

Corsenside Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th of November 2019

At The Bay Horse, West Woodburn at 7.30pm

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

1) Apologies for absence: - Cllr C. Hawman & County Cllr J. Riddle

2) Declarations of interest: - Cllr D. Carrington in respect of the Ridsdale Juniors & Seniors & the Green Rig Wind Farm Steering Group, Cllr C. Currie in respect of The Corsenside Parish Show & Cllr A. Harding in respect of the Ray Wind C.I.C.

3) Opportunities for members of the public to raise issues: None raised.

4) Minutes of the Corsenside Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th of October 2019: Cllr A. Harding stated that on page 2 under point 11, it should read Local Initiative Committee (L.I.C), rather than Local Initiative Fund. Minutes were corrected and signed as a true and accurate record.

5) Matters arising from the minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda: - KT informed all that she had received word from Otterburn Parish Council to say that the Police and Crime Commissioner Cllr McGuinness would be available to attend a meeting in Otterburn on the 6th of February 2020. This was in response to a letter sent by Otterburn PC on behalf of local parish councils regarding the increase in rural crime and the poor police response times. More details to follow nearer the time.

KT also explained that she had informed County Councillor J. Riddle of the issue regarding the broken speed sign at the north end of West Woodburn. KT stated that she had received word back from JR however she was waiting clarification on the matter.

6) Notification of any other business for discussion, at the chairman's discretion, under item 21 below: - Cllrs R. Robson, C. Currie & KT had matters to discuss.

7) County Councillors Report: - None

8) Update on adopting & signing of new policies, regulations & risk assessments: - KT read out a proposed Gift and Hospitality policy. All Cllrs agreed to adopt the policy. KT then read out a draft general risk assessment for community volunteers. All Cllrs agreed that the risk assessment was suitable and should be adopted. KT to make sure all volunteers sign a copy before carrying out any works on CPC's behalf. KT informed all that she had contacted Northumberland Association of Local Councils to enquire as to what a Green Space Audit and a Development Control Policy were. KT explained that a Green Space Audit involved knowing what areas within the parish are non-built up areas and areas with formal and informal rights to public access. A Development Control Policy set out how a parish council handles its response to planning applications. Cllrs discussed both policies and felt that these were more suited to larger parish/town councils and therefore not necessary for CPC to adopt.

9) Action point list: - 80. Armstrong St & Whiteacre – Nothing further to report.

91. West Woodburn Traffic Calming Measures – Cllr C. Hamilton explained to those who had been unable to attend the October meeting, that he had extracted data from the speed survey results to show the percentage of vehicles speeding both during the 20mph and 30mph active times. KT explained that she had emailed both County Councillor J. Riddle and N. Snowden of NCC. KT had attached the results of the speed survey, noting all the figures of speeding CPC had complied from the results and stating that CPC felt justified, as a result of the figures, in demanding the build out features be reinstated. KT informed them

that our meeting was on the 4th of November and that she would appreciate a response before then. KT stated that she had received no response therefore emailed again on the 4th of November. KT informed all that she received a reply from County Cllr JR stating that as far as he was aware there were no proposals to do anything more regarding traffic calming in West Woodburn. KT also informed all that she had been in contact with a local Police Constable to enquire as to who our local community officer now was and whether they would be able to attend a meeting to discuss the issue of speeding within the parish. KT was informed that our message had been passed onto Sgt K. Benson the Neighbourhood Sergeant for our area. She would be able to allocate an officer to contact us to discuss the points raised. Cllrs asked KT to continue to press NS for a response to the figures sent regarding the percentage of speeding vehicles and to state that CPC still felt that the only solution was a physical barrier such as the build out features.

10) Play Area – West Woodburn – KT explained to all that she had been sent the plans from Playdale showing the equipment and changes CPC had asked them to make within the play area. KT stated that herself and Cllr C. Hamilton had viewed the plans and as a result had various queries. KT had spoken with J. Dunn the Playdale surveyor to discuss the designs and queries CPC had. KT talked through the design which included the resurfacing of the safety surfaces, the replacement of the rotted wobble log with a rope weaver, the addition of a spinner, the relocation of the musical board and the addition of two further interactive boards, replacement nets and cradle swings. KT explained that Playdale had recommended any new safety surfaces be laid on top of the current surfaces. This would be significantly cheaper as it was costly to dispose of the old surfaces plus there would be no drawbacks to carrying out the works in this way. KT had also discussed a different location for one of the benches which needed to be relocated to allow the installation of the rope weaver. KT informed all that Playdale had suggested a new location for the spinner between the big swings and slide as our original location, (where the musical board currently is), had not allowed enough safe distance from the fence. Cllrs discussed the extra space created by the removal of the musical board. Cllr C. Hamilton suggested that perhaps this would be a good location for a picnic bench. All agreed this was a good idea and one to keep in mind should the grant application be successful. Cllrs discussed including the cost of an extended maintenance programme within the application. KT to enquire about this with Playdale. KT is awaiting the new costings and design from Playdale. If all is ok KT to continue with the grant application to the Ray Wind Farm C.I.C.

11) Ray Wind Fund: - Cllr A. Harding explained that BANTR had started works in Birtley. Cllr A. Harding explained that BANTR would be working with landowners to find the best solution for the layout of the cables. Cllr A. Harding discussed the issue BANTR were facing with regards to the availability of government vouchers and how BT may have started works with these vouchers in mind. Cllr A. Harding went on to discuss the Community Interest Company's (C.I.C) thoughts on looking into underwriting the connection charges to each property.

KT explained that she had contacted T. Pender of the C.I.C to enquire about the possibility of the Ray Wind Farm Funds offering a grant to help individuals, the community or businesses within the parish with renewable energy projects. KT met TP for further discussions on the subject. TP recommended that KT try to spread the word and form a small group who could carry out some research on similar projects. If there was enough interest the group could put it to the C.I.C and apply for a grant in order that a feasibility study be carried out by a specialist company. Cllrs discussed the idea and were happy to back the project however felt that more people would be willing to help after the Christmas period. Anyone interested in helping collate information please contact the clerk. KT to put some information up on CPC website.

12) Parish Hall: Nothing further to report other than work to the supper room was continuing and should be completed by late November/early December.

13) Six Parishes Youth Engagement Project: - KT informed all that Cllr C. Hawman had received an email

from the Community Foundation requesting more details regarding the application for the feasibility study. Cllr C. Hawman will look to answer all questions with the help of KT where needed.

14) Community Volunteers: KT informed all that she had a list of around 13 people who had shown an interest in helping around the parish. KT stated that she had spoken to a few of the volunteers regarding taking care of the planters throughout the parish. The volunteers she had spoken to seemed willing to take this on. KT informed the Cllrs that she had also spoken with C. Mowatt Landscaping about the volunteers taking over this part of the landscaping. CM was happy to hand this job over to the community. KT discussed with the Cllrs how much could be spent on replanting the planters. Corsenside parish currently have 10 planters, Cllrs felt that £20 per planter per year would be enough. KT to meet with the volunteers to discuss ideas for the planters. KT informed the Cllrs that she was unsure of what other jobs could be carried out at this time of year other than the sweeping of leaves however she did not want volunteers to feel like nothing was happening. Cllr C. Hamilton suggested asking the volunteers themselves what they would like to see happen. Lists can be compiled and works carried out at suitable times of year.

15) Community Spending: - KT informed Cllrs that she had purchased hi-viz vests and work gloves. KT suggested that some of the planters may need replacing however she would know more once replanting had begun. KT informed Cllrs that NCC had contacted her to say they had experienced some difficulty emptying the bin by the parish hall and the one at the top of Shaw Lonnen. KT has not heard anything since however made Cllrs aware that these bins may need replacing if the problem continued. Cllr R. Robson suggested a new location in East Woodburn for one of the red dog bins. KT stated that she had also received a request from a parishioner for a dog bin at the same location. Cllrs discussed this and agreed a location in East Woodburn. Cllrs felt that the bin proposed for the end of Rendle Terrace would be better located in East Woodburn as there is a bin already located by the bus shelter in Ridsdale which can be used for bagged dog waste. KT to contact NCC to see if this is a suitable location so that the bin can be emptied by the refuse vehicle.

16) Revitalising Redesdale: - Nothing further to report.

17) Panto: - KT informed all that progress with the panto was running as expected. KT explained that all relevant information had been given to the lady who prints the tickets and that KT had requested the tickets be ready by early December.

18) Planning Matters: - a) For decision – None

b) Decisions from NCC – Planning App 19/03431/FUL Land West of Armadale, Ridsdale – withdrawn at applicant's request.

19) Other correspondence: - Thank you letter from the Great North Air Ambulance for the grant of £150, ii. Thank you letter from Community Action Northumberland for the grant of £50, iii. Otterburn PC – Police and Crime Commissioner meeting – discussed under point 5, iv. Tynedale Hospice at Home newsletter – made available to Cllrs, v. Citizens Advice AGM invite – information given to Cllrs, vi. Campaign for Rural England newsletter - made available to Cllrs.

20) Finances: - a) Invoices for Payment – i. Clerks wages - £274.80 & expenses £38.43 (hi-viz vests, work gloves & defibrillator light bulb), £25 reimbursement for the parish Remembrance poppy wreath. £101 authorised for the purchase of a filing cabinet and files ii. Corsenside Parish Hall hire charge April - Oct - £75, iii. C. Mowatt, grass cutting - £58.

b) Bank Balance - £14,153.68

c) Monies Received - None

e) Requests for Assistance – None

21) Matters for discussion at the Chairman's discretion: KT reminded all that the Remembrance Service

would be held Sunday 10th, 10.50am at the War Memorial. KT informed all that she had received a complaint from a parishioner regarding dog fouling in West Woodburn where the parishioner was finding dog waste on their property. Cllrs discussed how dog fouling is sadly a constant issue within the parish. CPC have carried out a leaflet drop, reported the problem on numerous occasions, have put posters up and have provided bins. Cllrs felt that there was little else that they could do and urged parishioners to report the issue individually to the dog warden at NCC either online or by phone. Reports can be made about a problem area or even about a specific offender. Reports can be made anonymously.

KT also informed Cllrs that she had been communicating with J. Alderson of NCC regarding the continued issue of overgrown trees on the road to East Woodburn.

Cllr R. Robson informed all that a couple of the wooden fence rails which run along the river on the Braewell stretch, are missing. KT to report this to Highways. Cllr C. Currie stated that she had been approached by a parishioner querying why the grass verge had been cut all up the Lonnen however not from Beech Trees to Townhead where residents live. KT stated that she was not aware NCC usually cut grass verges other than those on main roads such as the A68. KT thought that the Lonnen had been cut back as NCC maintain the branches along this stretch and cut the verges also to improve sightlines.

22) Next Meeting: - Monday 2nd December 2019, 7.30pm – Corsenside Parish Hall (please check the agenda as if works to the parish hall are running over then the meeting may need to be held elsewhere), West Woodburn.

Karen Traill, Corsenside Parish Clerk, 01434 270 722 corsensideparishclerk@hotmail.com