

## Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

At Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

Present: - **Councillors:** C. Hamilton (Chair), D. Carrington (Vice Chair), C. Currie, A. Harding, C. Hawman, R. Robson & G. Scott **Clerk:** K. Traill **Members of the Public:** None

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 Wind CIC & Cllr C. Hawman in respect of the Revitalising Redesdale Steering Group & funding.

3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: None raised. Cllr C. Hamilton reminded all, of the statutory guidance relating to the participation of members of the public who may attend PC meetings.

4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019: Signed as a true & accurate record.

5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda: - KT explained to all that County Councillor J. Riddle had contacted KT to inform her that NCC had listened to public requests and as a result would provide glass recycling from home although JR could not say when this would start. JR also stated that works to raise the road from West Woodburn to Bellingham at Little Ridsdale to stop flooding, had been postponed and would not be carried out in March.

KT informed all that she had contacted Swarco regarding repair work needed to the flashing speed sign at the southern end of Ridsdale. KT explained that the cost for Swarco to attend would be £762.50 plus parts. Cllrs discussed this and believed it to be over excessive. KT to contact Parkend Electricals to see if they can change the missing bulbs.

KT informed all that RW Sign & Design had quoted a price of £225 + VAT for carrying out repairs to J. Carroll's memorial plaque on-site or £165 + VAT to remove the plaque and carry out the repairs at their workshop. Cllrs discussed both options and felt that it would be best to carry out repairs on-site so that there was no risk of damage to the memorial plaque in being removed and that it would be continually on view for all to see rather than the memorial stone being bare for a period of time.

6) County Councillors Report: - None

7) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the chairman's discretion, under item 19 below: - KT had one matter to discuss.

8) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: - None

09) Action point list: - 80. Armstrong St & Whiteacre – KT informed all that work had started to install one dropped kerb on Whiteacres and that NCC would also repair a strip of road at the same location.

91. West Woodburn Traffic Calming Measures – KT explained that she had wrote a letter of complaint to County Councillor G. Sanderson who held the portfolio for highways. KT highlighted all the issues CPC had encountered since the initial request of traffic calming measures in April 2016. KT requested a definitive completion date, an answer of who would cover the cost of incorrect installations and a response which could be shared with all parishioners. KT also stated in the letter that CPC did not believe the traffic calming measures were having the desired effect however had been informed that this could not be investigated until

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all original measures were in place. Cllr Sanderson had responded very quickly to say he would look in to CPC's concerns but as yet there has been no further response. Cllrs noted that the Speed Watch project had been active in West Woodburn at least on 2 occasions. KT to enquire how often the Speed Watch volunteers are deployed.

92. West Woodburn First School – A response to the proposed federation of West Woodburn First School and Otterburn First School has been submitted.

93. Shaw Lonnen Mud-slide – Nothing further to report.

94. Shaw Lonnen Passing spaces – Nothing further to report, KT to chase this up.

10) Play Area – West Woodburn: Cllr C. Hamilton informed all that he had nothing to report, no checks had been carried out since the February meeting, but all equipment was in good order when last inspected and KT confirmed that there had been no reports of any problems from users. Cllr C. Hamilton will carry out an inspection before April's meeting. KT informed all that she had spoken with C. Mowatt who had requested that Cllrs consider the use of weed killer around the play equipment rather than the use of a strimmer. C. Mowatt stated that he frequently uses weed killer and all risk assessments were in place. Cllrs discussed the issue of weed killer and the brown circles of dead grass this leaves around the equipment compared to damage caused to the equipment from the strimmer blades. KT to ask C. Mowatt what the time period is between spraying the weed killer and use of the equipment and whether there is a COSHH report in place.

11) Wind Power Stations - Cllr A. Harding informed all that everything was moving forward. A company called Barn had submitted a quote to carry out works which would provide super-fast Broadband connections to all homes within the 6 parishes should home owners wish to upgrade. The Community Interest Company has also been in contact with Revitalising Redesdale and Health in Rural Communities to discuss how they could work together. Cllr C. Hawman enquired as to how the CIC are getting the word out to people regarding the Broadband scheme. Cllr A. Harding was unsure as this was being dealt with by a separate committee.

12) Parish Hall: CPC wished to congratulate the Parish Hall Committee in securing a large grant. All Cllrs are happy to have the current Parish Hall Chair as CPC's point of contact reporting back to them on any issues regarding the Parish Hall.

13) West Northumberland School Consultation: - Cllrs felt that now a response had been submitted regarding the proposed federation of West Woodburn First School and Otterburn First School that this minute point could be removed.

14) Revitalising Redesdale & Heritage Fund update: - Cllr C. Hawman stated that the closing date for the next round of grant applications was the 7<sup>th</sup> of March. Cllr C. Hawman stated that she had no further updates however she would be attending the next RR meeting and hoped to have something to report back then. Cllr G. Scott informed all that she had received word that works to relocate Smoutel Ford would be due to start this summer.

15) Anti-Social Behaviour: - Cllrs discussed the responses received regarding the posters displayed. In general, most responses were positive, and residents felt reassured. Cllrs discussed the fact that the posters were in response to a build up of several anti-social behaviours and not any specific incident. Neither were the posters aimed at any individuals as CPC were not provided names and therefore unaware of the identity of those

young people involved. CPC have received reports that things have quietened down significantly and hope this continues to be the case. Cllrs discussed how CPC could follow up on what was previously discussed on how to engage the local youth and get them involved with ideas on what could be provided to help combat boredom. Cllr C. Hawman suggested that CPC could apply for a grant to one of the funds associated with the Ray Windfarm to employ a person/company to carry out a feasibility study covering every aspect from how to engage youths to what and how things could be provided. Another grant could then potentially be applied for based on the findings of such a study. Cllrs all agreed that this was a good idea and warranted further investigation. Cllrs felt that an application would have more likelihood of success and impact if the other 5 parishes which fell within the Ray Windfarm catchment area were also involved and a joint application was made. KT to contact the other 5 parishes asking for their thoughts.

16) Planning Matters: - a) For decision – i. Planning ref: 19/00247/FUL Construction of a publicly accessible landmark, commissioned to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II & the Commonwealth. Land at Cold Law Kirkwhelpington. Cllrs discussed the application and the opinions they had sought from parishioners. Cllrs discussed the actual location of the monument and how many Corsenside Parish residents were unaware of its location, believing it to be in Kirkwhelpington as that was the address given in the application. Cllrs therefore felt that parishioners were not properly consulted. Cllrs discussed all the previous issues which CPC had submitted at the pre-planning stage in September 2018 and felt that all these issues were still relevant and of concern. Cllrs think the road leading to the proposed monument is completely unsuitable to support extra, tourist type, traffic and were further concerned that the car park has accommodation for coach parking. It was felt that coaches are inappropriate on this narrow and twisting road with tight bends and blind summits and would present a significant extra hazard to other road users. Cllrs were concerned with the lack of amenities which would be provided such as no public toilets and none within the parish. Cllrs were concerned that the lack of facilities or employees could lead to visitor's toileting in the open. There was also concern that an increase in visitors would lead to an increase in littering and windblown litter from this exposed site. Cllrs also discussed the M.O. D's request for a light to be fitted to the top of the monument. This is an obvious necessity for low flying military aircraft however would have an unwelcome impact on our dark skies area and by being highly visible at night add to the intrusive nature of the proposed structure. Cllr C. Hamilton will write a response based on all the issues discussed to submit to NCC.

ii. Planning ref: 19/00358/LBC Listed building consent for replacement of existing timber faced windows with hardwood windows, replacement of front & rear outer doors with hardwood doors. Low Park, West Woodburn. Cllrs discussed the application and KT to submit a comment of 'No Objection'.

b) Decisions from NCC – None

17) Other correspondence: - i. Highways Services in Winter leaflets – made available to Cllrs ii. Revitalising Redesdale events – Info given to Cllrs. KT will display on noticeboards and on the local Facebook page, iii. Healthwatch Northumberland survey – Cllrs discussed this and asked KT to display on noticeboards and on the local Facebook page.

18) Finances: - a) Invoices for Payment – i. Clerks wages -£224.48. ii. Northumberland County Council - £1200 inc VAT for works to be carried out to replace kerbs with dropped kerbs at 2 locations in West Woodburn- BAC's payment. iii. Tree survey by F & L Charlton £420 - BAC's payment. KT to ask F. Charlton to carry out the recommended works iv. The Bay Horse room hire charge. Request to donate £50 to the Great North Air Ambulance.

b) Bank Balance - £13,573.80

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c) Monies Received - None

d) Requests for Assistance - None

e) Community Spending – Cllrs discussed a new noticeboard for Ridsdale as the current one is no longer fully waterproof. Cllr C. Hawman to measure the current one at Ridsdale and KT to find a price out for the same size. Cllrs discussed putting the old Ridsdale noticeboard up in the bus shelter so that some information could be displayed on this one which would help free up the main noticeboard for specific parish related issues. Cllrs discussed other purchases such as seats, benches and bins for dog waste. KT to make a list with prices included for Cllrs to consider.

19 Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion: Cllrs discussed the continuing issue regarding over-hanging trees on the road to East Woodburn. Cllrs also discussed the branches which NCC cut and left on the verges at the side of the A68 and the marked trees which remain there. KT to contact NCC regarding these issues.

KT informed all that she had been contacted by a member of the public informing her that the Blackburn Bridge between East and West Woodburn had lost a significant sized supporting stone. KT contacted NCC who responded the same day. NCC have closed the bridge off to vehicles however it remains open to pedestrians and cyclists. NCC stated that given the location of the bridge it may be difficult getting large vehicles and machinery needed to site. The parishioner also pointed out that he had learnt the bridge was not listed despite its long history. KT is looking at the requirements and the processes involved in registering the bridge as listed.

20) Next Meeting: - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7.30pm, Corsenside Parish Hall, West Woodburn.

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