

DRAFT**Cornhill Parish Council****Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, 12th July 2018,
at 6.00pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs. Barbara Richmond (Chair), Mick Plunkett, David Richmond, Eddie Barrowman, clerk Angela Hallam-Baker.

In attendance: Elizabeth Devon, Rev'd Rob Kelsey.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Tina Ayre, Rev'd John Carr, parishioner Martin Devon, PC Dan Perry.

2. Police Report (received after the meeting):

With regards to the period from the meeting in May to the last, there had been three crimes recorded in the larger Cornhill area. These are related to localised disputes as opposed to crimes which would impact on the wider community. There have been no other issues of note. I have corresponded with the council and yourself in relation to issues of speeding and parking, and hope that things are moving forward with the speed partnership. If there is anything further you require please let me know.

3. Parishioners' questions – a message received from parishioner Raymond Black was discussed under agenda item 8.

4. The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2018 were agreed and signed.

5. Matters arising from the minutes:

- **Planning applications:**

Ref: 18/00842/FUL - land at Donaldson's Lodge - this had been refused.

Ref: 17/03894/FUL - development on Cornhill school site – this had been delegated, and decision expected by 31st August 2018.

Ref: 18/00552/MISC – broadband cabinet & trench at Donaldson's Lodge – this was apparently submitted in error and no work was done.

6. Financial Report:

The clerk distributed a statement of financial transactions to date, which showed a credit balance of £3,080.10, of which £1,695.59 is ring-fenced for the festive lighting, and £36.50 ring-fenced for CCAG.

It was agreed that Cllrs. David Richmond and Eddie Barrowman should be registered as bank signatories, and that ex councillor Marie Gillespie's name removed.

7. Cornhill Community Action Group (CCAG) Report:

Barbara distributed copies of her report and went through the various items:

i) Village Fair – The date for this event to be held at the Collingwood Arms has been fixed for Sunday, 5th August, between 12.00 and 15.00. Posters are being displayed on notice

boards and the website. All parish councillors were asked to attend, and volunteers welcomed to help with setting up and standing in to allow stallholders to have a break.

ii) Churchyard project – questionnaires asking if anyone would be interested in any part of the project will be circulated and need to be returned by 8th September (churchyard clear-up day).

iii) Bell View – the Afternoon Tea held on 9th June was a success and raised £32.42 which was added to the Bell View account, earmarked for Cornhill.

The second annual Christmas Lunch has been scheduled for Saturday, 8th December – parish councillors asked to attend with help if possible.

iv) Village Walks – the 4th Walk, led by Mick Plunkett, will take place on Saturday, 28th July. It will begin at Twizel Bridge and follow the footpath mostly beside the River Till to Etal. The distance is approximately 5.5 miles and will take around 3 hours. Mick will leave his car at Etal to transport up to 6 people (without dogs) back to Twizel Bridge.

v) Festive Lighting – this is discussed later in the meeting under item 10.

vi) Talks – Elizabeth Devon has offered to give further talks following her two well-received talks in May.

vii) History Project – Linda Bankier (Berwick Archivist) has agreed to come to Cornhill on 8th October at 5.00pm to facilitate a discussion with people interested in actively participating in a local social history project. The meeting will be held in St. Helen's Church.

viii) Calendar – Elizabeth Devon has published monthly diaries on events in Cornhill, which will appear on the notice board and in the Newsletter. Dates of any scheduled events which could be included in the diaries should be sent to Elizabeth as soon as possible. Suggestions/requests for further events are welcomed.

ix) Funding - Barbara reported that the CCAG has not incurred significant expenses. Its net income is currently £36.50, to which will be added profits from the Summer Fair. It is hoped to purchase a pop-up banner to profile the CCAG at public events.

8. Footpaths:

Parishioner Raymond Black reported that parts of Footpath No. 15 (Cornhill Walk No. 2) are overgrown with waist-high vegetation. The clerk would ask for these to be strimmed. It was reported to the PC that Public Footpaths 213/003 and 004 have still not been reinstated and that the crops on both paths are knee-high. NCC Footpaths Officer, Phil Bradley has been asked to deal with this.

Norham Parish Council has suggested setting up a meeting between representatives of the local parish councils to discuss improving the walk along the south side of the Tweed from Berwick to Coldstream and calling this the "Tweed Way". Cornhill PC expressed an interest and the clerk would contact the Norham clerk and ask her to suggest some dates.

9. Play Area:

The annual inspection had been undertaken on 8th June by Play Safety and produced a detailed report of all items on the play area. The climbing frame, the only item not compliant with the regulations, has since been removed.

Mick was thanked for carrying out the monthly inspections.

10. County Councillor's funding:

Since Cllr. Lawrie's NCC Members' Fund is not permitted to fund benches, it was agreed that the Parish Council apply for funding for another 3 new festive lights and boxes. The application must be not less than £2,000. Units 31CJ (by the War Memorial), 33CJ (round the bend past the Collingwood Arms), and 38CJ (between the roundabout and Station Gardens) are apparently able to take boxes, although 38CJ may not be suitable because it would be obscured by tree branches. These may be able to be cut back – NCC to be asked. Some of the poles belong to Scottish Power, and therefore not available. Alternative locations suggested were Knowe Head, Station Gardens and St. Helen's Gardens.

The cost of the boxes is £360.38 X 3 = £1,081.14. The price of three motifs would be £456.00, making a total cost of £1,537.14. In order to bring this up to £2000, it was suggested that the extra standard light requested for the footpath from Station Gardens to the roundabout might be included, if the PC has to pay for this. Otherwise, further items to be suggested.

It was noted that the order must be submitted before the end of July.

11. Traffic calming:

It was noted that the 30mph signs in Donaldson's Lodge, Wark and Carham have camera alert motifs attached. This has not been applied in Cornhill because apparently other signage has first to be checked.

The problem caused by excessive parking outside the village shop on both sides of the road was discussed. Since this is a public highway, vehicles are entitled to park. However, the density of traffic is causing pedestrians difficulty in getting through to the shop, and it was therefore suggested that Highways be asked if they could paint a white line with pedestrian motif alongside the shop to allow safe passage for pedestrians.

It was suggested that perhaps a 20mph speed limit could be imposed through the village.

12. Local Transport Plan 2018/19 Priority Submissions Feedback:

- Request for a footpath B6350 Cornhill to Wark road – comment: scheme doesn't score well against LTP criteria.
- Permanent filling of potholes and regular maintenance of pavement surfaces – comment: not suitable for LTP – maintenance issue passed to area office for further investigation.
- Weed killing and sweeping footpaths on A697 / 698 Cornhill to Coldstream and on A698 Cornhill to Donaldson's Lodge – comment: not suitable for LTP – maintenance issue passed to area office for further investigation.

A request for the top three highways and transport priority issues for the area for the 2019-2020 programme must be submitted before 30th September 2018. These will be discussed at the 13th September PC meeting. These may include the pathway outside the village shop and a possible 20mph speed limit through the village, referred to in Item 11.

13. Presentation to retired councillor Marie Gillespie:

A tea party was held at the Village Shop to thank Marie for her 16 years service on the Parish Council, when she was presented with a framed print of horses as a token of appreciation for all her work and support over the years.

The Parish Council was pleased that Marie is still willing to share her knowledge of Cornhill Parish matters gained during her time as Clerk and subsequently Councillor.

A card containing a message of thanks was received from Marie, and read by the councillors.

14. Retirement of Cornhill Community Website Manager:

It was with regret that notification had been received from Alan Cater that he intends to retire as Website Manager at the end of December 2018. It was recorded that he has provided an excellent service to the Parish, for which he was thanked. Alan had said he would be happy to discuss the matter with whoever is prepared to take on the job.

Eddie had shown a particular interest in internet communications and was asked if he would be prepared to take over from Alan. He said he would be glad to find out what would be required to look after the website and would be happy to meet Alan to discuss it.

15. Any other business:

- **Northumberland Local Plan: Regulation 18 Draft Plan Consultation:**

A letter received from NCC informed that the consultation on the draft Local Plan began on 4th July 2018 and runs until 5pm on Wednesday, 15th August 2018. A hard copy of the Plan had been viewed by the councillors, but the documents are available at www.northumberland.gov.uk/localplan Drop-in events have been organised around the county, and Barbara and David agreed to attend the one in Berwick on Monday, 16th July. A further local event is scheduled for Monday, 30th July, between 2pm and 7pm at the Cheviot Centre, Wooler.

- **Grass cutting round War Memorial** – thanks were extended to Mark and Linda Crouch who had very kindly volunteered to cut the grass since the owners of the land, Cornhill House residents, left. Understandingly, they are unable to commit to continue to doing this regularly, so the clerk would ask the gardening contractor if he would be prepared to cut the grass and generally maintain the area around the Memorial. Barbara stated that it is important that this is tidy for the Remembrance Day commemoration in November.
- **Barmoor Wind Farm funding** – the clerk had received another request for application for funds, but since Cornhill did not fit the regulatory requirements and had been turned down twice, this would not be responded to.
- **Village benches** – three of the benches are in need of restoring, and steps will be taken to assess whether they are repairable.
- **Land behind Tweed Meadows** – this has been put back on to the market for grazing and possibly permission for one house.
- **Litter pick** – thanks were extended to David and Sharon Knight who kindly helped with clearing the litter between Cornhill and Donaldson's Lodge on 18th June. The next litter pick was scheduled for Monday, 10th September, between Donaldson's Lodge and Twizel Bridge. David Richmond, Mick, Elizabeth and Angela agreed to take part, and it was agreed that others should be asked to join them in order to form two groups.

It was noted that rubbish was often deposited in the lay-by on the A697 just north of the Goslaw Cut. It would be too dangerous to walk up this section of the road, but it could be reached by car.

- **Village tidying** – David suggested that residents should be encouraged to tidy up outside their properties, and asked if any of them would help to keep the village tidy by picking up litter, weeds, clearing gutters, etc. David felt the parish councillors should make themselves visible via photos, reports, in the Newsletter and on the Community Website. It was agreed that the clerk should obtain a quote for some high-viz waistcoats bearing the words: Parish Council Volunteers.

16. Date of next meeting: Thursday, 13th September 2018, at 6.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....

Date.....