

MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday, 1st November 2023 at 7.30pm in the Community Room, Playing Field

Present: Stephen Pavey (SP)
Maureen Boughton (MB)
Gill Armstrong (GA)
David Fermor (DF)
Bob Groome (BG)

Cllr Paul Ashdown
Cllr James Reeder

Lynne Pavey (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public – 3

1. Welcome by Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Peter Armstrong, Sue Groome

3. Register of Interest

None declared.

4. Minutes of October meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2023 were recommended for approval, proposed by MB, seconded by DF, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. County and District Councillor Reports

Cllr Paul Ashdown

East Suffolk have a new strategic plan. The Community Partnership have produced a booklet about healthy eating and fitness for every Y5 and Y6 child in the area and will be looking at doing something similar for the older children.

Cllr James Reeder

Cllr Reeder had emailed the Suffolk Newsletter earlier today which was circulated to Councillors. There is a consultation about next year's budget asking about people's views (suffolk.gov.uk/budget). The Suffolk Libraries contract is coming up for renewal and the consultation to enable the authority to know what should be put into the tender can be found at suffolk.gov.uk/libraries. The recent storms have caused more than 200 homes in Suffolk to be flooded. Work on these properties will obviously take priority over the current issues in Corton. Cllr Reeder has discussed the positioning of the King's Coastal Footpath with the Rights of Way Officer. The land does not belong to Suffolk County Council. If it is agreed, the Parish Council would invite the landowner to discuss. Funding would be provided and Cllr Ashdown stated that the District CIL money could also be used for this.

6. Committee Representative Reports

a) Playing Field

The lower barrier has been installed, thanks to Brian Fisher for carrying out the work so quickly. The Car Boot Sales have finished for the year. Football games will be played subject to weather and field conditions. A new Bowls group has started in the Community Room on Thursday afternoons.

b) Speed Sign

Speed figures were circulated to Councillors. 104,233 vehicles travelled along Corton Long Lane (one way) this month. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays showed the highest amount of speeders. This month recorded the highest speed since the cameras were placed although this may have been a blue light vehicle. The figures have been sent to Steve Wright at Lowestoft Police Station. The average speed over the whole month was 33. Over 88,000 vehicles were within the speed limit. The camera is in Blundeston Road for the next month.

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

Corton Poor's Land Trust

The tenancy letter to go out to plot holders was approved by the Trustees along with a slight change to the Agreement in relation to maintaining the plots in good order. The Secretary was to send out the renewal letters for the tenancy to run from 1st November 2023 to 31st October 2024.

It was reported that the letters sent to plot holders where the plots were overgrown had worked in that they were either being worked on and improved, or the tenants had decided to give them up so that other prospective tenants on the waiting list could be invited to take their place.

Quotes had been obtained to keep the strips between the allotments in good order and to clear the brambles in the perimeter hedges and these quotes were approved by the Trustees.

The noticeboard had been updated with the new bonfire regulations.

The criteria for applying for the Christmas Benefit had been reviewed by the Trustees and this was to be increased to not exceeding £200 average weekly income for a single or widowed person and not exceeding £240 for a married couple. The Secretary was to send out the letters to those on the existing list and the letter would also be displayed in Coastline and on the Parish Noticeboard with a closing date of 4th November.

Corton Almshouse Charity

There were some outstanding maintenance issues at the Almshouses and these were discussed by the Trustees and plans made to get them sorted.

The Warden's Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was noted that there were currently a few poorly residents who were requiring outside medical attention.

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 8th November 2023.

7. Public Forum

The road sweeper had been around Corton cleaning out the weeds in the gutters, where possible.

A complaint had been received about cars parking near the end of the Station Road/The Street junction causing problems for buses. Cllr Reeder will investigate options to help.

8. Parish Clerk Report

a) Finance

Bank Account Balances

Community Account - £10,269.78 Business Premium Account - £4,638.75

b) Payments

5 payments awaiting authorisation: -

BT: Broadband - £39.59

L Pavey: Microsoft 365 Subscription - £59.99

S Pavey: Padlock and Strapping for Camera - £18.20

Norfolk Parish Training & Support: Clerk Training - £100

Clerk's Salary

BG proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by DF, all agreed.

c) Income

Corton Playing Field Committee: Monthly Contribution for Broadband - £18.00

d) Correspondence

Great Yarmouth Borough Council – Adoption of Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document

Road Networks – Traffic restriction alerts

Suffolk County Council – Bus Strategy

Lowestoft Town Council – Lowestoft Neighbourhood Plan

East Suffolk Council – Corton Repairs and Maintenance (Coastal)

9. Planning Applications

No applications received this month.

10. Community Assets

SP has the application forms to apply for the White Horse to be made a Community Asset and to make the land at the end of Wheatacre Drive an Asset of Community Value.

Parishioner informed the council that the village of Wissett had done this with their local pub and it had been a relatively simple procedure. MB proposed the application forms be completed and submitted, seconded by BG, all agreed.

11. Footpath from Corton to Broadland Sands.

See item 5

12. The Pit

BG has the paperwork and Council will discuss again after Christmas.

13. Twinning Exchange

To be discussed again in the new year.

14. Remembrance Sunday

Thanks to GA for ordering the Wreath for the Remembrance Day Service for Sunday 12th November. The service will be at the Methodist Church at 10.00am, walking to the memorial afterwards, then followed by tea and coffee in the school hall.

15. Land between Manor Park Road/Wheatacre Drive

See Item 10. Cllr Ashdown advised SP to contact Andrew Jarvis.

16. Lights in Mills Drive.

DF explained what had happened so far - Cllr Reeder has asked SCC about this and will chase up the replacement of the bulb.

Cllr Reeder left the meeting at 20.16

17. History Room/Museum

DF said there was room for a small building to be built on the north-east side of the playing field car park. Cllr Ashdown said the Council are replacing some of the beach huts in Lowestoft and there is a possibility Corton could have one/two of these – he will find out more information.

18. Corton Fun Day 2024.

Looking at a possible date in May next year. Cllr Ashdown asked if the event will be linked in with the D Day celebrations.

19. Items for next meeting's Agenda

No additional items to be added.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 6th December 2023. The meeting closed at 20.25pm.