

**MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 19:30 at The Pavilion**

Present: Stephen Pavey – Chair (SP)  
Maureen Boughton – Vice Chair (MB)  
Gill Armstrong (GA)  
Peter Armstrong (PA)  
David Fermor (DF)  
Sue Groome (SG)

Cllr Paul Ashdown  
Cllr James Reeder (JR)

Lynne Pavey (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 1

**1. Welcome by Chairman**

SP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies**

Joy Clutten, Bob Groome, Ryan Harvey

**3. Register of Interest**

There were no interests recorded.

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

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

**Matters Arising**

GA contacted Cllr Mallender and is waiting to hear when he is available.

SP emailed East Suffolk to ask about funding for Wifi for the Pavilion. Paul Ashdown will also contact the appropriate person.

**5. County and District Councillor Reports**

Cllr James Reeder

Cllr Reeder had emailed the Clerk the Suffolk Newsletter which had been circulated to Councillors. He had met with a resident concerning the alleyway at back of The Street. It was discovered that the hedge belongs to the owners of the houses at the back of the fence and not the local authority; the footpath belongs to the local authority. James Reeder and Paul Ashdown looking into the matter to see if they can help.

Enquiry re land at Wheatacre Drive – will try to determine who owns the land around the property. Water on The Street – the area was tested and showed no sign of a leak. However, the test was done during a dry spell and the water was back again the following week. Discussion took place - JR will keep up the pressure with Highways Department.

Cllr Paul Ashdown

Northern Parishes Community Partnership has received £5,000 for 2 projects – ‘Walk in the Park’ where people will meet up for organised walks and a project for young people/teenagers to have regular social meetings at Sam’s Café in Bevan Street, both on a Sunday afternoon. The dates for these events will be sent out later. Review to take place to assess how the partnership has done

and how they go about it. Paul Ashdown having an Open Day meet up in February. Grass cutting will start again on the areas that have been left. GA asked about the edges being cut near the chicane on Corton Road. The 5<sup>th</sup> Mile Walk Project is about to start where, one of the things you will be able to see, is how the Third Crossing is progressing. Broadland Sands Planning Application – should be dealt with in November.

## **6. Public Forum**

One member of the public present but had nothing to bring up. The public forum was closed at 8.00pm when the Parish Council meeting resumed.

## **7. Committee Representative Reports**

### **a) Playing Field**

Funding had been received to purchase the Slalom Skier which has been ordered and will be installed by Volunteers – thanks to Paul Ashdown and his team for the funding. The football is going well. Several parties have been booked. A McMillan Coffee Morning is planned for the 10<sup>th</sup> October in the afternoon (2pm-5pm). CCTV is currently being installed. Corton Brownies meet in the small room every Tuesday evening at 5.30pm.

There is one car that parks overnight on the Playing Field Car Park despite the 'No Overnight Parking' signs. Is there anything that can be done to prevent this? After discussion, it was decided to wait till the CCTV is installed as it then may be possible to identify who it is.

### **b) Speed Sign**

Speed stats for September – the majority of cars stayed within the speed limit. One car was speeding at a dangerous level, recorded at 9.00 in the morning. This is a cause for concern as small children could have been in the location at the time. There were 52,645 cars travelling west down Corton Long Lane over the course of a month. Speed Camera now in Blundeston Road. JR suggested that it would be good idea to share the figures with Rob Hancock (Suffolk County Council).

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

#### **Corton Poor's Land Trust**

There is currently one vacant plot on the Church Lane allotments, and this will be allocated to the next Corton resident on the waiting list. Some tenants were being asked to tidy their plots as there were a number which were not being kept well. A shed had now been erected on the site. This would be for the use of all allotment tenants.

The Christmas Benefits advertisement was agreed and this would be posted on the notice boards around the village; it would also be posted on the Corton Facebook pages. It was agreed that the income thresholds for eligibility should remain unchanged.

#### **Corton Almshouse Charity**

The trustees had received four quotations for replacement windows and doors for the original bungalows, including the warden's house. The trustees agreed to accept one of the quotations based on the cost but also the reputation of the company.

Interviews for the post of Relief Warden would be taking place on 10 September. The secretary was currently carrying out internal visual inspections of all of the bungalows, as well as completing Support Plans and Risk Assessments for all of the residents. The results would be reported to the next meeting.

The trustees received the Budget Monitoring Report for the quarter ending 30 June 2021. There were no significant variances to the budget.

The trustees discussed whether it would be appropriate to install a Defibrillator on the front of the warden's house, as this could be for use by the Almshouses and also the residents in this area of the village. The secretary was asked to investigate costs.

The trustees received a report from a Financial Advisor who had carried out a review of the charity's investments. The current investments were found to be suitable for the purposes of the two charities. The trustees also agreed an Investment Policy.

The trustees agreed that a review of the current alarm system would be required given that calls made via physical wires would become obsolete by 2025.

PA stated that his funding could be used to buy a defibrillator for Warden's House.

**d) Community Speed Watch**

Nothing much happening due to a lack of volunteers – should have 6 people. Unfortunately, due to there not being a local magazine it has not been possible to advertise for more volunteers, so has been put on hold for the time being.

**8. Parish Clerk report**

**Finance**

Business premium account balance - £4638.45

Community account balance - £8869.09 (includes CIL funding of £3979.23 and £136.26 Hardship Grant).

Parish accounts reconciled with the Bank Statement to the end of September.

Six monthly Budget Monitoring report carried out (circulated) – Total expenditure is slightly higher at 55%, mainly due to the Speed Indicator Device payment, expected to be paid in last year's budget, not presented until the new financial year in April.

Seven cheques awaiting authorisation

CCTV Camera System - £329.99

Cement for Barrier Repair - £40.00

The Pit Play Equipment Inspection - £82.20

Previous Clerk's Salary

Expenditure for Public Consultation Day - £77.96

Insurance Premium - £643.56

Materials for installing CCTV - £27.32

SP asked about the CIL money and GA suggested that more adult fitness equipment for the playing field could be purchased. DF suggested some sort of barrier for youngster to use to kick balls against - MB and GA to look into items and costs. James Reeder and Paul Ashdown offered £1,000 each from their funding towards this.

**Correspondence**

Oulton Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Regulation 14 Consultation

East Suffolk Council – Public Access not available between 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> October

**9. Recycling (GA)**

To be added to next Agenda

**10. Garden Village (GA & PA)**

GA and PA had attended a meeting about the Garden Village - Main concerns were the smell from the sewage works and the amount of traffic there would be in Corton Long Lane. If they changed the access from Corton Long Lane and moved it, people would be happy to work with them more. A discussion took place about the proposals for the new houses, the smells from the Sewage Works, a new roundabout, and a new Rugby Club.

**11. RoSPA (GA)**

Report received from RoSPA with only a few minor issues –

- Basketball - Warning sign should be put on basketball net. The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards, but risk score was low.
- Tighten/replace the loose fittings on the Rocker See-Saw.
- Protruding handles & foot-rests - low risk (councillors suggested they could be glued).
- Replace missing clamp cap on Multi-play Mystical. Significant erosion to be de-scaled back to good metal and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions.
- Swing - Excessive wear on shackles, bushes or associated connections- chains bent, replace the shackles on the top

**12. Parish Clerk Vacancy (SP)**

Vacancy now filled. PA to look into setting up Online Banking for the Parish Council accounts.

**13. Gov.uk email addresses (GA)**

Parish Councillors should not be using their private emails due to GDPR. GA to look into the possibility of using Outlook. Paul Ashdown advised that the District Councillors all use Outlook which is very secure.

**14. Neighbourhood Plan (JC)**

About 40 people attended and the main concerns were Speeding in the Village, the Garden Village, and the lack of a local magazine since Coastline finished.

**15. Car Park on The Pit (MB)**

MB asked if the east end of The Pit which isn't used for anything, be used as a Car Park ie: for the school, general parking, etc. CIL funding could be used towards this. Surface would need to be prepared ie matting but this was thought to be quite expensive. First thing to do is canvas the area to gauge resident's opinions.

**16. Remembrance Sunday (SG)**

Methodist Church happy to host the Remembrance Service. Rev Nigel Lacey more than happy to take the service. There will need to be a limit on numbers due to Covid. SG will organise and report back at next meeting.

**17. Bus Shelter (GA)**

The bus shelter in Station Road being targeted - being used as a toilet, a fire was set inside, and paint thrown at the walls. PA and DM volunteered to arrange a time to clean it.

Discussion took place about the need for a place where young people could meet. MB to look at the cost of a Kid's Covered Seating Area. Paul Ashdown to enquire about whether Planning Permission would be required.

**18. Parish Insurance Renewal**

Three quotes obtained - Pen Underwriting Ltd - £790.31, BHIB - £643.56, Hiscox - £751.11. Annual Insurance cover taken out with BHIB.

**19. Items for November Agenda**

Local Authority Invitation to Christmas service  
Parking on the Playing Field  
Car Park on The Pit  
Adult Keep - Fit Equipment

Next meeting will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.