

Corston Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Richard Blows

Clerk: Lindy Leahy 5 Goold Close, BA2 9AF

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[DRAFT] MINUTES OF THE CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 24th September 2018

1. THE OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Chair of the Corston Parish Council, Cllr Richard Blows, opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed parishioners Paul Wynne, Geoff and Shirley Holloway and CJ Martin

The Chair also welcomed Karen Shepherd from Curo and Evan Wienburg & Matt Bush from Truespeed

2. CORSTON PARISH COUNCILLORS PRESENT

The Parish Councillors in attendance: John Twist (JT), Gary Breckon (GB), Susan Charles (SC), Gina Wynne (GW), John Bravin (JB) and Katharine Evans (KE)

3. COUNCILLORS APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies or reasons for absence from the meeting received.

4. PARISHIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

As above in the opening of the meeting note.

5. DECLARATION OF COUNCILLOR'S PERSONAL INTERESTS IN THE AGENDA ITEMS AND PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS

No declarations of interest were made.

6. CURO UPDATE

Karen Shepherd had kindly agreed to meet councillors prior to the meeting to visit the specific areas in question (Slip Hedge, Garages bottom of Meadlands, Verges in Meadlands and wall at the top of Meadlands)

Karen Shepherd (KS) distributed property and land ownership maps of Meadlands illustrating properties and land owned by CURO and therefore the responsibility of CURO.

a)The Slip hedge – KS confirmed that the Slip hedge on the righthand side walking in the direction from Meadlands to the A39 is CURO's responsibility. The hedge is cut between October and March outside of bird nesting season and this is when the path is swept too.

KS confirmed the left hand side is the tenants responsibility and if the tenant is non-compliant with standards or their tenancy agreement this is dealt with via CURO's Compliance Team

The apple tree is in a privately owned garden and CURO have no authority to ask the owner to cut the tree back to reduce debris from the tree falling on to the path and causing a slip hazard.

Councillors stated their dissatisfaction with the frequency the hedge is trimmed and path cleaned.

KS to confirm how many times the contract allows for and let CPC know.

KS also explained that residents and/or councillors should report any issues via the CURO Contact Team who in turn will inform the appropriate CURO team to deal with issue. Parish Council to also make this message clear.

KS distributed a CURO Maintenance Standards document that details the maintenance standard estates are expected to be maintained to.

b) Verges – KS confirmed grass cutting is carried out between March and November according to the contract and CURO’s maintenance standards. The issue of heavy vehicles driving across the verges and creating ruts was raised. **KS to look into this and feedback**

c) Maintenance of area near Garages – A number of items appear to be dumped and/or inappropriately stored in the area. **KS to look into this and feedback.**

d) Siting of Truespeed cabinet – KS unaware of this and was not party to the decision by CURO to give permission.

Wall repairs on Corston Lane – JT and KS inspected the wall. JT concerned that the repair was carried out without reference to the fact it is located in a conservation area both in terms of materials used and how the decision was made without liaising with the Parish council. KS unsure as to whether any particular permissions would have been required and/or if BANEs were required to liaise with the Parish. **Agreed KS would look into and feedback.**

KS explained that communications by CURO have been identified as requiring improvement and CURO are aware of this and working to improve. **KS suggested that next Estate Advisor visit be coordinated with CPC**

Other Actions

LL to email KS with agreed actions

LL to request KS to supply PDF version of maps

RB thanked KS for her time and KS left the meeting at 7:40pm

d) continued – **Truespeed.** JB explained that via discussions with Truespeed it had been agreed that Truespeed would liaise with CPC before making a decision as to where the cabinet would be sited, but regrettably this did not happen. CPC believe the location is not ideal for a number of reasons including access for maintenance and parking and congestion issues and the fact it is not blended into a background such as a wall.

Truespeed representative Matt Bush explained that proper internal process had been followed regarding the decision but this had not been discussed with CPC before it was made. The area near the garages was not suitable because of a lack of power. He also confirmed that the cabinet was only serving Corston.

Matt Bush proposed an initial solution involving some landscaping etc to soften the impact of the cabinet.

CPC stated that this was unlikely to address the issue, a view endorsed by Meadlands residents present.

Instead, CPC requested that Truespeed reconsider the original location on the A39.

Evan Wienburg apologised for the difficulties created by the positioning of the cabinet and stressed that this had not been intentional and had nothing to do with CURO. He emphasised that Truespeed are used to working in conservation areas etc and that the location was not chosen to avoid potential planning issues.

Evan thanked the parish for its constructive approach to helping to find a way forward and stated that Truespeed's final decision on any relocation of the cabinet will be down to cost and whether there is enough funding in the budget for the Corston project.

JT asked that the issue be looked at as sympathetically as possible.

RB thanked Truespeed for coming to the meeting and it was agreed it was an unfortunate outcome because of a breakdown in communications. Truespeed agreed to scope the two options and in the first instance come back to RB. RB confirmed with the parishioners present that they were happy with this approach.

7. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th JULY 2018

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th July 2018 were **agreed** and signed by the Chair.

8. GENERAL ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 9th July 2018

a) Slip hedge lighting – JB has fitted a Dusk to Dawn light at a cost of £28.48 plus £4 per year for the energy supply which JB is happy to pay for. RB thanked JB on behalf of CPC.

b) Slip hedge and path clearance being carried out 30th September **CPC consider at next meeting if to take on responsibility at its next meeting when the budget will be considered.**

c) BANES highway meeting – SC and JT met with Highways safety Team:

- They will not paint the kerb at top of Meadlands but will re-paint white lines on the road

- They will paint a No Entry sign on the slip road from Corston Lane to A39

- Traffic surveys to be carried out on Ashton Hill to gather data to inform decision. Two sites for the survey – before the hill and on the hill. Cost is £170 per site but JT believes this is negotiable.

LL to chase as CPC require an answer in time for November meeting

JB raised issue of street lighting – 3 not working. It the underground cable which is the responsibility of Western Power who have been informed.

d) Bollard on A39 fixed.

e) Telephone opening ceremony of the excellent community exchange library located in the disused Corston telephone box was very well attended. This facility now provides a welcome additional amenity for community use.

f) New clerk to order litter picking equipment – Mrs Martin interested in getting involved

g) Barton Steps – Photo from Phil Wotton still required. No progress.

h) GB has invited representative from Bristol International Airport to attend November meeting

i) CPC response to HELAA – RB, JB and JT preparing a draft response which will be sent out for consultation and comment before final submission.

9. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

a) LL tabled a summary and will post the second quarter on the website as soon as all of the information is available hopefully by mid October.

b) £1500 received from Corston Country Fair JT has banked. **RB to send a thank you letter to Kate Measures**

c) Wreath for Remembrance Day – Agreed £30 budget for wreath. **GB to speak with Roger Black to organise**

SC updated the meeting on the format for Remembrance Weekend. **SC to confirm timings and let everyone know and agree who could lay the wreath on behalf of CPC**

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) 18/02092/FUL: Land between Laburnum Cottage and Barton House – Refused

b) 18/03034/FUL: Dryleaze, Bath Rd Saltford - Permitted

c) 18/03997/TCA: Hill House Barton – removal 2 x conifer trees – no objections **LL email B&NES**

11. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

Standard agenda item – no update.

12. WEST OF ENGLAND (WECA) UPDATES

a) Joint Spatial Plan – no update

b) Joint Transport Study – no update

c) Bristol Airport Expansion – as per matters arising item 8

13. B&NES UPDATES

a) B&NES Local Plan – no update

b) HELAA – as per matters arising item 8

c) Ward Boundary Commission Review – Boundary to be changed and Corston will be part of the Saltford Ward as will Newton St Loe

d) Corston Conservation Area Appraisal – RB has put on hold due to volume of business CPC dealing with currently.

e) National Planning Policy Framework training 9th October **All to let LL know if you wish to attend**

14 PROGRESS REPORT CPC'S DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

RB has made this a priority for the new clerk

15. TRUESPEED

See Item 6.

16. REVIEW OF THE CORSTON PARISH COUNCIL TASKLIST

a) No update

17. REVIEW OF B&NES WORK REQUESTS

No update

18. ISSUES RAISED BY PARISHIONERS

a) Geoff Holloway requested permission to hold a gathering in the playing field for up to 300 people from about 6pm to 11:30pm on Saturday 25th May 2019. The request was supported in principle whilst noting that it was important that CPC ensure an accountable process applied regarding roles and responsibilities etc. **RB and LL/CT to work on appropriate process.**

JT advised that Geoff contact Corston Country Fair to ask to borrow tents etc.

b) Jenny Burton – Damaged Elm Tree – B&NEs have inspected and are not concerned

c) Littering no particular issues

d) Harvest Festival event was a success with over 100 people attending the hog roast

19. CLERK'S REPORT

a) LL updated on the meeting regarding the status of the defibrillator. The new pads it requires have been on order since the end of August and after chasing and then re-ordering they have been promised to be posted first class. (Post meeting note - new pads received and Friday 28th September LL fitted 29th September and Defibrillator fully operative). Both SC and LL have spoken with parishioner whose father nearly had a call for its use whilst it was potentially faulty.

20. PARISH COUNCIL ITEMS

a) Recruitment of clerk – Crispin Taylor has been appointed. He also clerks for Newton St Loe and a handover process is being organised.

RB explained that there would need to be a rethink about some jobs (dog bins, play area, inspections etc) currently undertaken by the council as the new clerk does not live in the village. **To discuss at next meeting**

21. REVIEW OF MEETINGS ATTENDED/TO BE ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

JT stepping down for CPC next year and a new representative is required for the Corston Country Fair group – **KE offered to take on role and also ensure GW back on mailing list.**

LL to send apologies for 6th October ALCA AGM

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 19th November

- Review of playing field maintenance and expenditure
- Review draft CPC precept requirement for 2019/20
- Bristol Airport Expansion
- Elections for May 2020

Monday 14th January

- Review Parish Clerk remuneration
- Review and agree CPC precept submission for 2019/20

Signed Date

Councillor Richard Blows

Chair Corston Parish Council

Email copies via the Parish Council's Newsletter to: Corston Parish Councillors, Ward Councillor Mrs Sally Davis and approximately 90 Parishioners. A copy will also be displayed on the Parish Council's notice board.