

**MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 at 19:30 at The Pavilion**

Present: Stephen Pavey – Chair (SP)  
Gill Armstrong (GA)  
Peter Armstrong (PA)  
Joy Clutten (JC)  
David Fermor (DF)  
Bob Groome (BG)  
Sue Groome (SG)

CLlr Paul Ashdown  
CLlr James Reeder

Lynne Pavey (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 2

**1. Welcome by Chairman**

SP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Maureen Boughton, Ryan Harvey, Steve Barber

**3. Register of Interest**

There were no interests recorded.

**4. Minutes of February meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes were agreed and approved by PA, seconded by BG, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**5. County and District Councillor Reports**

CLlr Paul Ashdown

CLlr Ashdown was glad to be back after contracting Covid.

Very pleased with the 200 responses which had been received to the Transport survey. Results had been superbly good enabling plans to be put together for rural transport. Although Corton already has a good transport system, there are still some people who would find community transport useful.

The Community Partnership Event will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> March at Parkhill Hotel. All members of the Parish Council are invited to attend. Various items will be at the event covering social isolation, improving mental health, wellbeing and improving the health of primary school children. Somerleyton school will be showing their project. Peter Aldous, MP will be there during the event which is being held between 10am – 1pm. A buffet lunch will be provided.

CLlr Ashdown had attended a meeting about the Garden Village. East Suffolk are working with Anglian Water who have given guarantees they can fix any problems with odour emissions.

All Covid restrictions have been removed when face to face meetings take place.

BG asked about encouraging schools to take back their own catering. Cllr Ashdown replied that the scheme was more about learning how to grow your own food and by starting with the younger children, this would hopefully engage their parents to take part. James Reeder stated that out of 350 schools only 127 do their own catering.

BG said that Anglian Water had promised the smell would be sorted before, how can we be sure they will keep this promise again. Cllr Ashdown stated Anglian Water must resolve the situation.

Cllr Ashdown attended a meeting with East Suffolk who have said that any refugees from Ukraine will be welcomed here.

JC asked if the council meetings will still be recorded? Cllr Ashdown confirmed that they will stay on YouTube for about a month until after they have been approved.

#### Cllr James Reeder

Cllr Reeder talked about the recent storms and thanked the responders who had helped during the storms. The idea that having a county wide network would be difficult and is much better that the local communities help.

Agreed that East Suffolk and Anglian Water would not want any bad publicity if there are problems with odour emissions at the Garden Village.

## **6. Committee Representative Reports**

### **a) Playing Field**

DF had picked up the Jubilee tree. Echo reduction items for the Community Room had been ordered. All groups are meeting again and were well attended except for the Short mat bowls which has now finished. There has been some more vandalism in the disabled toilets. Football is going well. The old shed is to be demolished and the youth football team are replacing it with a container. Concrete drive works booked for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March.

Urban Spec group use the Community Room on Wednesdays, one group between 5pm and 6pm and a second group between 6pm and 7pm. They have asked if they can have another group between 7pm and 8pm and if the Parish Council would be prepared to hold their meeting in the small room or change their day?

Discussion took place about this as there could be some difficulty due to the noise made by the children and the change of day for meetings. Item to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

### **b) Speed Sign**

The camera was installed in Blundeston Road for the month of February and overall, the compliance with the 30mph speed limit was very good. The monthly average speed was 27.3mph.

Cllr Reeder asked a question about an email sent round about installing three cameras in Corton. Discussion took place and the item to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting.

### **c) Poor's Land Trust**

Fred Taylor had resigned as Chair of the Trustees. He will continue as a trustee until March next year in order to assist the new chair, after which time he will take a well-earned retirement. Mr Taylor was an original trustee and has dedicated his time for

many years to the smooth running of both of the charities. Peter Armstrong has been agreed as the new chair and will take on the role from 9 March 2022.

All plots have now been let on the allotments on Church Lane.

A meeting was held with the Suffolk County Council (SCC) Highways Officer regarding the issue of rainwater running off the road and flooding the allotments when there was a heavy downpour. SCC agreed to clean out the drains in this area and also raise the dropped kerb outside the allotments to prevent the water from running straight onto the site.

#### **Corton Almshouse Charity**

The new Relief Warden had been appointed and she will be starting in the role at the end of February. Mrs Armstrong was thanked for helping out with the Relief Warden duties whilst the position was vacant.

One of the vacant bungalows had been let, and the trustees were still waiting to interview all short-listed applicants for the second vacant bungalow before making a final decision. The second bungalow required full redecoration and a replacement wet room.

The new defibrillator had been delivered and installed on the garage wall of the warden's house. Thanks again go to Councillor Paul Ashdown for funding the defibrillator from his East Suffolk Council Locality Budget.

The replacement of the windows in the 11 original bungalows and the warden's house are almost complete.

The trustees reviewed the budgets vs actuals for the quarter to 31 December 2021 and then considered the budget for the coming financial year. It was agreed to increase the Weekly Maintenance Charge by £2.00 per week. This equated to an increase of 2.9% which was below the current inflation rate of 4.8%.

#### **d) Corton Fun Day 2022**

BG informed the council that due to a poor turn out at the last meeting and the lack of people to form a committee, he was regrettably unable to continue with the plans for the Fun Day. SP thanked BG for all his hard work in trying to organise the event. The item to be taken off the Agenda.

#### **7. Public Forum**

Resident advised that the walkway accessed via Baker's Score is very slippery and dangerous and asked if a sign could be put up advising this. Concern that the footpath would be closed for the winter if too many complaints are received. It was agreed that GA will contact the relevant authority to report it.

#### **8. Coastline Magazine (JC)**

JC advised that there are not enough subscribers at the moment to run the magazine. The Coastline Magazine is very expensive to print but GA is hopeful that, if the price of the magazine is increased to £10, it should be enough to continue. The Parish Council would not be able to afford to pay the production cost of £280 per month. An anonymous donation of £500 had been received. DF said he thought that £10 is a very reasonable cost and should continue. Cllr Ashdown said that he still has £700 left in his budget and will ask tomorrow if he can use this to make a donation.

9. **Broadband in the Community Hall**

PA stated that he needed to know exactly what Broadband is needed/used for. The cost of Broadband where everyone could access it would be about £40 per month, whereas the £15 for the satellite system would be a more reasonable cost, but only a few people would be able to use it. DF agreed to put it to the Playing Field Committee to see if they would be happy to look at this as a joint venture. Cllr Ashdown advised the council to contact Jill Brown at Lound who have Broadband and who could give us an idea of cost.

10. **Garden Village (JC)**

There was nothing further to report. After a brief discussion it was agreed that in future, any information will be included in the county councillors report.

Cllr Ashdown stated that, at this point in time, the Garden Village will be a part of Corton parish which would mean that the Parish Council would receive any CIL funding.

11. **Parish Clerk Report**

Bank Account Balances

Community Account - £9,753.41

Business Premium Account - £4,638.45

£7,113.98 of the Community Account is CIL money and £136.26 Hardship Grant

Clerk to refund the Hardship Grant.

Quotes had been received from East Suffolk Norse for Grass and Hedge Cutting on The Pit - Hedge Cutting £187 + VAT (£224.40) and Grass Cutting £250 + VAT (£300).

BG recommended to accept the quotes, seconded by SG, all agreed.

**Cheques to be approved**

Jubilee Mugs - £1,049.66

Letterbox for Pavilion - £38.00

Litterbin and Fittings - £290.34

Website Hosting - £60

Clerk's Salary

The payments were recommended for approval by DF, seconded by PA, all agreed.

**Correspondence**

Emails (circulated)

Review of Local Validation List - Initial consultation

Project Update – Planning Inspectorate submits Sizewell C report

Work well Suffolk Newsletter

12. **Planning Applications**

DC/22/0056/FUL 7 Colman Road Corton - Side Extension (No objections subject to neighbour's agreement).

DC/22/0111/FUL 31A Gladstone Road Corton – Garage Extension (awaiting comments). GA advised that Enforcement were looking into this application and didn't feel the council could comment at the moment.

13. **The Queen's Jubilee Celebrations**

GA reported that the plans were going very well at present.

The Oak Tree is ready for planting and it was suggested that it be planted in the south-east side of the playing field. The other suggestion was for the east end of The Pit?

Following a discussion, JC proposed the Oak Tree be planted in the Memorial Garden on the south-east side of the Playing Field, seconded by BG, all agreed.

SG raised her concerns about violence contained in the Punch and Judy Show. Cllr Reeder stated that he would ask his officers to make enquiries as to whether the modern version of the show is now more acceptable. If the reply is that it is not deemed to be acceptable then it would not go ahead. JR will liaise directly with SG and GA

**14. Neighbourhood Plan (JC)**

GA is looking into business links. The group is short of volunteers again, usually they have 4 or 5 people but really should have 8. The group are intending to go ahead with a consultation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

**15. No Meeting to be held in April.**

Next meeting to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The meeting closed at 9.06pm.