

## Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018

At The Bay Horse, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: - **Councillors:** C. Hamilton (Chair), D. Carrington (Vice Chair), C. Currie, A. Harding, G. Scott, P. Bilton  
**Clerk:** K. Traill **Parish Hall Committee:** J. Clyde

- 1) Apologies for absence: - Cllr C. Hawman
- 2) Declarations of interest: - Cllrs D. Carrington in respect of the Ridsdale Juniors & Seniors, Cllrs A. Harding & C. Currie in respect of The Corsenside Leek & Vegetable Society & Cllr P. Bilton in respect of The Mission Hall Trust.
- 3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: None raised.
- 4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018: Cllr A. Harding requested that the work 'helpful' be changed to 'essential' under point 13. Signed as a true & accurate record.
- 5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda: - None.
- 6) Parish Hall: J. Clyde explained that Corsenside Parish Hall had been invited to join the Warm Hub a network set up by Community Action Northumberland (CAN) & Northern Gas Network. J. Clyde informed all that people could look up Warm Hub via You Tube for more information. A representative of CAN had visited CPH & confirmed that it qualified. Warm Hub are not the grant providers but would seek grants on behalf of CPH. The Parish Hall Committee will submit a grant form to the Garfield West Foundation by the 30<sup>th</sup> of June for the full amount needed for all works. J. Clyde stated that works included the hall being insulated, a disabled ramp & toilet, new kitchen & a new heating system. J. Clyde pointed out that this was a large-scale project & that the PHC may look to the wider community for help. It was suggested that JC write a small piece to be put onto The Clarion Corsenside Facebook page & KT to copy this onto CPC web-site. J. Clyde explained that once the CPHC officially joined the Warm Hub then they would be presented with a plaque & a supper would be provided. This would be on the evening of the Wilson's Tales of the Border on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. Cllr C. Hamilton informed all that the parishioner he had originally approached to represent the Parish Council on the Parish Hall Committee, was unable to commit to this role. Cllr C. Hamilton would approach another parishioner & report back. Thanks, were given to J. Clyde for the update.
- 7) County Councillors Report: - None
- 8) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the chairman's discretion, under item 17 below; - KT & Cllrs C. Currie & C. Hamilton had matters to discuss.
- 9) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: - KT informed all that she had completed her annual checks. The West Woodburn southern end sign appears to have odd days where it is not working. This is likely due to the lack of sunshine & it's sheltered location. KT informed all that the flashing speed signs had replacement batteries in June 2015. CPC will continue to monitor. There were a few minor issues such as the sanding & repainting of various benches. Cllr D. Carrington requested that the interior of the Ridsdale bus stop be repainted. All Cllrs agreed that S. Carrington could purchase some paint & CPC would reimburse.
- 10) Action point list: - 80. Armstrong St & Whitearce - KT informed all that A. Olive of NCC had given his word that the works would be completed. KT to keep in contact with AO until the issue is resolved. 91. West Woodburn Traffic Calming Measures – KT explained to Cllrs that she had previously discussed the issue with N.

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Snowden of NCC who stated that he had spoken to the Design Team & that the final draft plan, approved by CPC, was with Cllr Riddle for comment. NS explained that once County Councillor J. Riddle had viewed it then it would be sent to CPC for the final sign off. KT enquired at the time as to whether the scheme would still be completed before the end of the financial year. NS stated that he hoped it would start by the end of the financial year. NS explained that he was unaware how long the flashing 20mph school signs & the gate way sign took to manufacture & could therefore not guarantee when works would finish. Cllr C. Hamilton then informed all that he & KT had received the plan at 3pm that day & that as a result Cllr C. Hamilton had made a phone call to N. Snowden. Cllr C. Hamilton explained that the build out features had been removed from the plan at the very last minute due to expressions of concern from timber companies although no explanation of the safety issues has yet been given. Cllr C. Hamilton informed all of his frustration at the situation given the countless meetings & discussions around the plans and that the build out features have been part of the plan from the outset and were suggested as a traffic calming measure by the Highways Safety Officer. Cllrs discussed their disappointment particularly at the time & effort it has taken to get this far. Cllrs stated that the purpose of the build out features was specifically to slow down speeding traffic & HGV vehicles who use this stretch to pick up speed before the incline. N. Snowden of NCC stated that if the plan was put in place without the build out features then the issue of speeding would be monitored again in 3 months & should the problem persist then the reinstatement of the physical features would be reconsidered. Cllrs discussed the fact that if CPC choose to object to this amendment it was likely to delay, by an unknown amount of time, implementation of the rest of the plan which still represented a significant raft of traffic calming measures. All Cllrs agreed that Cllr C. Hamilton was to enquire as to the reason for the decision to omit the build out features given the numerous meetings held with the NCC officer responsible for Highways Safety discussing options and his suggestion that these measures were appropriate. All Cllrs were happy for Cllr C. Hamilton to acquire more information & make the decision as to whether CPC can quickly object and have the build out feature reinstated or whether CPC accept the newly amended plan to allow works to get started. 92. West Woodburn First School – Nothing further to report.

11) Play Area – West Woodburn: - After a discussion at the January meeting KT has purchased a A4 sign stating who to notify should a member of the public notice any faults within the play area (notify CPC clerk using the email below). Cllr P. Bilton will install the sign.

12) Wind Power Stations - Cllr A. Harding explained that the small grant scheme had now gone out for signing. The Vattenfall small grant scheme will be organised by The Community Foundation. Cllr A. Harding informed all that the CIC would be meeting with Vatten Fall on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February to discuss the large grant scheme & hopefully paperwork would be sent out for signing by the end of February. Cllr A. Harding pointed out that although this scheme was over 6 months behind, no money had been lost as a result, Vatten Fall has reserved this money. Cllr C. Hamilton gave thanks to Cllr A. Harding on behalf of CPC for his time & efforts regarding the Ray Estate Windfarm & the CIC.

13) Revitalising Redesdale – update: Cllr G. Scott informed all that she had attended the launch of Revitalising Redesdale on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January at the Iron works in Ridsdale. Cllr G. Scott explained that the works to Smootle Ford were due to start this summer which would allow walkers to cross. Other works programmed in for this year included Ridsdale Ironworks, making the structure safe & improving the access. KT informed all that Cllr C. Hawman attended also & had stated that the Revitalising Redesdale team do intend to involve the local

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community more as the project develops & as a PC we could act as a conduit to spread the word to Parishioners.

14) Shaw Lonnen Mud Slide: KT informed all that she had been in contact with Highways England regarding the work which had been carried out to remove the railway bridge supports & the resulting mud slide. KT explained that she had sent photos of the area showing how the earth had washed down onto the road causing dangerous driving conditions. F. Smith of Highways England stated that she had contacted the contractor who would return W/C 19<sup>th</sup> of February to rectify the situation & to install a French drain type system. Cllrs discussed this & felt that this measure alone would be inadequate. The main cause of the issue was to do with the amount of earth that was put down without anything to keep it in place during rainfall. Cllrs requested that KT contact Highways England informing them of this & asking that the matter be dealt with asap as it was a road safety issue. KT to copy NCC in communications so that they are aware of the issue.

15) Planning Matters: a) For decision – i. Planning ref: 17/04641/FUL Resubmission -Conversion of existing attached barn building to provide additional living accommodation for the farm house, with demolition of existing redundant farm buildings. Stiddle Hill C195 Ridsdale junction to district boundary. Councillors discussed the application & wished to submit a comment of ‘No Objection’. ii. Planning ref: 18/00012/FUL Construction of a detached 3-bedroom bungalow Land west of Armadale, Ridsdale. Councillors discussed the application & wished to submit a comment of ‘No Objection’.

b) Decisions from NCC – Planning ref: 17/02595/OUT Outline application for 10 self-build dwellings Land South East of Parkside, West Woodburn - REFUSED

16) Other correspondence – i. CPRE newsletter – Made available to Cllrs, ii. Poppy Appeal – KT informed Cllrs that the Poppy Appeal would no longer automatically send out reminder letters. KT to enquire as to the soonest CPC can place an order. iii. Brain Tumour Research – KT read out the letter which asked Parishes to spread the word about the research & fundraising of the Brain Tumour Research Organisation. Cllrs asked KT to mention this on the new local Facebook page The Clarion Corsenside.

17) Finances: - a) Invoices for Payment – i. Robin Watson Sign & Design play area sign £29.70 (paid via BACs) ii. Clerks wages £155.40, iii. The Stephen Carey Fund £95.84 (3 x new pads for defibrillators)

b) Bank Balance - £13, 241.74

c) Monies Received - None

d) Requests for Assistance - None

e) Panto costings – Councillors looked over the panto costings provided by A. Pender. All were happy that they were correct. KT to inform AP. Cllrs discussed the £50 hire charge requested by the PH committee for the panto to be held in the Parish Hall next Christmas time. Historically CPC have not been charged to hire the hall for the panto as it was felt to be an important cultural event for the whole community funded at a considerable loss by CPC. CPC to discuss this in more detail with the Parish Hall Committee.

f) New audit regulations for the financial year 2017-2018 – KT informed all that she had received word from NALC which stated that we would follow a similar process to previous years however the service would be by a different provider.

18) Matters for discussion at the Chairman’s discretion: Cllr C. Currie informed all that a light in Ridsdale was out. Cllr P. Bilton to report it. Cllrs discussed the fact that the replacement dark skies lighting should all be in place now by the end of March 2018 & therefore hopefully all lighting should be in good working order. KT informed all that she had spoken with N. Easton of NCC regarding the Otterburn – Newcastle 808 bus service.

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The current provider will soon cease to operate this service. NCC have limited funding & are unsure if any other provider would want to take this route on. KT to report back when more information is available.

Cllr C. Hamilton explained that he had been approached by T. Pender with regards to the potential closure of one of the two operational churches within our parish. Cllr C. Hamilton explained that he had been informed that with struggling finances & only a handful of Parishioners regularly attending Church within our Parish, that it was becoming unviable to keep both Churches operational. Susan Ramsaran, the local pastoral team leader, would like to give Parishioners the opportunity to state which building they would prefer to see remain as the Parish Church if it came to one or the other. TP suggested that if Cllrs agreed, a simple questionnaire could be sent out to all households. TP suggested that maybe this should come out via the Parish Council rather than the Church as CPC remain neutral. It was agreed that although many Parishioners are not Church goers the potential closure of one of the churches would have an impact on the Parish with regards to marriages, christenings, funerals & burials. All agreed that TP could prepare a draft & if CPC were happy with the wording then they would be happy to lend their name to it.

19) Next Meeting: - Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm, The Bay Horse, West Woodburn.

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