

**DRAFT****Cornhill Parish Council****Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016,  
in the Village Hall at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mick Plunkett (Chairman), David Buckle, Marie Gillespie,  
Tina Ayre, Karen Stewart, Barbara Richmond.  
Clerk Angela Hallam-Baker.

**In attendance:** Parishioner David Richmond.

**1. Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr. Dougie Watkin, Revd. Rob Kelsey, and PC Dan Perry.

**2. Police Report:**

PC Perry had sent a message reporting that there had been one crime recorded in Cornhill since the March PC meeting. This relates to fraud that occurred at the Village Shop on 22<sup>nd</sup> March when persons from out of the area obtained money by false pretences. Investigation into this matter is continuing.

PC Perry urged residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity or incidents during the summer period when the population increases.

He also reported that certain individuals had been identified with regard to the suspicious fish sellers, and advised residents not to purchase from doorstep sellers, and not to allow access to their properties.

**3. Parishioners' Question Time:** no questions.

**4. The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016** were agreed and signed.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes:**

- **Pedestrians in Road signs** – should appear within 3 weeks.
- **Double white lines in Donaldsons Lodge** – unlikely that these will materialise.
- **Fly tipping in Donaldsons Lodge** – Mick had photographed the evidence and sent this to the Environmental Enforcement Officer, who is investigating the matter.
- **New noticeboards** – two had been provided by Northumberland Tourism and mounted on the wall by the Village Shop – one of these to be used by the PC.
- **Churchyard improvements** – Newcastle and Edinburgh Universities are unable to carry out a feasibility study. Possibility of PC applying for a grant.
- **Concrete bus shelter** – it was considered that the outside does not require painting, but the black boards would be removed. The inside of the shelter would require power washing before painting.
- **Flower tubs** – it was agreed to purchase two new tubs to put by the shelter and which Cornhill-in-Bloom would be asked to plant.
- **Recycling bins** – it was suggested that a way of screening these would be to put a fence in front and use the type of bins, seen in other areas, that could be lifted vertically on to trucks. Possible suggestion to NCC?

- **Potholes** – bad ones on the A697 round the bend from the Collingwood Arms. Mick had marked these on a map and sent them to Neil Howie.
- **A697 through Cornhill** – the surface of the road needs attention. It had been reported to Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, who had been to look at it. It was suggested that as many people as possible should write and register their complaints.
- **The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Commemorative Medal** had been presented to Nancy Clarke, as agreed, and it was reported that she is delighted.
- **Planning application Ref: 15/04221/FUL** – construction of silage clamp at New Heaton Farm had been approved.
- **Pre-applications** – nothing further reported.
- **War memorial** – Eric Grounds had offered to pay for spot lighting either by electricity or solar power. It was suggested that we should find out whether any planning permission is required.

## **6. Financial Report:**

The Clerk distributed a statement of transactions since the last meeting showing a bank balance of £3,574.35. This included £1,350.00 being the first half of the annual precept.

## **7. New Planning Applications:**

**Ref: 16/01240/HEGRMN – Removal of 1,610m of hedgerow on land surrounding New Heaton Farm:**

This application had engendered many objections from the PC, local farmers and residents which have been submitted to the Planning Office. Following enquiries to the Case Officer, Jon Sharpe, it had been ascertained that this is a notice of intention rather than a planning application, and, as such, would be the subject of a report by Mr. Sharpe which he would submit to the Chief Planning Officer for his decision.

**Ref: 16/00152/PREAPP – Proposed bungalow on land north east of The Workshop, Station Gardens, Cornhill-on-Tweed**

This is a pre-application with no plans, but the PC had no objections at this stage.

## **8. Play Area questionnaire:**

A questionnaire had been delivered to the residents of Station Gardens and a high response received with 26 votes being cast. The majority (17) of these are in favour of the play area being retained, and it was therefore agreed that the climbing frame should be repaired and the swing posts replaced. Quotes would be obtained for this work, and it was suggested that a grant be applied for to pay for other items of play equipment. Mick would enquire of NCC about a preliminary inspection and the cost of a service level agreement. Barbara, who kindly delivered the questionnaires, was asked to write a letter of thanks to the residents for their responses.

There was also mention of the land by the old school which the County Council had intimated would be transferred to the Parish Council for use as a play area.

## **9. LED Street Lighting questionnaire:**

Notification had been received of the modernising of street lighting across Northumberland when lampposts will be replaced and all street lights fitted with new LED lights. Comments are invited from parish and town councils on any preferred changes to the current lighting.

Following this notification, a questionnaire had been circulated throughout the village asking for suggestions to improve the lighting, and it was requested that any responses be handed in to the Village Shop by 31<sup>st</sup> May.

The improvements are scheduled to take place in the Berwick area between 29<sup>th</sup> June and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

#### **10. Neighbourhood Area Application – Norham and Islandshire:**

The PC has been informed, as a neighbouring parish, that NCC has received an application from Ord Parish Council in partnership with Ancroft, Duddo, Holy Island, Horncliffe, Kyloe, Norham and Shoreswood for the designation of a 'Neighbourhood Area' for the purposes of neighbourhood planning. Comments are invited.

The PC had previously discussed joining with Wooler, but considered that becoming part of such a group would entail a large amount of work and community input.

However, the Clerk was asked to write to both Ord and Wooler PCs wishing them well with their projects and asking that we be kept informed.

#### **11. Cornhill Community Website:**

It was agreed that planning applications, notification of litter-picking, functions, etc., should be put on the website, in addition to any items of local interest. It was noted that the Village Shop and Village Hall have their own websites, and links to these are available on the Community website.

The Clerk was asked to enquire whether Alan Cater could let the PC have statistics of how many hits the website has and whether from local residents or from outside the area.

#### **12. County Councillor's Report:**

Cllr. Watkin had had to leave after the Annual Parish Meeting, but the following is a copy of the minuted report given at that meeting:

Cllr. Watkin reported that the County Council officers had been working under pressure – some of the staff having to undertake three jobs. It had been agreed to move the headquarters from Morpeth to Ashington.

Cllr. Watkin spoke of the proposed North East devolution deal which will result in powers being transferred from Westminster to local regions. In May 2017 a mayor is to be elected who will chair a Cabinet consisting of the seven leaders of the local authorities, and will be involved in making decisions affecting capital investment, funding, business support, housing, strategic planning, etc., throughout the north east area. The PC felt that funding would be concentrated in the south of the region, and the democratic process lessened in the north.

#### **13. Correspondence:**

- **Barmoor Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund information event on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June, from 5pm to 7pm at Lowick Village Hall** - the PC had applied previously for funding for play area equipment, without success, presumably since the boundary only just touches Cornhill.
- **GGT grants for groups** – funding of up to £100 is being offered to new or existing groups of three or more people in Glendale and Belford. Their suggestions include

recipe sharing, a sewing Bee, gardening, kite surfing, young golfers, German conversation, arthritis self-help, fly-fishing, etc.

Application forms from: [ggadmin@wooler.org.uk](mailto:ggadmin@wooler.org.uk) or 01668 282406.

- **'Love Northumberland Hate Litter' Campaign 2016** – the Clerk would send for posters and campaign stickers.
- **LOVE Northumberland Awards 2016** – nominations invited for projects that are enriching the lives of the people of Northumberland. Details from Carrol Hessey on 01670 622992 or [www.northumberland.gov.uk/love](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/love)
- **A1 in Northumberland Improvement Programme** – public exhibition Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 10 am to 7 pm at Berwick Town Hall.

**14. Parishioners' questions on agenda items:** none.

**15. Any other business:**

- An enquiry from Derek Forrest about leaning trees on the grass verge between the old railway bridge and Clovelly – it is not known who is responsible for these – the landowner or the County Council? The Clerk to make enquiries.
- **Litter pick** from Cornhill to Coldstream Bridge – Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> June; meet at 9.30am outside the Village Shop. Any parishioners willing to help should contact the clerk on 01890 820501 or email: [parishclerk@cornhill-on-tweed.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@cornhill-on-tweed.co.uk)

**16. Date of next meeting: Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016, 6.00pm at the Village Hall.**

Signed.....

Date.....