

CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Cornforth Parish Council held at West Cornforth Community Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 7th November 2005.

Present: Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew, Chairman and

Councillors: Mrs. H. P. Drew, Mr. B. Kennedy, Mr. A. Mould, Mrs. P. Pennick, Mr. H. A. Robson, Mrs. S. Traynor, Mrs. P. M. Walker, Ms. C. J. Warbis, Mr. W. R. Wilson, Mrs. A. Woodhall and Mr. W. H. Woodhall.

Apologies: Councillor: Mrs. I. M. Kennedy.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared that they had an interest in items on the agenda as indicated:-

Item 5 Cornforth Conservation Area - Councillor Mrs. S. Traynor - personal interest, Councillor Ms. C. J. Warbis - personal interest.

Item 15(a) West Cornforth Community Centre, Pantomime Sleeping Beauty - Councillor Mrs. H. P. Drew - personal interest, Councillor Mr. A. Mould - personal interest, Councillor Mrs. S. Traynor - personal interest.

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2005 were confirmed as a correct record.

3 POLICE LIAISON

- a) Community Policing - Sergeant Kelvin Vincent and Constable Sue Howard presented crime figures for the previous month.
- b) CCTV Evaluation Statistics - consideration was given to CCTV evaluation statistics for the period April to September 2005. (for copy see file of Minutes)

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

4 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned to enable members of the public to raise issues with the police officers present.

No issues were raised and Sergeant Kelvin Vincent and Constable Sue Howard retired from the meeting.

5 RESUMPTION OF MEETING

RESOLVED: That the meeting resumes.

6 CORNFORTH CONSERVATION AREA (3/10/05 Minute 12 Refers)

Mr. Bill Katakay, Design and Conservation Officer, Sedgefield Borough reported on progress on proposals for preserving and enhancing the Conservation Area. He explained that an architectural features survey had been completed and presented a number of copies of the

survey to the Parish Council for retention.

Members were reminded that the initial Conservation Area Study proposed a programme of action comprising three elements, environmental enhancements, landscape improvements and building repair and restoration of architectural features.

Works proposed in the current financial year included the planting of some additional trees on the village green, the removal of others and the uplighting of two mature trees. Access arrangements were to be improved at three locations, the Old School House, No 24 and No 54, The Green, by the laying of traditional scoria block paving.

With regard to the element of the project for building repair and restoration of architectural features, he explained that this would require public consultation with residents of the conservation area commencing early in the following year. The precise details of the scheme would need to be agreed and carried out over a number of years.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and the proposals for preserving and enhancing Cornforth Conservation Area be approved.

At this juncture Mr. Kataký retired from the meeting.

7 THE CORNFORTH PARTNERSHIP, PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPING 66, HIGH STREET.

Alan Hodgson, Chairman of The Cornforth Partnership presented proposals for the development of 66, High Street to achieve the following:-

Conversion of upstairs into office space for use by service providers.
Creation of a multi-functional space downstairs including I.C.T. facilities.
Commencement of a youth drop-in facility in the evenings.

Members were reminded that the premises were leased to the Partnership by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That the proposals for developing 66, High Street be approved.

8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

RESOLVED: That the Meeting be adjourned to facilitate public participation.

The members of the public present at the meeting did not wish to raise any items.

9 RESUMPTION OF MEETING

RESOLVED: That the meeting resumes.

10 CASUAL VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Consideration was given to the filling of the existing casual vacancy on the Council.

RESOLVED: That Mr. Richard Poole be co-opted as a member of the Council.

11 RETIREMENT COUNCILLOR MRS. L. DENHOLM

Consideration was given to a letter from Councillor Mrs. L. Denholm confirming her retirement from the Parish Council, thanking members of the Parish Council both past and present for their guidance help and encouragement over the years and thanking residents of West Cornforth for their continuing support.

- RESOLVED: 1 That the letter be received and a letter be forwarded to Mrs. Denholm expressing the Council's appreciation of her service as a Member of the Parish Council.
- 2 That in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 the casual vacancy on the Parish Council be advertised.

12 SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

<u>Receipts</u>		£
Sedgefield Borough	Precept final instalment	31,500.00
Unity Trust Bank	Interest	1,284.73
		32,784.73

<u>Payments</u>		£
B. Kennedy	Members Allowance	17.16
A. Mould	Members Allowance	17.16
H. A. Robson	Members Allowance	17.16
W. R. Wilson	Members Allowance	17.16
E. G. Hurrell	(Salary	509.80
	(Stationery & Materials	33.57
	(Postage	12.00
	(Annual renewal McAfee Security	23.49
	(Car Mileage	12.40
N power	Electricity Charges CCTV	567.85
KHS Cleaning Services	Waste Removal Allotments	40.00
Durham County Council	Testing Street Lighting Columns	200.00
B. Bagnall	Architectural Features Survey	1,500.00
BDO Stoy Hayward LLP	External Audit	350.00
JWS Power Wash Cleaning	September and October	180.00
		3,497.75

RESOLVED: Tat the schedule be approved.

13 BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT, POSITION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2005

The Clerk presented a statement showing the position at 30th September 2005.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

14 ANNUAL AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

Consideration was given to the External Auditors report. (for copy see file of Minutes)

Members were advised that the External Auditor, BDO Stoy Hayward LLP had formerly been HLB AV Audit plc.

RESOLVED: That the information be received, the Annual Return be approved and arrangements be made for advertising the conclusion of the audit in accordance with the Audit Commission Act 1998 and Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003.

15 NORTHUMBRIAN WATER, SURCHARGING OF SEWER, BARRATT WAY, WEST CORNFORTH (3.10.05 Minute 16 refers)

Members were informed that since the last meeting Northumbrian Water had surveyed the sewer downstream from the manhole chamber and removed tree roots. The manhole chamber itself was to be re-constructed using pre-cast concrete rings. It would be larger than the existing one and have a greater capacity. The flows would be flumed into the sewer to reduce the risk of turbulence and surcharging from the chamber. If further problems occurred the Water Authority had given an assurance that it would re-visit the problem and extend its investigations.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

16 RAILWAY ALLOTMENTS - WASTE MATERIAL

It was reported that in October waste material had been deposited at the allotment site and arrangements had been made for it to be removed by KHS Cleaning Services at a cost of £40.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

17 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Consideration was given to the following applications:-

a) Wheels for Life Campaign, St. John's Ambulance County Durham

St John's Ambulance Durham County had launched the above appeal and were hoping to raise £250,000 to buy two new ambulances with modern equipment to upgrade their fleet. (enabling legislation Section 137 Local Government Act 1972)

RESOLVED: That a donation of £100 be made to the appeal.

b) West Cornforth Community Centre, Pantomime Sleeping Beauty

The Community Association was to stage the pantomime Sleeping Beauty at 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 28th December at West Cornforth Community Centre. Tickets were priced at £6 adults and £4 children. The Community Centre had sought support from the Parish Council to stage the event. (enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972, Section 145 Support of the Arts including festivals and celebrations)

RESOLVED: That a contribution of £250 be made towards the event.

18 SEDGEFIELD LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (3.10.05 Minute 20 Refers)

Members were informed that the frequency of meetings of the Strategic Partnership per annum were as follows:-

Partnership Board	Quarterly
Partnership Management Group	8 times

Policy Groups

Economy, Community Safety, Lifelong Learning, Health & Social Care, Housing, and Environment.	8 times
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Consideration was then given to an invitation to attend the Local Strategic Partnership Development Day to be held on Tuesday 15th November 2005 at Ferryhill Leisure Centre from 9.30 a.m. until 1.30 p.m.

RESOLVED: That the information be received and Councillor Mrs. M. Walker attend the Development Day.

19 TEMPORARY PLAYING FIELD, LAND EAST OF BARRATT WAY, WEST CORNFORTH

It was reported that notification had been received from Sedgefield Borough Council that the 'kick about' area at the above location would be required early in 2006 for development. The Borough was shortly to market the site for development as residential accommodation.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

20 SEDGEFIELD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (also known as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership)

It was reported that the Council had been invited to nominate a representative for a place on the Sedgefield Community Safety Partnership.

RESOLVED: That the Council be not represented.

21 EVENTS

The Council has received invitations to the following events:

- a) Chilton Parish Council, Civic Carol Service, 6.30 p.m. 16th December 2005, St. Aiden's Church, Chilton.

RESOLVED: That Councillor W. R. Wilson be authorised to attend.

- b) Sedgefield Borough, Civic Carol Service, 3.00 p.m. Sunday 18th December 2005, St. Mary's R.C. Church, Newton Aycliffe.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs. M. Walker and partner be authorised to attend.

- c) Ferryhill Town Council, Mayors Charity Dinner, Friday 13th January 2006, All Saints Church Hall, Dean Road, Ferryhill.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew and Councillor Mrs. H. P. Drew attend the event and a contribution of £30 be made to the Chairman's Charity Appeal in respect of Breast Cancer Awareness. (enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972, Section 137)

- d) Ferryhill Town Council, Civic Carol Service, Monday 12th December 2005 at 7.00 p.m. in Mainsforth Community Centre, High Street, Ferryhill Station.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

22 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Sedgefield Borough Local Development Framework - consideration was given to the following:-

Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document, Full Sustainability Appraisal
Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document - Statement of Consultation
Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document - Assessment for Soundness
Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document
Submitted Draft Statement of Community Involvement
Submitted Draft Statement of Community Involvement - Statement of Pre-Submission

Consultation

RESOLVED: That no comments be made on the documents.

- b) Erection of two storey extension 65, Salisbury Crescent, West Cornforth, Miss C. Leigh

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of the application.

- c) Erection of two storey extension 5, Bede Grove, West Cornforth, Mr. Higgins.

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of the application.

- d) Erection of single storey side extension 81, Salisbury Crescent, West Cornforth, Mrs. Fitzgerald.

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of the application.

- e) Erection of portal framed building with lean to, Simonside Farm, Garmondsway, Ferryhill, Church Commissioners.

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of the application.

23 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

RESOLVED: That the Meeting be adjourned to enable a member of the public to comment on proposals to remove bunds at Thrislington Quarry.

A member of the public expressed views on the removal of bunds at Thrislington Quarry.

24 RESUMPTION OF MEETING

RESOLVED: That the meeting resumes.

25 PLANNING MATTERS (CONTINUED)

- f) Consideration was given to a letter from residents regarding the removal of bunds to the rear of Stobb Cross Villas. The residents suggested that all the land be returned to agriculture rather than leaving a strip to the rear of the properties remaining uncultivated.

RESOLVED: That the view of the residents be supported and Durham County Council be advised accordingly.

- g) Regulation 3 application for formation of 2no. Door openings, access ramp, handrails and fence, West Cornforth Primary School

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised in respect of the application.

26 RAILWAY ALLOTMENTS - STREAM

Members referred to an incident of flooding of the stream through the allotment site.

RESOLVED: That the matter be referred to the Allotments Committee for attention.