

Corton Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5 May 2021 at 19:00 via Zoom.

Present

Stephen Pavey (SP) Chair

Maureen Boughton (MB) Vice Chair

Peter Armstrong (PA)

Gill Armstrong (GA)

Joy Clutten (JC)

Dave Fermor (DF)

Sue Groome (SG)

Bob Groome (BG)

Lynne Pavey - acting finance officer

Cllr Paul Ashdown

Cllr Keith Patience

Members of the public - Steve Barber - prospective Parish Councillor

Minutes taken by Gill Armstrong

1. Welcome by Chairman

SP welcomed all to the meeting

2. Apologies

None

3. Register of interest

None

4. Minutes of April Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed, proposed by BG, seconded by MB, all in favour. They were duly signed by the chairman as an accurate and true record.

No matters arising

5. County and District Councillor Reports

Councillor Patience

Councillor Patience said that he was up for re-election and was not sure if he would be elected so he included Councillor Ashdown in dealing with an issue regarding the footpath to the allotments, locally known as The Cut. He had received a complaint from a parishioner about an overhanging tree and branches left on the pathway.

There is an ongoing issue over ownership. Both Councillors met, at the site, with a representative from Norse. Highways and East Suffolk say that they don't own it, therefore it has been passed over to the asset team to decide ownership. As this is an ongoing District Council matter Cllr Ashdown will deal with it if Cllr Patience is not around.

GA commented that Waveney had purchased the land from the Poor's Land Trust in order to build the council houses but they said that they would only maintain the chainlink fence on the West side of the footpath
There is no benefit in the PC trying to take ownership. This was not advised.

The Chairman wished Councillor Patience good luck with the election and thanked him for everything he has done for the village. All councillors agreed with this.

6. Public Forum

No members of the public present

7. Committee Representative Reports

Playing Field

A new gate has been fitted on the play area courtesy of Councillor Ashdown's community partnership fund

Money has been received for the new fire doors in the changing rooms

The outdoor gym equipment has arrived, just needs to be fitted

The football is underway

The Brownies have started meeting

Tai Chi will resume soon, but with restricted numbers

The first car boot was well attended

Speed Sign

The stats were forwarded to all councillors, prior to the meeting, PA said that they were well presented and thanked SP

1-19 April - Blundeston Road it was then moved, as there was a scheduled road closure.

Total 17,372 vehicles

Average speed 26.9mph
14,766 vehicles recorded at 32.6mph or below

20 - 28 April - East side of Corton Long Lane. The sign stopped recording on 28 April, due to battery problems

Total 14,445 vehicles
Average speed 27.6 mph

Corton Poor's Land Trust and Corton Almshouse Charity

Summary of Meeting held on 14 April 2021

Corton Poor's Land Trust

All vacant allotment plots are now allocated on Church Lane and there is a waiting list for plots.

A communal shed is being considered for the site to provide shelter in bad weather and for storing tools if required. Quotations are to be sought in the first instance.

The trusteeships of two of the trustees were due to come to an end. Both kindly agreed to continue as trustees for the two charities for a further term.

Corton Almshouse Charity

The trustees agreed to engage the services of a Financial Advisor in order to carry out a one off review of the investment portfolio of the charities to ensure that the current investments were appropriate with regards to risk and reward.

Updated guidance had been received from the Government regarding the keeping of pets in rented accommodation. After reviewing the guidance, the trustees agreed that the current pet policy for the Almshouses should remain unchanged for the time being.

Correspondence had been received from the Almshouse Association regarding the Captain Tom 100 Campaign requesting that Almshouses take a photo of trustees and/or residents standing outside the Almshouses on the weekend when it would have been Captain Tom's Birthday. The trustees agreed that it would be difficult to participate in this safely given the current social distancing rules.

Claire Boyne
Secretary
29 April 2021

5. County and District Councillor Reports, continued

Councillor Ashdown joined us, therefore it was agreed that we hear his report

He has received notification from central government that face to face meetings must resume from 6 May 2021, for all meetings that are open to the general public.

Social distancing must be in place, participant numbers may be limited.

Question from SP - Is there a Standard Operating Procedure in place?

Councillor Ashdown will forward the information.

If committee meetings are not open to the general public they may still be held remotely.

Friday, 7 May, is the cut off date for community partnership small grant applications.

The locality budget is now live for this year

Councillor Ashdown was pleased that the playing field committee had managed to install the new gate

Councillor Patience told Councillor Ashdown that he had briefed the PC on The Cut pathway issue.

Question from BG - if councillors don't feel safe to attend face to face meetings what is the procedure? Councillor Ashdown will look into this.

7. Committee Representative Reports, continued

Community SpeedWatch

The first training session, for the whole team, was held last week, with two police officers in attendance. We have received all the required equipment, on loan.

There are four approved CSW sites, in the village.

We will liaise with SP, on speed sign location so that we do not schedule sessions when the sign is active.

The post, for the new speed sign on the Street, has been extended, unfortunately it is too short to accommodate the sign, this has been reported and is scheduled for replacement.

8. New Councillor Application

An application, to become a parish councillor, was received, from Steve Barber. His CV and details had been forwarded to all councillors, prior to the meeting. Mr Barber was asked why he would like to become a Parish Councillor. He responded by saying that since he and his family had arrived in the village they had been made very welcome and were especially thankful to the Good Neighbour Scheme, which has helped them out, he would now like to give something back. He's seen problems around the village that need attention and wants to help.

Mr Barber was then asked to wait in the waiting room whilst councillors voted.

PA proposed and BG seconded, all in favour

Mr Barber then returned to the meeting and was welcomed by SP.

9. New Clerk Position

SP proposed that we offer 4 hours per week, in accordance with government guidelines for a Parish of this size.

Salary would be above the minimum wage at £2288 per annum. The clerk must be available for all meetings.

BG has written a contract which he circulated to all, prior to the meeting

MB proposed that we advertise the position, seconded by PA, all in favour.

10. CCTV and Playing Field

SP sourced prices for HD cameras. He can buy and fit a system for £350 - £400, this includes all cabling, signs, etc.

Councillor Ashdown said he may be able to help fund from his locality budget.

It was proposed, by PA, that we accept this up to £400, MB seconded, all in favour.

11. CCTV and Fly Tipping

There have been complaints about the fly tipping on Stirrups Lane, by the bridge, this has now reached the top of the bridge.

We could look into getting a camera will, automatically, notify us and collect vehicle registration numbers when fly tipping is in progress. It could be moveable so that it could be deployed in other trouble spots. It was also reported that there is fly tipping in the entrance to the old sewage works. If this is privately owned the land owner has to fund the removal, if it is council owned Norse will clear it. Councillor Ashdown will find out who is responsible. Could ask Norse if they'll clear.

12. CCTV Register

It was proposed that we look into setting up a register, of people who have CCTV, which could be used by police.

Need to be careful re recording outside property.

Questions - Who would hold the register? What about data protection?

What are the ramifications of this?

It was mentioned that this is a police initiative, therefore Councillor Ashdown suggested contacting the PCC re funding... **SP** will deal with it.

13. Buses During Road Closures

There have been several road closures recently, unfortunately this was not advertised nor was there any alternative transportation provided.

When this issue was raised, some time ago, we were promised that signs would be put on the bus stops but this has not happened. GA contacted Suffolk CC who responded as follows. Passenger Transport receive road

closure notifications from Suffolk Highways which are then passed on to the affected bus operators so that they can plan for the closure. SCC provide notices at bus stops for services sponsored by SCC, or where multiple operators are affected at the same bus stops, but as this is a commercial service with one operator only affected it's down to the operator to provide publicity as they feel appropriate.

BG spoke to the manager of First Bus at Great Yarmouth, on this issue, about three years ago, he promised they would always put up signs if they are notified. It was suggested that BG talk to him again. **BG**

14. The Pit

GA informed the meeting that most of the work, that was required by RoSPA, had been completed. The area on the far side had been cleared by GA, MB, PA and Mr D Butcher. The ground around the children's play area had been cleared of broken glass and bottles.

The fence to the left of the gate is the only outstanding item. Quotes have been sourced by GA.

Say It With Wood

£238.86 inc VAT and delivery

Four Seasons Fencing

£196 inc VAT and delivery

Smith's

£155.22

It was proposed that GA go ahead with the local company, provided we can arrange transportation. Proposed by BG, seconded by SG, all in favour. **GA**

15. Finance Report

Corton Parish Accounts

All information was copied from account book to a spreadsheet under new headings.

One cheque was not noted, as it was cancelled, this will be documented.

An item recording the donation to St Bartholomew's, needs explanation re returned cheque.

Peppercorn rent. Bus shelters to PC account, the others to the charity account.

We need to approve the accounts before sending to the auditor.

Lynne went through the documents that she had previously forwarded to the councillors.

The documents will be posted on the website, once they have been approved by the auditor

Received precept plus extra £27 from East Suffolk Hardship fund, there is a small amount remaining.

Neighbourhood plan budget is mentioned under miscellaneous, we haven't set an exact budget amount as we don't know what will be needed.
PA proposed, seconded by GA, all in favour of the accounts being submitted to the auditor.
Lynne was thanked for doing the accounts.

16. Correspondence

Email re fly tipping, this was addressed in item 11.
Report of vandalism in Baker's Score toilets, this has already been reported

17. Items for the June agenda

- The Cut - Councillor Ashdown and Councillor Patience
- CCTV and Fly Tipping - SP
- CCTV Register - SP
- Buses - BG
- New Village - JC

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 2 June at 19:30 in the Community Room

Meeting closed at 20:30