cabinet meeting in his capacity as a parent not as a parish councillor and had been allowed to speak at both to highlight his concerns. Cllr CH appraised all of the current situation of NCC's decision to close Bellingham Middle School and that a decision regarding West Woodburn First Schools future should be made by Christmas. He informed all that BMS governors had appealed against the decision and its future now lies in the hands of the Schools Adjudicator, an independent body who will consider NCC's consultation process and subsequent closure proposal and the thoughts and concerns of stakeholders (Governors, Staff, Parents etc) before making a final decision. This will not happen until November at the earliest as a meeting with stakeholders has been organised for early November.

14) Insurance Claim – Flashing speed sign update: - KT explained that the insurance company had given CPC permission to instruct SWARCO to carry out the work. KT stated that SWARCO are currently awaiting the manufacture of the post & will contact NCC regarding any traffic control needed. KT explained that CPC had still not been reimbursed for the survey works carried out by SWARCO & stated that she would find out who was initially expected to pay SWARCO's invoice for the re-installment of the sign. KT to look at complaining to the insurance company about the whole process.

15) Revitalising Redesdale & Heritage Fund update: - Cllr C. Hawman informed all that N. Lightfoot had been in touch with her to explain the role CPC representative would have within the Revitalising Redesdale project. Cllr

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C. Hawman explained that as our representative she would sit on the Community Heritage Fund Group & the Revitalising Redesdale Steering Group. Cllr C. Hawman stated that the Community Heritage Fund could issue grants from £500-£2000. Those wanting to apply did not have to be a constituted group & grants would be awarded for sustainable projects. The first deadline would be the 7th of December. Each parish could identify a group who might want to apply. Cllrs discussed the suggested local walks leaflet & how maybe funding for that could be given. Grants could also be issued for the improvement of stiles & footpaths however further funding would not be issued for the continual maintenance of these.

Cllr G. Scott queried as to why Revitalising Redesdale were starting up new projects when nothing appeared to be happening to the initial projects such as Smoutel Ford & Ridsdale Ironworks. Cllr C. Hawman explained that the money for these initial projects had already been allocated to them & the new projects were because of other funding. The Heritage Fund was for smaller projects within the Revitalising Redesdale area. Cllr C. Hawman explained that the hope was to have an information network where each parish could share information & ideas. It was hoped an information hub would also be available within each parish.

16) 2019 Local Transport Priority: - Cllrs discussed what 3 priorities to include in this years LTP list. Cllrs must consider the points system NCC use for prioritising requests. Cllrs agreed that total resurfacing of the road down to Hindhaugh would once again be placed on CPC's list. A request to make the A68 through Ridsdale a 30mph limit will again be added to the list. Cllrs discussed whether the third priority would be to once again ask for passing spaces on Shaw Lonnen or whether to request better drainage at Low House Ridsdale. KT to firstly contact the 2 quarries located in East Woodburn & ask if they would install passing spaces given that their quarry wagons use Shaw Lonnen to access the quarries.

17) Other updates from around the parish: - KT explained that over the summer break the powerline that ran across the A68 in West Woodburn outside the shop to the cottages opposite, had eventually been raised so hopefully would no longer pose a danger. KT also informed all that the electric pole on the corner of Brandy Bank & the road to East Woodburn had now also been replaced. KT also stated that polite letters had gone out asking residents if they could take care of any over hanging branches with some positive results.

18) Planning Matters: a) For decision – i. Planning ref: 18/02362/FUL – Extension to existing 1-2 bed single story stone cottage – Blyth Cottage, East Woodburn – comment submitted 27/07/18 during the summer break.
ii. Planning ref: 18/00669/PREAPP – Proposed landmark monument, land at Cold Law Kirkwhelpington. Cllrs pointed out that the reference provided by NCC did not correlate to this preapplication. Cllrs studied the proposed landmark monument documentation. Cllrs discussed issues such as the insufficient infrastructure of the area to deal with extra traffic & tourism, the narrow twisting access road with blind summits, tight bends and single track bridge, it was felt to be out of keeping with the area and the local vernacular, a large industrial type feature in a now rural landscape, it was over-bearing & would dominate the landscape and would be highly visible from a wide area including many points of the National Park and also the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. Cllrs discussed the substantial negative local opinion & how many people chose to live in Corsenside Parish to enjoy the peace, quiet & unspoilt views. The proposed monument would impose itself on people rather than having to be sought out. All Cllrs agreed that CPC would submit a comment of 'Strongly Object'.

b) Decisions from NCC – Planning ref: 18/01381/FUL – Proposed new build 1.5 bungalow, land north of Reivers West Woodburn – withdrawn at the applicant's request.

19) Other correspondence: - – i. Karbon Homes – KT read out the letter from Karbon Homes introducing their

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new approach to ground maintenance within the parish ii. Hazardous Waste leaflet – made available to Cllrs iii. Draft Local Plan – KT informed all that she had in her possession a large document regarding the Draft Local Plan. Cllr C. Hawman discussed her concerns that our parish had been highlighted as an area suitable for substantial windfarm developments. Cllrs discussed this. KT to submit a comment of objection.

20) Finances: - a) Invoices for Payment – i. Clerks wages -£ 207.24 & expenses - £71.73, ii. The Royal British Legion Annual Wreath £25 iii. C. Mowatt Landscaping - £490

b) Bank Balance - £17,085.01

c) Monies Received - £3875 (precept)

d) Requests for Assistance – i. Age UK, ii. Sports Tynedale, iii. Hadrian's Network. Cllrs discussed all requests for assistance. KT to look at the budget set to see how much is currently available for grants.

e) KT informed all that Cllr D. Carrington had carried out an internal audit during the summer break. All finances were correct.

21 Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion: - Cllr C. Hawman stated that she had received a request that CPC install a dog bin half way along the road from the bottom of Armstrong Street to the first cattle grid, in the hope this would encourage people to clean up after their dogs. Cllrs discussed the fact that CPC would be happy to provide a bin however the issue lay with whether NCC would include it on their list of bins to empty. KT to enquire.

Cllr C. Currie discussed the over hanging trees down the Lonnen in West Woodburn, branches are catching vans. KT to report to M. Rowe of NCC.

KT & Cllr RR brought up the issue of the need for more dropped kerbs within the parish to make the area more wheelchair friendly. At present any wheelchair users have limited access. Cllrs also discussed the issue of over hanging trees within the parish & how these & parked cars on pavements also limited access for wheelchair users. KT to continue to discuss this issue with NCC. KT enquired as to whether wheelchair access to local walks may be something the Heritage Fund grants would cover, this is something to investigate.

Cllr C. Hamilton explained that he had received an email from a resident informing him that the idea of using St Cuthbert's church for other activities, as well as services and to enable its wider use as a community building, had been discussed. A feasibility study would need to be conducted to consider potential needs, requirements and costs. The resident enquired as to whether CPC could act as an applicant to apply for grant funding from the Ray Windfarm to pay for this feasibility study as currently applicants needed to be a constituted body. All Cllrs agreed that this work would be of benefit to the community in the parish and therefore CPC would act as the applicant.

22) Next Meeting: - Monday the 1st October 7.30pm, Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn.

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