

CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Cornforth Parish Council held at West Cornforth Community Centre at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 5th March 2007

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

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

Apologies: Councillors: Mr. B. Kennedy, Mr. A. Mould, and Ms. C. J. Warbis.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were made as follows:

Councillors Mrs. P. Pennick, Mr. M. J. Pennick, Mrs. S. Traynor and Mr. W. R. Wilson declared a prejudicial interest in Item No 9 (a) Cornforth Partnership Financial Support 2007/08.

Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew declared a prejudicial interest in Item No 9 (c) West Cornforth Annual Village Show.

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th February 2007 were confirmed as a correct record.

3 POLICE LIAISON

No police officers were present at the meeting.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that on behalf of the Council he had received an invitation from Chilton Town Council in respect of a Mayors Civic Dinner to be held at Windlestone Working Men's Club on Thursday 5th April 2007. Tickets were priced at £17 each.

He also reported that he had received a full copy of the DTI, The Post Office Network, A Consultation Document.

RESOLVED: That two tickets be purchased for the Mayors Civic Dinner at a total cost of £34. (Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972 Section 137)

6 SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

<u>Receipts</u>		£
K. Jones	Allotment Rent	10.00

HM Revenue & Customs	VAT Repayment	5,758.34
		<u>5,768.34</u>

<u>Payments</u>		£
B. Kennedy	Members Allowances	17.66
A. Mould	Members Allowances	17.66
H. A. Robson	Members Allowances	17.66
W. R. Wilson	Members Allowances	17.66
E. G. Hurrell	(Salary	588.35
	(Stationery & Materials	45.57
	(Car Mileage	9.60
	(Postage	8.64
Durham County Council	Christmas Lighting	2,902.00
Durham County Council	Demolition Bus Shelter	887.71
Sedgefield Borough Council	Ground Maintenance	838.22
JWS Power Wash Cleaning	Cleaning Bus Shelters Jan&Feb	<u>120.00</u>
		5,470.73

RESOLVED: That the schedule be approved.

7 PURCHASE OF FILING CABINET

It was reported that a quotation in the sum of £75 had been obtained from Curtis Office Supplies for the supply and delivery of a lockable four drawer filing cabinet for Parish Council records. It was explained that the cabinet would be housed at 66, High Street.

RESOLVED: That the quotation be accepted.

8 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Prior to consideration of the following item Councillors Mr. M. J. Pennick, Mrs. P. Pennick, Mrs. S. Traynor and Mr. W. R. Wilson, having declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for the duration of discussion and voting thereon.

a) The Cornforth Partnership financial Support 2007/08

It was reported that The Partnership had applied for financial support of £6,000 for 2007/08, the sum of £4,000 towards the core costs of running Cornforth House and £2,000 towards the Cornforth Community Learning Project. (Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972 Section 137)

RESOLVED: That a contribution of £6,000 be made to The Cornforth Partnership.

b) West Cornforth Primary School - Pupil of the Year

Members were reminded that the Parish Council had introduced the award scheme and annually had made an award to the pupil of the year in each of the seven year groups. Each year the names of the pupils of the year were engraved on a plaque that was displayed in the school. Previously the sum of £25 per pupil had been awarded making a total cost of £175. (Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972 Section 137)

RESOLVED: That a contribution of £175 be made to West Cornforth Primary School in respect of the pupil of the year award scheme.

Prior to consideration of the following item Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew, having declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for the duration of discussion and voting thereon.

During the absence of Councillor Dr. S. C. Drew Councillor Mr. W. R. Wilson, Vice Chairman took the Chair.

c) West Cornforth Annual Village Show Sat 8th & Sun 9th September 2007

Consideration was given to a letter from the Secretary of the above Show requesting a contribution towards the costs of the Show. (Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972, Section 145, provision of entertainment and support of the arts including festivals and celebrations)

RESOLVED: That a contribution of £1,000 be made to the show.

d) West Cornforth Youth Aloud (8.1.07 Minute 12 Refers)

Members were informed that cost of the first aid training course referred to in the above Minute amounted to £380.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

9 THE CORNFORTH PARTNERSHIP, COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT FRIDAY, 30TH MARCH 1.00 P.M. - 3.00 P.M. CORNFORTH HOUSE

It was reported that The Cornforth Partnership was organising a Community Safety Event on the 30th March similar to the one held for democracy week. It would be open to all residents to come along and discuss issues of concern with representatives present or by video conferencing. Residents would be invited to have a look at No 66 and be made aware of services provided from Cornforth House. A community newspaper would be distributed throughout the village to advertise the event. Members of the Parish Council had been invited to participate in the event.

RESOLVED: That the Council participates in the event.

10 CORNFORTH COMMUNITY PARK - QUOTATIONS

Consideration was given to the need for the following work:

- a) Repainting play equipment and external fencing to toddler and junior play areas.
- b) Removal of aerial runway and reinstatement of site.

RESOLVED: That quotations be invited for the work.

11 LUMALITE FESTIVE LIGHTING

It was reported that a quotation, in the sum of £264.51, had been obtained from Lumalite

for the supply and delivery of three motifs to be used as replacements for existing units. There was a 40% discount on the catalogue price of the motifs.

RESOLVED: That the quotation be accepted.

12 GARDEN PARTY, BUCKINGHAM PALACE, TUESDAY 17TH JULY 2007

Members were informed that County Durham Association of Local Councils had requested nominations from Councils for Members wishing to attend the above Garden Party. The Association was restricted to four invitations.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs. H. P. Drew be nominated.

13 SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL, CIVIC BALL 2007

It was reported that the Council had received an invitation to attend the above event to be held on Friday 13th April 2007 at Hardwick Hall Hotel, Sedgefield. Tickets were priced at £25. (Enabling legislation Local Government Act 1972, Section 137)

RESOLVED: That two tickets be purchased at a total cost of £50.

14 THRISLINGTON QUARRY LIAISON MEETING TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2007

An account was given of proceedings at the above meeting.

15 ALLOTMENT RENTS

Members were advised that arrangements had been made for allotment rents to be collected at West Cornforth Community Centre from 6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 8th March.

16 POSTWATCH - THE POST OFFICE NETWORK - DTI CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Consideration was given to the above consultation document.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made.

17 EXTERNAL AUDITOR

It was reported that notification had been received from the Audit Commission that BDO Stoy Hayward would remain as the Council's external auditor for the 2006/07 accounts.

18 DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL MEMBERS

Consideration was given to the contents of the consultation document.

RESOLVED: That no comments be made.

19 SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL - CONSULTATIONS

- a) Equity and Diversity Stakeholder Consultations : Food Safety Service, Health Safety Service; Ground Maintenance; Refuse and Recycling Service and Street Cleansing Service. Consideration was given to consultation documents from the Borough Council.

RESOLVED: That the forms be completed to indicate that the Parish Council agrees with the issues raised in each case in section3.

- b) Review of Parish and Town Council Charter - consideration was given to a questionnaire that was to form a basis for reviewing the Charter that had been in operation for two years.

RESOLVED: That the Charter be completed by the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman.

20 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Change of use from Chapel to Residential, St. Mark's Chapel, High Street, West Cornforth, Mr. I. Gibbon, 3, Oswald Close, West Cornforth

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

- b) Footpath No.7 Cornforth Parish, West Cornforth, Temporary Footpath Closure - it was reported that notification had been received from Durham County Council that an Order had been made under the provisions of Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to close to pedestrian traffic, from Monday 19th February 2007, a 150 metre length of Footpath No 7 in an easterly direction from its junction with Footpath No. 8 off Barratt Way. The closure had been necessary to facilitate housing development works which were expected to take six months to complete. Throughout the closure an alternative route would be available via footpath No 8 leading past Holy Trinity Church.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

- c) County Durham Rights of Way Improvement Plan (7.8.06 Minute 18(e) Refers) Footpath No. 20 - Members were informed that the County Council had confirmed that it had replaced the damaged stile at the entrance to footpath 20 in the vicinity of Stobb Cross with a kissing gate.

RESOLVED: That the information be received.

21 CORNFORTH CONSERVATION AREA

The Chairman reported on site meetings that had been held at which the precise location of new bench seating and the formation of mounds had been agreed with officers of the Borough Council and the contractor for the scheme. The Clerk had also requested a quotation from the contractor for the relocation of the existing metal seat and litter bin to replace an existing seat at Stobb Cross Lane in poor condition.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman be authorised to accept the quotation if satisfactory.