**CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: FEBRUARY 2014**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of Cornforth Parish Council will be held in the Community Centre, Cornforth, at 7pm on Monday 10th February 2014, when your attendance is requested. The agenda for the meeting is attached.

**AGENDA**

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To consider declarations of a personal or prejudicial interest with regard to any item to be transacted.

3. MINUTES

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th and 20th January 2014. (Copies herewith)

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ON THE AGENDA

5. POLICE LIAISON

To receive a report on the PACT meeting from the Vice Chairman.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman will adjourn the meeting to facilitate public participation and resume it following public participation.

7. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

At the time of the circulation of this agenda the following correspondence had been received:

1. Ferryhill Town Council will be running a charity quiz in St. Luke’s Hall on Saturday 1st March 2014. Funds will be donated to Ferryhill Town Band and St. Luke’s Youth Groups.
2. The Mayor of Ferryhill will be holding a Charity Dinner in the Masonic Hall on Friday 11th April 2014. Tickets for evening cost £25.

8. AAP ISSUES

The Chairman as an elected member of the AAP Board will give a report of any matters which have arisen.

9. COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES

Our County Councillor representative will report on any Durham County Council issues that have arisen since the last meeting.

10. BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT – POSITION AT 31st JANUARY 2014.

The Clerk will circulate the current bank reconciliation statement and a comparison of this year’s budget to actual expenditure for this period at the meeting.

11. SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS: JANUARY 2014.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Receipts** |  | **£** | **Cheque**  **No.** |
|  |  |  |  |
| NIL |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Payments** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Cornforth Partnership | Room hire photocopying and sundries | 548.55 | 532 |
| R. A. Sunman | Salary | 666.10 | S/O |
| Northumbrian Water | Allotment water rates | 192.12 | 533 |
| JWS Power cleaning | Bus shelter cleaning | 144.00 | 534 |
| R. A. Sunman | Allowances | 94.76 | 535 |
| Durham County Council | Repairs to the Green | 6,080.00 | 536 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 7,725.53 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | NET EXPENDITURE | 7,725.53 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

RECOMMENDATION: That the schedule be approved.

12. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS FROM JANUARY’S WEEKLY LISTS.

At the time of the despatch of this agenda, there were no planning applications received or decisions taken by the Strategic Team or the South Western teams of Durham County Council which were of note to this Council.

13. PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2014/15

The Clerk has advised the County Council with regard to this matter following the special meeting on 20th January 2014. There has been uncertainty about the Government’s consideration of capping Parish Council’s Council Tax increases. The Clerk will update the meeting on any developments.

14. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

The following requests for financial assistance have been received:

1. Doggie Bulldogs Charity Sports Team – this team helps raise funds for local charities and is seeking a donation towards a fund raising raffle to pay for its pitch fees and running costs.
2. Royal British Legion – the Legion is seeking the support of the Parish Council to pay £201 being the cost of the crosses used by the school children on Remembrance Sunday.
3. Historic Society – the Chairman has received details of the Society’s bank holdings and Members are asked to confirm their decision to pay £200 towards the costs of the Society’s PC purchase.

15. GROUND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT.

Following the opening of the Pre Qualification Questionnaire by the Council’s cheque signatories, all but one of the companies returning them have been sent full tender documents.

16. FORMATION OF AN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION.

Members asked that this item be placed on the agenda. At the time of the despatch of this agenda no papers had been received setting out any proposals upon which the Parish Council could reach a decision.

17. FILLING OF A VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The County Council has been advised of the vacancy on this Parish Council. The necessary notices will be posted for the required period. Should the Council receive no request for an election, the Parish Council would be free to fill the vacancy by co-option.

18. CONDITION OF YARDS IN HAWTHORNE TERRACE.

Members had asked that this item be placed on the agenda, following a report to the Community Action Team.

19. CUSTOMER FIRST CONSULTATION.

Durham County Council is consulting on its communication policy with its customers. Details of the existing policy are available online. Given the difficulties this Council has with this issue, Members may wish to make representations. The Clerk will have further detail available at the meeting.

20. INSURANCE CLAIM.

The claim against this Council for a fall on paving on the Green is to be disputed by Zurich Municipal as the repairs were not carried out by the County Council in a timely manner.

21. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL TREE POLICY.

Durham County Council is consulting across the County on its policy for dealing with its own and other trees. The details are available online, but will be brought to the meeting for further discussion and Members may choose to make representations.

22. PROVISION OF A DEFIBRILLATOR

Defribshop, a leading supplier of defibrillators and training in their use has approached the Parish Council to see if the village has a need for such devices. Members’ views are sought on the provision of defibrillators in Cornforth.

23. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS.

The Clerk has prepared a report on the above matter and Members’ views are sought on the need for such a plan for Cornforth.

**NOTE: At the close of business Members will be asked if they have any items**

**to be included on the next agenda.**

Yours Sincerely,

Ray Sunman/Clerk: 3rd February 2014.