

MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday, 4th October 2023 at 7.30pm in the Community Room, Playing Field

Present: Stephen Pavey (SP)
Maureen Boughton (MB)
Peter Armstrong (PA)
David Fermor (DF)
Sue Groome (SG)

Cllr Paul Ashdown
Cllr James Reeder

Lynne Pavey (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 4

1. Welcome by Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Gill Armstrong, Bob Groome.

3. Register of Interest

None declared.

4. Minutes of September meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2023 were recommended for approval following a small amendment to the section about the celebrations held at the Methodist Church, proposed by MB, seconded by SG, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

The Green Waste bin and subscription has been ordered and paid although the bin may not be delivered for a few weeks.

5. County and District Councillor Reports

Cllr Paul Ashdown

Cllr Ashdown had attended a briefing about Sizewell and how it will impact us. He visited the old Lotingland School site, now East Coast College which is looking like it will be very useful for the young people in the area. They are planning to work with children from primary school age upwards with the object being to help people train/retrain. It is looking very positive for the future.

Cllr James Reeder

The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Control Centre is currently based in Cambridge but SCC are looking into bringing this back to Suffolk as soon as the contract period ends. The budgets for Home to School Transport SEND and Children in Care are predicted to have an overspend of £22 million. Views are being sort for Cycling routes

6. Committee Representative Reports

a) Playing Field

All the youth football teams are doing well. There was a large wedding party held last week which went well. The Line Dancing group have extended their time by another hour. And the Lady who runs it is planning to hold a Quiz.

b) Speed Sign - Total movements recorded for the period 26th July to 27th September was 73019 (one way). 69339 vehicles were travelling at a speed which would not have attracted a speeding fine. 3680 vehicles were travelling at a speed that would have received a speeding fine (5%).

c) Corton Poor's Land Trust and Corton Almshouse Charity

Corton Poor's Land Trust

A report had been prepared by the Secretary on the Allotments, in conjunction with the Chair and one of the Trustees. This report was discussed at length and it was agreed that the plot owners of plots that were currently overgrown would be given an ultimatum of 31st October to get their plot significantly improved, otherwise their tenancy would not be renewed on 1st November and their plot would be offered to a person on the waiting list. In addition, all plot owners would be reminded at that time of their responsibility to keep their plot well-tended.

It was decided that the rents for November 2023 to October 2024 would be kept the same.

There had been recent issues with bonfires and it was decided to let all the plot holders know that these were only permitted from early evening onwards.

As the plot labelling on the allotments was somewhat confusing, it was agreed to re-label certain plots and to provide markers on each individual plot.

It was decided to ask for quotes to keep the strips between the plots mown twice a year and to also clear all the brambles at the perimeter of the allotments where they faced the Fowlers Crescent bungalows.

The Secretary would renew the notices on the noticeboard, especially relating to bonfires. The Xmas benefits criteria was discussed briefly but it was decided to review the current list and discuss this more fully in October.

Corton Almshouse Charity

The Secretary had distributed the annual satisfaction survey to all the Almshouse residents and 14 out of the 16 forms had been returned. The results were very similar to last year and it was agreed there was no cause for concern. Any maintenance issues mentioned were already being followed up.

The Secretary reported that the new Central Monitoring System had been installed and was working satisfactorily as were the fully wired smoke alarms.

The Warden's Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and this included the sad death of one of the residents. It was agreed by the Trustees that a donation of £25 should be made.

The payments and account balances had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no queries from the Trustees.

It was confirmed that the next Trustee Meeting would be on Wednesday 11th October 2023.

Ann Dobson, Secretary
19th September 2023

7. Public Forum

Concerns were raised about the state of the paths with weeds and shrubs growing through the tarmac and edges. This matter was discussed and PA suggested that details of reporting this should be included in the minutes/reports so that people are aware of what to do - To report a problem online, enter Suffolk Highways Reporting Tool in your search engine, scroll down the page and click on Highways Reporting Tool, then follow the onscreen instructions. Alternatively contact the Clerk who can report it for you (corton-parish-clerk@outlook.com).

Second complaint about dog excrement – ongoing problem.

Tree between Wheatacre Drive/Manor Park Road has been cut back recently as agreed.

Resident who had complained about smells from Sewerage Works a few months ago informed the meeting that the smells had continued throughout the summer. The Clerk is keeping a dossier of all the complaints (51 to date). Peter Aldous, the local MP is aware of this problem. Parishioners should report any smells to the Clerk on corton-parish-clerk@outlook.com.

8. Parish Clerk Report

a) Finance

Bank Account Balances

Community Account - £10,770.48

Business Premium Account - £4,638.75

b) Payments

9 payments awaiting authorization: -

BT: Broadband - £39.59

L Pavey: No Dogs Prohibition Signs - £32.97

L Pavey: Phone Top Up - £20.00

S Pavey: Green Waste Bin and Subscription for 1 year for Volunteer Gardener- £62.00

HMRC: PAYE (July to September) - £135.60

East Suffolk: Uncontested Election Expenses - £78.54

RoSPA: Annual safety inspection of The Pit - £90.00

Community Action Suffolk: Website Hosting – £60.00

Clerk's Salary

SG proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by MB, all agreed.

c) Income

No income received this month.

d) Correspondence

Complaint about Nuisance Neighbours.

Anglian Energy Planning Alliance – Request to sign letter asking the Energy Minister to re-visit East Suffolk as a priority.

East Suffolk Planning, Building Control and Coastal Management Newsletter

20s Plenty for Suffolk.

East Suffolk - Public Space Protection Orders.

East Suffolk – Our Direction and Survey.

Broads Authority - Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document.

9. Planning Applications

No applications received this month

10. Bus Stop Timetables

Timetables are not on display at some of the bus stations. Clerk to copy the timetable and display it on bus stops without one.

11. Community Assets

GA will give a report at the next meeting. SP talked about the difference between Community Assets and the Community Right To Bid. It was thought that the piece of land between Wheatacre Drive and Manor Park Road could come under the Community Right to bid. Cllr Ashdown recommended contacting Tony Rudd (Land Surveyor) or Ruth Bishop at East Suffolk.

12. Footpath from Corton to Broadland Sands

Cllr Reeder will check who owns or rents the land of the field on the east side of Church Lane and report back at the next meeting.

13. The Pit

a) Improvements to The Pit

To be discussed at next meeting.

b) RoSPA report

The report had been received and circulated to Councillors. SP and DF to look at the report and attend to the matters raised.

14. CCTV Camera for Fly Tipping

The camera is in position and working.

15. Twinning Exchange

Waiting to hear from any parishioners who are interested in visiting Aloxe-Corton next Autumn.

16. Remembrance Sunday

Rev Martin Keenan will be taking the service again this year which starts at 10.00am at the Methodist Church.

17. Land between Manor Park Road/Wheatacre Drive

This was discussed in Point 11.

18. Additional Barrier for Playing Field

Due to problems on the car park/playing field overnight, the Playing Field Committee would like to install an additional barrier on the entrance of the car park. PA proposed, seconded by DF, 1 abstained.

19. History Room/Museum

To be added to next meeting.

20. Corton Fun Day 2024.

SP, MB and GA are looking to start planning a Corton Fun Day to be held next summer.

21. Items for next meeting's Agenda

Remembrance Day

Light down Mills Drive (Cllr JR)

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 1st November 2023. The meeting closed at 8.50pm.