

## CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Cornforth Parish Council held at West Cornforth Community Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 3rd July 2006.

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

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

### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Mrs. H. P. Drew, Mr. H. A. Robson and Mrs. S. Traynor declared a personal interest in item 10 on the agenda, West Cornforth Community Centre, Ground Maintenance.

### 2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2006 were confirmed as a correct record.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to facilitate discussion by members of the public on the agenda items Police Liaison and Public Participation.

### 3 POLICE LIAISON

P.C. Gary Lamport presented crime figures for the previous month and commented on police activity during that period. Parish Council Members and members of the public commented on issues giving rise for concern.

### 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public raised issues relating to Council agendas, Council surgeries, public seating and painting of railings.

The Chairman then resumed the Council Meeting.

### 5 COUNCIL SURGERIES

RESOLVED: That at the next meeting the suggestion of the Council holding surgeries for members of the public, be considered.

### 6 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that on the 8th June he and Councillor W. R. Wilson had attended the Annual General Meeting of the Sedgefield District Local Councils' Committee and gave an account of proceedings at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

## 7 SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

<u>Receipts</u>		£
The Cornforth Partnership	Building Insurance No. 66	454.44
West Cornforth Library	Book Sales	32.00
Durham County Council	Reimbursement re Bus Shelter	2,794.00
		3,280.44
<u>Payments</u>		£
B. Kennedy	Members Allowance	17.66
A. Mould	Members Allowance	17.66
H. A. Robson	Members Allowance	17.66
W. R. Wilson	Members Allowance	17.66
E. G. Hurrell	( Salary	588.35
	( Postage	12.15
	( Telephone Calls	13.41
Inland Revenue	Income Tax & NI April- June	678.27
Durham County Council	Testing Street Lighting Columns	200.00
Northumbrian Water	Water Charges Allotments	91.64
Commutaports Ltd.	Bus Shelter	2,794.00
J. W. S. Power Wash Cleaning	Cleaning bus shelters May/June	230.00
		4,678.46

RESOLVED: That the schedule be approved.

## 8 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

It was reported that a quotation in the sum of £2,902 has been received from Service Direct, Durham County Council for:-

- a) Providing and installing commando units to five street lighting columns. (The units enable lighting motifs to be plugged into the electricity supply.)
- b) Erecting and subsequently removing ten lighting motifs over the Christmas period.

Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972, Section 144, power to provide Christmas Lights to attract visitors.

RESOLVED: That standing orders with respect to contracts be suspended and the quotation from Service Direct, Durham County Council, in the sum of £2,902 be accepted.

## 9 REVIEW OF REGISTERS OF INTEREST AND GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

Members were informed that notification had been received from the Monitoring Officer that the six monthly review of Registers of Interests and Gifts and hospitality was taking place and Members were requested to notify any changes on form LGA3 (in respect of a change in interests) and form LGA2 (in respect of a gift or hospitality).

A Declaration of Interests Flowchart - Questions to Ask Yourself, produced by the Monitoring Officer to assist Members in determining whether they had an interest

in an item to be discussed at a meeting was submitted for Members' information.  
(for copy see file of Minutes)

It was reported that advice had been received from the Monitoring Officer on one aspect of conduct during meetings. If Members had for any reason not been present for part of an item on the agenda they should not participate for the remainder of that item.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

***Having declared a personal interest in the following item Councillors Mrs. H. P. Drew, Mr. H. A. Robson and Mrs. S. Traynor took no part in discussion and voting thereon.***

10 WEST CORNFORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE - GROUND MAINTENANCE

Members were informed that the Community Association had been arranging to clean up the environs of the Community Centre and had asked the Parish Council provide a skip. Following consultation with the Chairman the Clerk had agreed to a skip being provided at a cost of £117.45.

RESOLVED: That the action taken be confirmed.

11 E GOVERNMENT, SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL, WEB PAGE  
(5.9.05 Minute 14 Refers)

Members were reminded that the Council agreed to take up the offer of Sedgefield Borough Council and have a web page on its site to enable information to be made available to the public. Officers of the Borough Council had prepared a selection of potential logos for this Council to use on the website and for letter heading etc.

RESOLVED: That the logo in the form of a shield be adopted by the Council.

12 QUOTATIONS, INSTALLATION OF METAL BENCH SEATS  
(8.5.06 Minute 10 Refers)

Consideration was given to two quotations received for the erection of two metal bench seats on 7' x 5' concrete bases.

RESOLVED: That the lowest quotation received, from Sedgefield Borough Council in the sum of £1,000, be accepted.

***Councillor Mr. M. Simpson declared a personal interest in the following item and took no part in discussion and voting thereon.***

13 DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL, HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT WORKS, HAWTHORNE TERRACE

It was reported that notification had been received from Durham County Council of proposals to take up and relay paving flags and kerbs at the front of Hawthorne Terrace, West Cornforth. Broken flags and kerbstones were to be replaced as required. The work had been scheduled to commence on 13th July 2006.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

## 14 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) County Durham Rights of Way Improvement Plan - it was reported that along with other Highway Authorities Durham County Council was currently producing a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) This was a new tool for Local Authorities to set out a clear vision for the next ten years in terms of managing the rights of way/countryside access network.

The County Council had requested Parish Councils to consider the following questions:

- i) Are there any missing links in the network that you would like to see completed?
- ii) Are there any "problem paths" that you continually receive complaints about?
- iii) Which paths are used most and would benefit from future improvement works?
- iv) Which paths are used the least and/or duplicate paths nearby?
- v) Which paths cross main roads and require safer signage and or crossing points?

Comments were required not later than 31st October 2006.

- RESOLVED:
- 1 That an item on this matter be included in the next issue of the village newspaper and a copy of the County Council's poster and definitive map be placed in the Library and Cornforth House.
  - 2 That the matter be further considered at the next meeting.

- b) Sedgefield Borough Council Local Development Framework, Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document - it was reported that a copy of the above document had been received. The document provided guidance to ensure that the impact, on neighbouring residents, of extensions to existing homes was minimised and that the design and appearance of extensions made a positive contribution to the local environment.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

- c) Erection of conservatory to the rear of 53, Linden Road, West Cornforth, Mr. G. Smith.

RESOLVED: That the Council raises no objections to the application.

- d) Erection of extension to provide 15, Bedrooms and Storage Area, The Old Mill, Thinford Road, West Cornforth, Mr. M. Saliki.

RESOLVED: That the Council strongly supports the proposal that will

provide much needed hotel accommodation and generate employment in the local area.

15 STOBB CROSS COMMUNITY PARK

It was reported that the perimeter dry stone wall at the site had been vandalised and emergency repairs had been carried out by Sedgefield Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the action taken be confirmed.

16 VILLAGE GREEN ROADS

Reference was made to the condition of the village green roads.

RESOLVED: That the matter be examined.

17 BENCH SEAT, NEAR TO SLAKE TERRACE INN

Reference was made to the condition of the above seat.

RESOLVED: That repairs be carried out.

18 GRASS VERGE ON STATION ROAD OPPOSITE CORONATION TERRACE

Members referred to vegetation on the verge encroaching the footpath. Discussion also took place on options to improve the appearance of the area.

- RESOLVED:
- 1 That information be obtained on ownership of the land and the current ground maintenance regime.
  - 2 That the appropriate Authority be advised of the encroachment of vegetation over the footpath.