

Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2019

At Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: - **Councillors:** C. Hamilton (Chair), D. Carrington, C. Currie & A. Harding, **Clerk:** K. Traill **Members of the Public:** D. Rogers

- 1) Apologies for absence: - Cllrs C. Hawman, R. Robson & G. Scott
- 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 Wind CIC.
- 3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: D. Rogers stated that he was in attendance to answer any questions Cllrs may have regarding the proposed dormer bungalow land west of Armadale. D. Rogers explained that they had taken on board comments previously made and as a result had lowered the roof line to create a dormer bungalow rather than a 2-storey house.
- 4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th November 2019: Cllr C. Currie requested that under point 21 'not all along Braewell' be changed to 'from Beech Trees to Townhead'. The amendment was made, and the minutes were 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 22 below: - Cllr C. Currie & KT had matters to discuss.
- 8) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: - KT explained that a planning register was now in place.
- 09) Action point list: - 80. Armstrong St & Whiteacre – Nothing further to report.
91. West Woodburn Traffic Calming Measures – KT explained to Cllrs that she had emailed N. Snowden of NCC once again asking for his response to our email dated the 22nd of October and that she would appreciate his comments before the 2nd of December. KT informed all that she had still not received a response. KT also informed Cllrs that she had once again contacted the police to ask who our local Police Officer was so that CPC could make contact with them. KT has still not heard back regarding this. Cllrs discussed how disappointed and annoyed they were that NS had not seen fit to respond to their email regarding the speeding figures from the recent surveys carried out and CPC's request for the build-out features. Cllrs have asked KT to contact NS to relay their disappointment and to also copy in NS's manager. KT to continue to try and contact our local Police Officer. Cllrs commented on the fact that we have not had any contact from the police force since the retirement of PC H. Spencer some years ago.
- 10) Play Area – West Woodburn: - KT informed all that she had received the new revised quotation and play area design however J. Dunn of Playdale had been unable to obtain a price for a 5-year maintenance schedule. He will chase this up. KT talked Councillors through the revised design and all were happy for KT to continue with the application. KT explained that she had started to fill in the Ray Wind Farm grant application form and hoped to submit it before the January deadline.

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Date:

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11) Wind Power Stations - Cllr A. Harding informed all that BANTR were pushing ahead, they had been asking pledges to be made and were progressing with works within Bavington, Kirkwhelpington and Corsenside. Councillors discussed the need for widespread feedback on the project so that this information could reach those residents who were not on Facebook or read CPC minutes. Councillors felt that a leaflet drop would be an effective form of getting the information out there.

Cllr A. Harding informed all that the Community Interest Company (C.I.C) was now in its second year of awarding grants and that the Community Foundation was in its 3rd year. Once the CF had completed their 3rd year their process could be reassessed by the C.I.C. Cllr A. Harding stated that Vattenfall would also like the C.I.C to look at helping businesses within the area for example offering travel grants or helping to support apprenticeships.

12) Parish Hall: - Nothing further to report other than improvement works are continuing.

13) Six Parishes Youth Engagement Project: - KT informed all that Cllr C. Hawman had sent an update in her absence. KT read out an email from Cllr C. Hawman which stated that following the submission of the funding application to the Community Foundation (CF) at the beginning of October, we received a number of queries from the CF. Cllr C. Hawman provided the information requested and in response received a call from the CF case officer. It was clear that the CF preferred to see North Tyne Youth (via RTC Sports) as the lead applicant, instead of Corsenside Parish Council. As the decision had to be made quickly, (within four working days) to be assessed within the current funding period, Cllr Hawman discussed this with Cllr C. Hamilton and Gemma Nixon and Sam Kellie of NTY/RTC. All agreed that this was the best way to maximise our chance of funding the project and being able to support our young people. Following further communication between Cllr Hawman and Gemma Nixon, the revised bid was submitted by RTC Sports on the 13th November. Gemma Nixon will keep the PC updated on the bid's progress however it is believed the decision will not be made until after the 10th of December.

14) Community Volunteers: -KT informed all that volunteers had now completed the planting to all 11 planters throughout the parish. KT also stated that a third red dog waste bin had also been erected by the side of the A68 in West Woodburn. All bins appear to be in regular use. KT explained that the bin on the lane beyond Armstrong Street had now also been repositioned. KT stated that she had also asked a couple of the volunteers to look at replacing the wood to the seat by the bridge in West Woodburn as it was now rotten. KT explained to Cllrs that she had also been approach by two of the community volunteers who had stated that they would be more than happy to regularly cut down the nettles and weeds around the bench beyond Armstrong Street, rather than CPC paying to have more paving slabs laid down. All Cllrs agreed that they would be happy to accept this offer. Cllrs wished to thank KT for co-ordinating the volunteers and would like to extend their thanks to the volunteers for all the work they had carried out,

15) Community Spending: - KT explained that £119.15 had been spent on bulbs and plants for the planters and that a new barrel had been purchased for East Woodburn.

16) Revitalising Redesdale & Heritage Fund update: - Nothing further to update. KT informed all that RR were seeking budding actors to take part in their re-creation of the building of Catcleugh Reservoir. Anyone interested should contact RR directly via their website of Face Book page.

17) Panto, 16th January – The Snow Queen: - KT informed all that she had collected the tickets on Saturday and that they would be for sale in West Woodburn Shop later in the week. KT would start to advertise the panto.

18) The Gunn In – Community Bid updates: - Cllr C. Hamilton informed all that the Ridsdale Community Group

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had hosted a public presentation and update on the 1st of December regarding the Community Right to Bid Scheme. Cllr C. Hamilton stated that the group had explained how they were selling shares at £1 each with a minimum purchase of 500 and a maximum of 20,000 to purchase the Gun Inn and make the necessary renovations. At the time of the meeting around £35,000 had been raised in pledges. The group were hopeful they would reach the target despite the official end of the moratorium period on the 21st of December. Cllr C. Hamilton explained that the Plunkett Foundation had been giving the group help and advice throughout the process and that the group had also consulted with those involved in the successful community purchase in Slaley. Cllr C. Hamilton informed all that pledges can still be made; any pledge is for a 3-year period and each year the dividend would be 2%. Cllrs wished to thank the Ridsdale Community Group for all the hard work they had put into the Right to Bid and for their continued dedication.

19) Planning Matters: - a) For decision – i. Planning App. 19/03437/FUL Land West of Armadale, Ridsdale. Proposed 2 storey dwelling in place of originally approved bungalow. D. Rogers pointed out that they had requested NCC amend the description to state that it is a proposed dormer bungalow rather than a 2-storey dwelling. Cllr C. Hamilton reminded all that Cllrs could only comment on planning grounds. Cllrs discussed the application and were happy that the revised plan showed that previous matters had been addressed and that it was now more in keeping with the local vernacular. Cllrs therefore wished to submit a comment of 'No Objection'.

b) Decisions from NCC – Highways Act 1980 – Public Path Diversion Order – Parishes of Corsenside & Elsdon (public bridleway No 2 & 6) diversion order. KT informed all, of the new diversion order.

20) Other correspondence: - i. letter received from a local resident regarding the state of the road down to Hindhaugh. KT read out the letter to Cllrs. Cllrs discussed this and do share the resident's concerns. CPC have repeatedly asked NCC to carry out repairs to this stretch of road and for several years CPC had added this to its Local Transport Priorities. Cllrs also discussed the fact the letter writer is not actually a parishioner of Corsenside and the part of this road where they live falls within Birtley parish. Cllr Hamilton suggested that a joint effort from both Corsenside and Birtley Parish Councils would hopefully mean NCC would be more inclined to do something about it. KT to write a response to the resident. ii. War Memorials Bulletin – made available to Cllrs, iii. Police & Crime Commissioner – meeting update. KT informed Cllrs that a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner had been arranged by Otterburn PC for the 6th February 2020. KT asked Cllrs what items they would like to see on the agenda for this meeting. Cllrs discussed this and requested that the following issues be addressed at the meeting:- speeding traffic, traffic calming, lack of visible presence or knowledge of our Neighbourhood Police Officer and lastly the recent increase in rural crime. Cllr C. Hamilton will represent CPC at this meeting, iv. Northumberland Local Plan – public hearing sessions, KT made Cllrs aware of the sessions taking place.

21) Finances: - a) Invoices for Payment – i. Clerks wages £223.28 & expenses £41.99 (planting barrel and compost) £, ii. C. Mowatt, grass cut £106, iii. Payment of £119.15 for plants (Bac's paid), iv. £101 – Filing cabinet and files (Bac's paid)

b) Bank Balance - £13,562.30

c) Monies Received - None

d) Requests for Assistance - None

e) Precept for 2020-2021 – KT informed all that requests for the 2020-2021 precept needed to be submitted to NCC by the 27th of January. Cllrs discussed this and were happy for Cllrs C. Hamilton & D. Carrington to meet with KT before the next PC meeting to discuss the budget for 2020-2021.

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22 Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion: KT informed all that she had received a query from a local parishioner regarding a salt bin request for the steep lane down to Chesterhope. KT explained that she had put a request in and was waiting to hear back from NCC.

KT also informed Cllrs that she had reported the missing crash barrier panels along the road beyond Braewell as well as reporting the crash barrier by the bridge on the A68 in West Woodburn which was also down.

KT explained that she had been contacted by a resident regarding one of the new dark skies lights and how it shone brightly into one of their bedrooms. KT explained that she had contacted NCC and asked if they could adjust the light. NCC responded stating that they would fit a shade in the first instance which usually eliminates the problem.

KT informed all that she had contacted NCC enquiring as to whether CPC could install a red dog waste bin on the outskirts of East Woodburn, just up from Blyth Cottage. NCC replied stating that the only bin they could empty in this location would be a large wheelie bin fixed to a stand. Cllrs discussed this and felt that a large wheelie bin was not necessary at this location.

Cllr C. Currie explained that Cllr G. Scott had asked her to discuss an issue on her behalf. Cllr G. Scott had been approached by a landowner whose field borders the A68 on the south side of the road when heading to the Otterburn crossroads. Several vehicles have reached the crest of the hill and skidded, crashing into his wall. The landowner asked if NCC could do something about this. KT explained that she had looked at the location of the landowner's field and that it fell within Otterburn Parish and therefore asked Cllr G. Scott to pass this information on. Cllr G. Scott had informed KT that she had spoken with County Cllr J. Riddle regarding the matter and that he would pass this on to NCC.

Cllr C. Currie explained that there was a lot of litter in the layby between Ridsdale and West Woodburn. Cllrs discussed the increase in litter at all laybys. KT explained that CPC had previously requested litter bins at local laybys however had been informed by NCC that from experience when they install litter bins within laybys it actually encourages people to fly tip as they expect it to be collected when the bins are emptied. KT to request NCC carry out a litter pick so that our scenic laybys stay scenic.

23) Next Meeting: - Monday 13th January 7.30pm, Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn.

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Date: