DRAFT MINUTES OF CORTON VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held using the Zoom platform on Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 19:00

Present: Terry Peckham – Vice Chair (TP)

Gill Armstrong (GA)
Peter Armstrong (PA)
Maureen Boughton (MB)

Sue Groome (SG) Bob Groome (BG)

Cllr Paul Ashdown

Anne Webb (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 2

10.1 Welcome by Vice Chairman

TP welcomed all to the meeting.

10.2 Apologies

Steve Pavey

Councillor Keith Patience

10.3 Register of interest

None

10.4 Minutes of September meeting and matters arising

Correction to September minutes 9.12. Second speed sign previously mentioned at 10.5. Should read 9.5. Minutes amended by TP.

The minutes were agreed and approved by GA and seconded by MB. They were duly signed by the Vice Chairman as a true and accurate record.

10.5 County and District Councillors Reports

Councillor Ashdown gave an update from the Community Partnership meeting and mentioned the achievement of East Suffolk Council in being awarded Carter Plus Development by LGA.

The Citizens advice bureau are taking over the Voice of a Friend Project. Councillor Ashdown informed the meeting that £8500 of their budget has been used to progress the scheme identified for child obesity.

There are currently no contentious planning applications and no further news on Broadland Sands.

10.6 Public Forum

A member of the public asked if there was any news on the proposed new Garden Village presentation and was informed that the organisers are holding off at the moment to ensure all information is up to date. PA has contacted Anglian Water and is waiting for a map to show all pipes coming into the village.

10.7 Committee Representative Reports

Playing Field

MB reported a Pilates class has begun in the Community room.

The main concern is the increase in dog fouling on the playing field as well as dogs being taken into the children's play area despite signs showing no dogs allowed. It was suggested that contact be made with environmental health who may be able to offer advice. Discussion followed with various ideas such as CCTV or additional signage.

Speed statistics for September

First two weeks of September, sign recorded vehicles in Corton Long Lane travelling East out of Corton towards A47.

28821 vehicles

Average 1801 per day

Approximately 7% recorded over 35. Sunday was the highest day where 9% were recorded. Average speed 39mph

Last two weeks of Sept sign recorded vehicles in Blundeston Rd travelling west from A47. 13223 vehicles

Average 1104 per day

Approximately 4% recorded over 35. Sunday was the highest day where 5% were recorded. Average speed 38mph

10.8 Parish Clerk report Finance

The Clerk reported the savings account balance on 30th September - £4638.45 Business current account on 30th September - £3650.86

Cheques issued since September finance report and awaiting authorisation:

St Bartholomews Church donation £500

Clerk salary for September

Microsoft licence renewal & postage stamps £67.79
Came & Co Insurance premium TBC (10.9)

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk circulated to all Parish Councillors, the new pay scales for Clerks, agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. PA proposed this was accepted for the Parish Clerk. BG seconded and agreed by all.

10.9 Parish Insurance

The Clerk reported that further information had been emailed to all Parish Councillors prior to the meeting, with further information on insurance cover and premiums for Penn Insurance and Hiscox Insurance. TP proposed Hiscox Insurance quote was accepted as it offered better cover for the Parish, this was seconded by MB and agreed by all.

10.10 Correspondence

An email had been received from a resident expressing concern at the disregard for the double yellow lines and zig zag markings in The Street along with the parked vehicles that restrict the footpath. It was suggested the Clerk respond with advice on where to report the incidents. Councillor Ashdown informed the meeting that obstruction of the footpath is legally a Police issue. It was suggested the matter be reported to both the Police and Highways along with photos. Civil Parking Enforcement are up and running and will ticket vehicles that are illegally parked, Councillor Ashdown will make enquiries to see if the Parish Council can have a direct number.

ACTION: Clerk

GA had been asked to pass on thanks from the residents of Mill Lane and to say the parking issue has been resolved.

10.11 Community Centre bike rack

GA informed the meeting that this is no longer required as a solution has been found. Councillor Ashdown reminded the meeting that a community budget is available if needed.

10.12 Methodist Church Trees

The Methodist Church have a dead tree in the grounds that requires removal as discussed during the September PC meeting. The Church have £500 towards a quote of £620. PA proposed the balance of £120 is paid by the Parish Council, this was seconded by BG and agreed by all.

10.13 Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership

PA attended the recent Zoom meeting and gave the following report:

Voice of a Friend' A voluntary group which was identified as a priority where 150 people who are in isolation or lonely regularly receive phone calls so that they can have a chat. This service is to be taken over by CAB starting 14 October who are contracted to do this for a year. More volunteers needed.

Mental health & wellbeing - Walk in the Park is on hold due to Covid19 restrictions. However, many people have taken to walking during the lockdown which bodes well for this project when things return to normal.

Childhood Obesity - This is a whole system approach to obesity and was planned for primary schools. However, it was thought that primary Schools had a lot to contend with when starting after the pandemic, so it was decided to concentrate on the 2-5 age group with the Healthy movers scheme which aims to get youngsters moving more by integrating activity into all aspects of the curriculum.

10.14 Parish Councillor Vacancies

Following the resignation letter from Terry Peckham, the Clerk informed the meeting that there will be 3 vacancies on the Parish Council. The process of filling the seats was explained. All of the Parish Councillors expressed their good wishes to Terry and thanked him for his dedication and enthusiasm in his role as Vice Chairman.

10.15 Second speed sign

A site has been identified for a second speed sign on the playing field side of The Street. A request has been submitted to Highways for approval.

Councillor Ashdown and Councillor Patience are looking into funding.

10.16 Remembrance Sunday

The Methodist Church will be unable to open their doors this year for a Service of Remembrance due to Covid 19 restrictions. It was suggested that the laying of wreaths take place followed by a 2 minute silence. Councillor Ashdown will make enquiries on guidelines and inform the Parish Council.

10.17 Items for November agenda

Dog fouling issues

At 20.00 SP joined the meeting and gave a brief overview of a Zoom meeting he attended with Peter Aldous MP. SP reported that all comments from Parish Councillors were listed and will be answered. SP thanked TP for everything he had done for the Parish Council and wished him well for the future.

There being no further business the Vice Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.04

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 4th November 2020 - Venue to be confirmed