

DRAFT**Cornhill Parish Council****Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
Wednesday, 10th May 2017, at the Village Hall at 6.00pm**

Present: Cllrs. Mick Plunkett, Marie Gillespie, Barbara Richmond and Tina Ayre.
County Cllr. Roderick Lawrie, David Richmond, Clerk Angela Hallam-Baker.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Rev. Rob Kelsey and PC Dan Perry.

2. Chairman's opening remarks and report for the year ended 31st March 2017:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly new County Councillor, Roderick Lawrie.

He thanked David Buckle, in his absence for his work, help and advice during his 12 years as a member of the Parish Council. It was unanimously agreed that he would be much missed, and a token gift would be delivered to him.

Thanks were also expressed to the outgoing County Councillor, Dougie Watkin, and to the re-elected Parish Councillors, Marie, Tina and Barbara, for their help and support during the year. Angela was thanked for her work as clerk, and Rob Kelsey and David Richmond for their regular attendance and participation at meetings.

The Chairman went through the items dealt with during the year:

- 10 planning applications received and documented in the bi-monthly minutes. Two of these - pre-applications for holiday lodges behind Rickerbys, and conversion of the old school to a crematorium – are still pending. However, Roderick assured the PC that the application for a crematorium would not go ahead.
- Litter picks had been carried out in the parish bi-monthly by the councillors, David Richmond, and the clerk.
- Footpaths – 2 now cleared in Donaldsons Lodge; the riverside path is as yet closed and discussions to re-open it are still ongoing.
- Roadside paths in Donaldson Lodge have been cleared, as has the area by Tillmouth Bridge.
- Play area – repairs carried out to the swings by Caledonia Play, but still waiting for the chains on the small swing to be shortened, and also a quote for the goal net. Mick was thanked for carrying out monthly inspections of the equipment with RoSPA guidance rules.
- Street lighting – NCC is replacing the orange street lights with white LED down-lighters. A questionnaire had been circulated to all residents asking what they require in the way of lighting.
- The concrete bus shelter has been painted and a new seat installed. This was kindly donated by David Clark in memory of his mother, Nancy.
- New notice boards for the Parish Council and Tourist Information had been supplied by NCC.

- A second interactive speed sign had been purchased through Dougie Watkins's NCC Members' Allowance with £1,000 contribution from the PC. Mr. Watkin was thanked for this.
- A Pedestrians in Road sign had at last been erected on the Wark road.
- "A" signs placed in the parking area outside the village shop had been moved by the Collingwood Arms to the opposite side of the road.
- Notice taken of probable future NCC cuts in spending.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Barbara for Mick's work during the year on behalf of the Parish, and this was unanimously seconded.

3. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2016 were agreed and signed.

4. Matters arising from the minutes: none.

5. Presentation of unaudited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017:

The clerk circulated copies of the Income and Expenditure Account and went through the transactions. The statement was agreed by all the Councillors and would be available for inspection by the public from 5th June to 14th July 2017. The Annual Return was also agreed and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Councillors. This would be submitted to the external auditors by 26th June 2017. It was agreed that Susan McCall should be asked if she would carry out the internal audit.

6. County Councillor's Report:

Cllr. Lawrie said he has several parish council meetings to attend on the same dates throughout the year and would try to work out how to attend as many as he could, or suggest date changes.

He pledged to work for the communities in his area and asked if there were any items with which he could deal currently.

The two items which Cllr. Lawrie was asked to look at were:

- The steps up to the old railway line opposite to the entrance to Station Gardens on the A697 approach to Cornhill. These are earth steps and have been washed down resulting in a slippery slope. This matter had already been reported twice to Phil Bradley, NCC Footpaths Officer. Roderick agreed to have a look at these, and Mick and the clerk would also repeat the request to Phil to have the steps re-instated.
- Some sort of barrier is required on the bend on the A697 in the Goslaw Cut beside the bridge over the burn. Currently the road side is open to a deep bank. This appears to be on the boundary of the Cornhill/Ford parishes, and would presumably be dealt with by NCC Highways.

At this point, Cllr. Lawrie had to leave the meeting to attend another parish council meeting. He was thanked for his attendance.

7. Parish and County Elections held on 4th May 2017:

County Cllr. Roderick Lawrie had been elected to serve the area including Cornhill.

The following Parish Councillors had been elected unopposed:

Cllr. Mick Plunkett

Cllr. Marie Gillespie
 Cllr. Barbara Richmond
 Cllr. Tina Ayre

The above councillors signed the statutory Register of Interest forms and forms of Acceptance.

8. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman:

Mick Plunkett was proposed as Chairman by Marie Gillespie, seconded by Barbara Richmond. Barbara Richmond was proposed as Deputy Chairman by Tina Ayre, seconded by Marie Gillespie. Both appointments were unanimously agreed by the members present.

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt David Richmond to the Parish Council. David had been a regular attendant at PC meetings supporting the Parish Council.

The full complement of parish councillors for Cornhill is seven, and it was agreed that the clerk would approach Paul Allinson who had expressed an interest in joining. If he is agreeable to being co-opted, a further member would be sought.

9. Programme of meetings for the year to 31st March 2018 to be held in the Village Hall at 6.00pm:

- Thursday, 13th July 2017
- Thursday, 14th September 2017
- Thursday, 9th November 2017
- Thursday, 11th January 2018
- Thursday, 8th March 2018

10. Any other business:

Barbara suggested that a budget for the current year should be looked at. The clerk agreed to identify the regular expenditure. The precept for the year had already been agreed as £2,700 to be paid in two instalments – April and September.

This concluded the business of the meeting, which was followed by the May PC meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....