**DRAFT** Corston Parish Council

**Chairman:** John Twist **Clerk:** John V May 9 Meadlands, Corston, Bath BA2 9AS

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**MINUTES OF THE CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 11th JULY 2016**

**THE OPENING OF THE MEETING**

Due to the planned absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair of Corston Parish Council, Councillor Richard Blows, opened the meeting at 7:30pm and welcomed Parish Councillors and Parishioners to the meeting.

**1. COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

Councillors: Richard Blows, Susan Charles, Mrs Christine Ingersent, Mrs Sheila Thomas and Ms Gina Wynne. Councillor Gary Breckon arrived later during the meeting. Due to the Vice-Chair’s personal interest in Planning Application 16/03172/FUL, Councillor John Twist Chair of the Parish Council, had previously agreed to alter his holiday arrangements to enable him to attend at a suitable time during the meeting and chair the meeting for agenda item 9 Planning Applications.

**2. COUNCILLORS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Councillors were present at various times during the meeting. Ward Councillor Mrs Sally Davis before the meeting to apologise that she was unable to remain because of another appointment and left before the formal opening of the Council meeting.

**3. PARISHIONERS IN ATTENDANCE**

The Chair welcomed Parishioners Mr Stephen Cummins and his son Niall, Mr Roger Blackman, Mrs Dagmar Blows, Mr and Mrs Peter Davis, Mr Rupert Mullins and Mr and Mrs Michael Paradise to the meeting. The Clerk advised the Council that apologies for absence had been received from Parishioners Mrs Liz Acton, Mrs Julie Bracewell, Mrs Jenny Burton, Mrs Barbara Hobbs and Mr Martin Seymour.

**4. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLOR’S PERSONAL INTERESTS IN THE AGENDA ITEMS AND PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Councillor Richards Blows declared that he had a personal interest in planning application 16/03172/FUL and would vacate the Chair and meeting before discussion commenced on this application. Councillor John Twist will take the Chair for planning application 16/03172/FUL and the remainder of the Parish Council meeting.

The other Councillors present made no declarations of personal interests in any of the agenda items.

**5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16thMAY 2016**

The Minutes were **agreed** and then signed by the Chair.

**6. THE PROPOSAL TO RE-OPEN SALTFORD STATION**

The Chair reported that, due to unavoidable circumstances, the presentation on this subject would have to be postponed to a future Council meeting and deleted the action from agenda.

**7. GENERAL ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 16TH MAY 2016**

Page 2, Traffic ignoring the pedestrian crossing red light and speeding on the A39: The Clerk

The Clerk advised the Council that the Police were due to inform him if the statistics relating to the speed of traffic travelling along the A39 through Corston would justify the creation of a Community Speed Watch Team. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 2, Proposed amendments to the Parish Council’s Standing Orders: The Clerk

The Clerk said that, due to IT compatibility issues he had not yet completed this action. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 3, The introduction of the Transparency Code: The Clerk

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the Parish Council had received a Transparency Code grant of £1340 from ALCA to assist with the associated costs that will be incurred. The Clerk advised the Council that the printer, bought by the Council in 2008, might soon need replacement.

Page 3, Issues raised by Parishioners: The Clerk

i) Parish Council insurance cover for two under 16 year old boys

The Clerk advised the Councillors that he was awaiting a reply from the Council’s insurance Company regarding CPC’s insurance policy cover for juveniles. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 4, Review of the Corstonian: The Clerk

The Chairman transferred this subject to agenda item 10.

**END OF THE GENERAL ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES OF 16THMAY 2016**

**8. FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**a) Review of the financial actions in the Minutes of 16thMay 2016**

Page 3, The purchase of four replacement swing seats in the Play Area: The Clerk said the new swing seats had been installed during May and two worn shackle bushes had been replaced. Repairs to the safety surfaces under the swings were currently being arranged. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 3, Action to identify a fencing contractor: The Clerk

The Clerk said that he had received one quote to replace the Play Area boundary fence. He was waiting for a further quote from another Company who had inspected the site on 8thJuly and other quotes were expected in due course. Councillors will be invited to consider all quoted prices when available and determine the way forward. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 4, The purchase of three Playing Field notices: The Clerk.

The Clerk said that a new notice was now on display in the Pavilion notice board and the remaining two would eventually be displayed in the Playing Field area. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 4, The review of the Corston Parish Council’s Annual Governance Statement

The Clerk advised the Council that he had answered some queries from the external auditors about the Council’s Annual Governance Statement and was now waiting for their report. **ACTION: CLERK**

Page 4, Review of the renewal of the Parish Council’s annual insurance

The Clerk confirmed that he had paid the 2016/2017 annual insurance premium of £502.17.

**END OF THE FINANCIAL ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES 16thMAY 2016**

**b) Review of the General Fund and the Bank reconciliation**

The Clerk had sent Councillors accounts statements via email. After discussion, the Councillors **agreed** with the statements.

The Clerk advised the Council that he had received detailed accounts from Mrs Liz Acton about the expenses relating to the Buzz Club’s organisation of the village celebrations commemorating the Queen’s 90th birthday on 12thJune and a balance of £37.60 remained. After discussion the Council **agreed** that the Buzz Club should retain the balance for their funds. **ACTION: CLERK**

**9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council discussed the following planning applications:

15/01987/FUL Pen Y Bryn, Ashton Hill. Permitted

15/05379/FUL The Old Kings Arms, Wells Road. Pending decision by B&NES

16/00235/FUL The Malthouse, Wells Road. Permitted

16/02278/TCA The Old Bakery, Corston Lane. Permitted

16/02482/FUL Stothert & Pitt Rugby Ground - New floodlights Pending decision by B&NES

16/03095/FUL 7, Goold Close – Single story extension and Porch Pending decision by B&NES

16/03179/FUL Avonwood House, Bristol Road - Change of use of Annex to holiday let

After discussion, the Parish Council **agreed** that more information was needed about the proposed changes to the property and parking facilities. The Clerk would advise B&NES that the Council had decided on a holding objection to the planning application and ask for the additional information that the Council required in order to be able reconsider the application. **ACTION: CLERK**

*At this point in the meeting, because of an earlier declared personal interest in the following planning application, Councillor Blows vacated the Chair and Councillor Twist assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.*

16/03172/FUL Land between Barton House and Laburnum Cottage

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the historical background to this particular plot of land and welcomed the applicants Mr and Mrs Peter Davis and Parishioners to the Parish Councillor’s discussion about planning application 16/03172/FUL.

Following the Councillor’s discussions, parishioners voiced concerns about traffic exiting the site onto the Barton, boundary issues and access to the plot by building contractors. However, the majority of objections to the planning application expressed considerable concern that the height and location of the proposed new building would invade the privacy of neighbouring properties. In conclusion the Chairman thanked all participants for their views and said that the Parish Council’s response to B&NES would be shaped by these discussions. In conclusion, as the height of building had been omitted from the application and an anomaly existed regarding the first floor on-suit window, the Parish Council would submit a holding objection. **ACTION: CLERK**

**10. ADVERTISEMENT FOR A NEW EDITOR OF THE CORSTONIAN: THE CLERK**

The Clerk said that he had again advertised the need for a new editor for the Corstonian but had not received any applications. After discussion, the Council very reluctantly **agreed** that they had no choice but to mothball the Corstonian’s production until such time a suitable editor became available.

**11. REVIEW OF THE CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL’S TASKS LIST**

The Council reviewed and updated the Council tasks list. Details are available on request.

**12. REVIEW OF THE B&NES WORKS REQUESTS**

The Council reviewed and updated the B&NES works list. Details are available on request.

**13. REVIEW OF MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS AND FUTURE EVENTS**

The Councillor Twist reported that he had attended the Keynsham Area Forum meeting on 30thMay. An interesting discussion had been held about the devolution of power and funding from the Government to the South West and the possible election of a Mayor for the West of England in 2017. He informed the meeting that B&NES will hold a public consultation on this subject in the near future and that much relevant information is already on their website.

**14. B&NES DRAFT CORSTON CONSERVATION APPRAISAL**

The Chairman advised the meeting that he and the Clerk, he had met B&NES officers to discuss the future of the Corston Conservation Appraisal and had agreed that they would work together to achieve the publication of the report as soon as possible. After discussion, the Council **agreed** that Councillor Richard Blows would be the Council’s lead officer for the project and he would also act as the Council’s liaison officer for the Corston village history event over the weekend of 8th – 9thOctober 2016.

Following further discussion about the village history weekend the Chairman proposed that Councillor Mrs Susan Charles act on behalf of the Parish Council for their flower display in All Saints Church during the history weekend. Councillor Mrs Sheila Thomas seconded the proposal which was carried unanimously by a show of hands. **ACTION: COUNCILLOR MRS SUSAN CHARLES**

**15. REVIEW OF THE TRANSPARENCY CODE**

The Chairman advised Councillors that to comply with the requirements of the Transparency Code, the Parish Council now needed to progress development of the Parish Council website. Councillor Richard Blows had previously agreed to review and identify suitable website builders from a list that the Clerk had provided. He would report back his recommendations at the Parish Council meeting in September. **ACTION: VICE-CHAIR**

**16. ISSUES RAISED BY PARISHIONERS: THE CLERK**

The Clerk said that he had informed the Police of an abandoned car in Corston Lane.

The Clerk told the Council that more brown rubbish sacks had again been left near the B&NES refuse bin at the Meadlands entrance to the Playing Field and that B&NES would not remove such sacks from this location. The Council **agreed** that it was unacceptable for Parishioners to leave sacks of rubbish at this location. The Clerk said that he would monitor the situation.

**17. THE CLERK’S REPORTS**

The Clerk said that he had no further report to make to the Council.

**18. THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the village hall on 12th September, starting at 7pm.

Signed ......................................... Date .......................................

Councillor John Twist

Chair Corston Parish Council

Copies to: Corston Parish Councillors and Ward Councillor Mrs Sally Davis. Plus approximately 90 Parishioners via the Parish Council Group email list, other individuals and organisations in the Parish and the Parish Council notice board.