CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cornforth Parish Council held at 7.00pm, in the Community Centre, Cornforth, on Monday 1st November 2010.

Present: Councillor Mr. A. Hodgson and

Mr. K. Clasper, Mr. T. Cutmore, Mrs. S. Neville, Mr. M. J. Pennick, Mr. R. Poole, Mrs. S. Traynor, and Mrs. P.M. Walker.

Apologies: Councillors: Mrs. R Clewes, Mrs H. P. Drew, Dr. S. C. Drew, Mr. M. Simpson and W. R. Wilson.

1. COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HENRY WOODHALL

Members received with deep regret the news of the death of Councillor William Henry Woodhall. The Chairman spoke in memory of the service Councillor Woodhall and his wife Audry had given to the community and Members stood in a minutes silence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest made with regard to any item to be transacted.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2010 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ON THE AGENDA

The issue of glue-sniffing had been raised with the police, but no response had been received by Members or the Clerk.

5. POLICE LIAISON

The Beat Report for September was given by the Clerk. The Chairman reported on the last PACT meeting. It had been well attended by the public. The issue of neighbourhood wardens was discussed. The 26 wardens once assigned to the Sedgefield Borough area now covered the south of County Durham, with one warden for Chilton, Cornforth and Ferryhill. Residents are learning slowly about the differences between the former Council and the current social landlord, Sedgefield Borough Homes. SBH has no presence in the village and contact information needs to be made available in Cornforth House and in the Partner.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no Members of the public present.

Signed: ....................................................... Date: ...................................................

7. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised Members of a schedule of training available up to March 2011 and provided through the Local Councils Association. Members were asked to advise the Clerk of their interest and he would arrange to book courses as appropriate.

8. AAP ISSUES

i) The Chairman advised the meeting that the Task and Finish Groups would meet in late November to agree project support, but no indication had been received about the effect of County Council cuts. Councillor Cutmore advised the meeting that the meeting of AAP Chairmen would be held next Thursday.

ii) Members were advised that an application had been made to the AAP on behalf of the West Cornforth and District Community Association by the Parish Clerk for work in excess of £20,000. It has been referred to the Neighbourhood Budget and County Councillors Avery and Potts have agreed to meet the full costs of work to improve the football pitches and the Community Centre.

9. VACANCIES ARISING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Following the death of Councillor Woodhall and the resignation of Councillor S.M. Pennick, the Clerk was instructed to send the requisite notices to the Returning Officer and await his confirmation or otherwise of the need for an election to the above vacancies.

10. PLANNING MATTERS ARISING FROM OCTOBER’S WEEKLY LISTS

The Clerk advised the meeting that there were no planning applications falling within this Council’s area notified by the Spennymoor Office or the Durham County Office.

11. BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT – POSITION AT 31st OCTOBER 2010.

The Clerk was unable to circulate the current bank reconciliation statement and a comparison of this year’s budget to actual expenditure for this period at the meeting as the bank statement for October had not been received.

Signed: ....................................................... Date: ...................................................

12. SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OCTOBER 2010.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Receipts** |  | **£** |
|  |  |  |
| Nil |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Payments** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Local Clerks Association fee |  | 11.80 |
| R. A. Sunman | Salary | 620.49 |
| JWS Power cleaning | Allowances and sundries  Bus shelter cleaning | 71.38  240.00 |
| Cornforth Partnership  Lumalite Ltd.  Lumalite Ltd. | Room hire and copying  Christmas lights  Christmas lights | 571.69  790.21  1556.45 |
|  | TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE | 3862.02 |
|  |  |  |

The schedule was approved.

13. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk advised the meeting that an application had been received from Messrs Metcalfe to acquire two of the five allotments leased by the family from the Parish Council. The details of the offer were outlined to Members who discussed the difficulties involved in a partial disposal and outstanding covenants: they resolved not to go ahead with any disposal.

14. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

i) The Scrap Yard and miscellaneous items– The Clerk had not been able to progress these issues with DCC staff.

ii) The Green – Members were advised that following discussions with Mr. Kataky, the work on the final phase, including the issues raised at the last meeting, had recommenced. The Clerk was asked to find out how long the present notice board had to remain in position once the work was complete.

15. QUALITY PARISH STATUS

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had attended the first session of his CiLCA course. He would be expected to complete the course and submit his portfolio of work by April 2012.

Signed: ....................................................... Date: ...................................................

16. NEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Clerk reported his meeting with Mr. Hooper of Durham County Council to finalise the power supply from the school. In accordance with previous minutes and to speed implementation, the Clerk and the Chairman had discussed this matter and issued a letter of authorisation to prepare a specification and costs for the work. The work will need to be carried out by Durham County Council in discussion with Lumalite. The company has been advised that the Parish Council will not be going ahead with the tree –wrap opposite the Community Centre, but an early installation of the Christmas tree is expected. No date had been confirmed for the motifs to be erected by Durham County Council and the school lights are similarly unscheduled. Members agreed that a switch-on ceremony would be held on a date to be agreed with the W.C. & D.C.A. once details of the Salvation Army Carol service and schoolchildren’s commitments were known. The tree would be dedicated as a wishing-tree, subject to safety issues being investigated.

17. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Members are reminded that the above ceremony is to be held on 14th November 2010. The Clerk advised that the applications for the event and road closures had been approved. A rehearsal for the ceremony is to be held in Holy Trinity Church at 6.30pm on 9th November 2010. Members agreed to meet the costs of wreaths, band and donations as in previous years.

18. DRAFT SEAL FOR CORNFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

The draft seal authorised at an earlier meeting was displayed at the meeting and Members resolved to adopt it. The Clerk was instructed to include it on the address being prepared for Councillor Wilson and to order letterheads and complements slips with the seal upon it. The seal was also to be featured in the “Parish Digest” as published in the next “Partner” and on notice boards.

19. HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE PARISH OF CORNFORTH

At the Chairman’s suggestion our Member of Parliament has been approached to make the presentation to Councillor Wilson, who has asked that the ceremony be held at the Community Centre. The Clerk was instructed to progress the matter and seek media coverage.

**NOTE: At the close of business Members were asked if they had any items**

**of business to be included on the next agenda. No such items were requested.**

Signed: ....................................................... Date: ...................................................

Ray Sunman/Clerk: 4th November 2010.