CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of Cornforth Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm, in the Community Centre, Cornforth, on Monday 9th August 2010, when your attendance is requested.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To consider declarations of 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 5th July 2010. (Copy herewith)

4. MATTERS ARISING

5. POLICE LIAISON

Beat Report and report of the PACT meeting.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

7. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. AAP ISSUES

To receive an update on this matter from Members.

9. PLANNING MATTERS ARISING FROM JULY’S WEEKLY LISTS

There was one planning application falling within this Council’s area notified by the Spennymoor Office and no applications from the Durham County Office at the time of the despatch of this agenda.

i) The erection of three detached houses with garages at Stokes Yard, to the rear of The Green, Cornforth. The application will not have been determined by the time the Council meets. The Clerk will provide details at the meeting.

10. BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT – POSITION AT 31st JULY 2010.

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 JULY 2010.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Receipts** |  | **£** |
|  |  |  |
| HMR&C VAT |  | 3037.14 |
|  |  |  |
| **Payments** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| D.C.C. Assoc of Local Councils |  | 332.76 |
| J. W. Smith Power cleaning |  | 240.00 |
| D.C.C. Library |  | 400.00 |
| Local Clerks Association fee |  | 11.80 |
| R. A. Sunman | Salary | 620.49 |
|  | Allowances and sundries | 116.08 |
| W.R.Wilson | Members’ Allowance | 18.10 |
|  |  |  |
|  | TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE | (1297.91) |
|  |  |  |

RECOMMENDATION: That the schedule be approved.

12. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

i) Parish Paths – A grant of £1190 has been approved for the strimming of two footpaths (No’s 20 and 22). The first cut was carried out at the end of July and the second will be carried out in November.

ii) The Scrap Yard – The Clerk will update the meeting.

iii) Miscellaneous items – Durham County Council has addressed the need to remove the frost damaged palm tree in the High Street and the glass and graffiti in the park. The Clerk will update the meeting on the ongoing problem of encroachment of the footpath near Moneys’ Building.

13. THE COUNTY DURHAM PLAN.

The Clerk and the Chairman have attended presentations on both the County Plan and the Settlement Strategy, which are inter-related. No other responses were received from Members and this Council’s reply was sent by the 6th August deadline in accordance with the report made at the July meeting. The Council’s view that the Plan needed to address education issues more robustly have been borne out by recent developments on Building Future Schools. The Settlement Strategy includes West Cornforth as a village with facilities where *“ a limited level of infill development ...will be supported subject to local considerations, as will the focusing of new or maintenance of existing levels of services, in partnership with other service providers.”*

14. QUALITY PARISH STATUS

The Clerk has applied for a place on the CiLCA course to begin in September 2010.

15. HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD

The Clerk has been in touch with the Bishop of Durham’s Office and explained the problem to Mr. Bell, the Pastor. He has advised that Rev. Lumsden has been made aware of our need for progress, but church celebrations and external commitments seem to have delayed any further response.

16. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

i) A request has been received from Cornforth Partnership for the sum of £6,000 towards its core costs. The Chief Executive has provided a full report on the partnership’s activities during the year which will be available at the meeting.

ii) A request for financial assistance towards the cost of a community trip to Flamingo Land for over 100 people has been received from Kevin Cummins, Chairperson of Cornforth Youth Aloud. The overall cost of the scheme is £2,675 and grants have been received from a variety of sources. The current shortfall is £340, and applications have been made for help from our two County Councillors. Members’ views are sought on underwriting the shortfall remaining after all contributions have been received. The trip takes place on Tuesday 10th August 2010.

17. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Durham County Council has been sent all the necessary detail and forms relevant to the erection of the Parish Council’s existing Christmas lights. The Clerk has met with Lumalite to discuss Members’ suggestions for new displays and will advise the meeting of the options and their estimated cost.

18 INSURANCE COVER AND CLAIMS

i) Zurich Insurance Company has provided its schedule of cover and costs (£5504.77) for 2010/11. In accordance with Members’ requests, the Clerk has ensured that the current cover is sufficient for all of the Council’s assets as specified by our internal auditor and asked for advice and estimates for the provision of additional public liability cover. That advice and quote will be available for the meeting, but in the meantime the premium has been paid to ensure cover continues at the current rate.

ii) On 27th July 2010 a claim for damages was received by the Clerk for a tripping accident by a child on 4th May 2010. The Parish Council’s insurers have been advised and the letter from Hewitts Solicitors acknowledged as received.

19. CREATION OF A FREEMEN OF THE PARISH OF CORNFORTH

In accordance with Member’s instructions received at the July meeting, this item has been placed on the agenda. It is suggested that the special meeting needed to bestow upon Councillor Wilson the title of “Honorary Freeman of the Parish of Cornforth” be held immediately prior to or on the arising of the September meeting of the Council.

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

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

Ray Sunman/Clerk: 2nd August 2010.