

DRAFT MINUTES OF CORTON VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held using the Zoom platform on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 19:00

Present: Stephen Pavey (SP)
Gill Armstrong (GA)
Peter Armstrong (PA)
Maureen Boughton (MB)
Sue Groome (SG)

Cllr Keith Patience
Cllr Paul Ashdown

Anne Webb (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 1

11.1 Welcome by Chair

SP welcomed all to the meeting.

11.2 Apologies

BG

11.3 Register of interest

None

11.4 Minutes of October meeting and matters arising

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

PA had made enquiries with Anglian Water regarding water pipes and reported there are no major pipelines running across the site for the new Lowestoft Garden Village. Following discussion, it was agreed PA would send a report to Councillor Ashdown.

Remembrance Sunday - GA informed the meeting that no services would be held, laying of wreaths would still go ahead.

11.5 County and District Councillors Reports

Councillor Ashdown gave an overview of the Community Partnership where work is continuing with primary schools. There is £25,000 to be used this year, £8,500 of which has been allocated to help reduce childhood obesity. There is up to £16,000 to be used before the end of March. East Suffolk Council to set up a grant scheme awarding grants of up to £2,000, as long as it covers the three main criteria of the scheme. Any funding projects locally can apply including those to help combat social isolation.

PA reminded the meeting that the documents concerning this had been sent out previously and asked if all agreed that he should vote to agree the project. It was agreed unanimously. KP pointed out the East Suffolk Council Home Alone scheme is available for all who need it.

11.6 Public Forum

A member of the public mentioned the second lockdown and thought the Good Neighbour Scheme may be in demand. SP stated that the Clerk had arranged a group of volunteers who had put cards through all doors in the village and were immediately available to assist residents. Councillor Ashdown informed the meeting that the Citizens advice Bureau are now running Voice of a Friend and offering support.

Committee Representative Reports**Playing Field**

MB reported signs had been placed on the perimeter of the playing field which say no dogs allowed on football pitches. It is hoped that this will keep the pitches free from dog fouling and prompt dog owners to clear up after their dogs. The hedges and grass have been cut. The play area fence has once again been damaged and is in need of repair. Corton Youth Football Team have replaced the goal posts. Car boot sales have been postponed in the last few weeks due to bad weather. Exercise groups will resume in December after the lockdown.

Speed sign**Speed statistics for October**

1st to 18th October, sign recorded vehicles in Corton Long Lane travelling West.

25,153 vehicles

Highest average speed 39mph between 06.00 and 07.00

Lowest average speed 32.5mph between midday and 13.00

The vast majority recorded speeds between 30 and 35mph

The sign was then moved to record vehicles travelling east bound, there was a problem with the display which resulted in recordings between 18th and 20th October only.

2584 vehicles used the road during this period.

Highest average speed being 42.5mph between 06.00 and 07.00

Lowest average speed 30mph between 07.00 and 08.00.

Highest speed – two vehicles at 55mph

The vast majority of vehicles were recorded between 30 and 35mph.

The sign has been moved to Blundeston Road.

GA reported that permission has been sought for a second speed sign. KP mentioned funding has been agreed for the sign, the PC would have to purchase and send invoice to Highways. KP will send details.

Corton Poor's Land Trust

The annual allotment tenancy renewals were discussed, and the trustees agreed to increase the allotment rent by £1 for a half plot and £2 for a full plot, taking the cost of a half plot to £12 and a full plot to £24.

There are a number of vacant plots at the allotments and these will be allocated over the coming weeks to those on the waiting list.

The trust received correspondence from an allotment tenant regarding flooding on the site, and so a site meeting was agreed in order to investigate possible solutions.

The Christmas Benefit list from the previous year was reviewed and it was agreed to send out the application letters.

Corton Almshouse Charity

All of the bungalows are currently occupied. The trustees reviewed the Business Continuity Plan and carried out a review of the Resident's Handbook, which is given to all new residents when they take up occupation. The results of the Resident's Satisfaction Survey were received, and it was agreed that some of the questions should be amended in time for next year's survey.

The annual servicing of the boilers has been completed, and two boilers have been identified as requiring replacement in the near future.

The Annual Accounts for 2018-19 were received at the meeting, along with the Accountant's written summary. Both Charities are financially stable.

The trustees also agreed at this meeting the Risk Management Policy and Risk Assessment for the Almshouses.

11.8 Community Speed Watch

GA informed the meeting that Suffolk Police will fund training and equipment as long as there are 6 volunteers. SP asked all Parish Councillors to contact GA if they would like to volunteer as GA will coordinate. SP will post on Facebook to seek volunteers to which all agreed. **ACTION SP**

11.9 Dog Fouling

MB mentioned the dog signs on the playing field and hoped this would keep dog owners off the pitches.

11.10 Parish Clerk finance report

The Clerk reported the savings account balance on 31st October £4638.45
Business current account on 31st October £6026.16
This includes income of £3230.00 for 2nd Precept payment
£754.75 – Community Infrastructure Levy payment

Cheques issued since October Finance report and awaiting authorisation
Community Heartbeat Trust for defib support 135.00
Clerk Salary for October includes back pay
Good neighbour scheme (Hardship Fund) 86.68
Playsafety Ltd – The Pit play eqpt inspection 82.20

The Clerk informed the meeting that an invoice from The Royal British Legion had been received for £18.50 which covered the cost of the Poppy Wreath. GA proposed a donation to include the wreath be made for £30. Seconded by SG and agreed by all.

The Clerk stated TP had purchased a laptop exclusively for the speed sign data at a cost of £179.99. Following his resignation, the laptop has been left with the PC. GA proposed TP be reimbursed for the cost. Seconded by MB and agreed by all.

11.11 Peppercorn rents

The Clerk raised the issue of peppercorn rents, following discussion it was agreed invoices be raised for both the School and Playing Field. **ACTION - CLERK**

11.12 Litter Bin – Manor Park Road

GA mentioned the litter bin is in poor condition and needs replacing.
GA proposed a new bin be purchased, this was seconded by MB and agreed by all. **ACTION - CLERK**

11.13 Correspondence

A barrier has been erected at the Rugby Club entrance; residents are concerned that emergency vehicles may have difficulty with access. SP has been advised there is a coded access, residents will be given the code.

Email from resident concerning a water leak outside the hairdressers in The Street. The Clerk has reported the matter, if there is no action it will be reported again along with a broken drain cover outside 52a.

The footpath next to Azure Seas has been cleared by volunteers. The signpost at this location requires maintenance. One of the signs is broken and is not original, GA has sourced a company who will cast the sign to match the rest at a cost of £249.
GA proposed a new sign be purchased. A vote took place with two in agreement and two abstaining. The Chair having the casting vote agreed the purchase. **ACTION GA**

- 11.14** **Speed sign – The Street**
See 11.7
- 11.15** **Items for December agenda**
Methodist Church tree update
Community Speed Watch

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.10

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 19.00 using the Zoom platform