CORSE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a bi-monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2020 via ZOOM Remote Platform.

Present: Cllr P Burford (Chairman), Cllr M Jones (Vice-Chairman), Cllr R Hall, Cllr T Jones, Cllr D Preston
District Councillor B Lewis
The meeting was chaired by Cllr P Burford and the minutes were taken by the Clerk.

0 members of the public attended.

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Barbara Buck. County Councillor Brian Robinson.

2. Declarations of Interest
Cllr T Jones declared an interest – Agenda item 6.6 re Football Club donation.

3. Minutes of previous meeting(s)
It was proposed by Cllr M Jones that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 5th May 2020 be accepted as a true record this was seconded by Cllr R Hall, this was agreed by all Councillors present.

4. Public consultation
There were no members of the public present.

5. Reports

5.1 District Councillor Philip Burford spoke to Councillors on matters including the annual meeting of the Council, financial year budget and overspend, continuation of cabinet.

5.2 District Councillor Brian Lewis spoke to Councillors on matters including the forward plan meeting and housing needs.

5.3 County Councillor Brian Robinson sent apologies and a report has been circulated and a copy is attached to the minutes.

6. Finance

6.1 Accounts for payment
It was proposed by Cllr D Preston that the payments were made as previously circulated, this was seconded by Cllr T Jones, this was agreed by all councillors present and it was resolved to sign the cheques.

6.2 Financial Statement and Cash Reconciliation
The financial statement and cash re-conciliations for the month were approved by all Councillors present and are attached to the minutes.

6.3 Internal Audit 2019/20

The Clerk advised that the following Internal Audit recommendations have been carried out:

1.1 Adoption/review date on Standing Orders – this has been added to the copy on the website.
1.3 Adoption/review date on Financial Regulations – this has been added to the copy on the website.
1.5 Adoption/review date on Grant Awarding Policy – this has been added to the copy on the website.
1.7 Adoption/review date on Code of Conduct – this has been added to the copy on the website.
3.7 Review of Investments and bank accounts took place at the May 2020 meeting and will be undertaken annually at the meeting the considers the AGAR to be returned to the External Auditors.
7.2 Council as a whole reviewed the year end accounts, this took place at the May 2020 meeting and will take place annually at the meeting that considers the AGAR to be returned to the External Auditors.

The Clerk advised that the following Internal Audit recommendations have been scheduled to be undertaken:

3.6 Evidence of a review of assets – a walk around will be arranged by the clerk for this to be undertaken
5.4 The bank statements will be initialled when the quarterly reviews are carried out and this will be put in the minutes at the relevant meetings commencing with the September 2020 meeting
6.6 A pension was offered to the employee(s) but was not taken up – this will be minutes at the September 2020 meeting.

 Chairman's signature…….. Date ……..

6.4 Website Accessibility Compliance

The Clerk advised about the legal requirement for the Parish Council website to be compliant with the new regulations and the steps that need to be taken to achieve this and to ensure compliance, the Clerk is to gather costings and this will be discussed and agreed at the September meeting.

6.5 Pound Rental

The Parish Council discussed the request from Mr Fardon for a rent break for the quarter July to September 2020 due to being unable to work under Covid-19 restrictions. It was proposed by Cllr M Jones that this request should be granted, this was seconded by Cllr R Hall and agreed by all Cllrs present.

A letter of thanks is to be sent to Roger Parker who carried out the repairs to the roof at The Pound.

6.6 Grants/Donations

After discussion it was agreed to make the following donations:
SCATS £100
Staunton and Corse Scouts £100
Staunton and Corse Brownies £200

The following will be discussed at the September meeting
Staunton and Corse Village Hall – accounts still need to be submitted
Staunton and Corse Playing Field
Staunton and Corse Football Club
Staunton and Corse Cricket Club – the Clerk is to ask for a letter of request and the accounts

The Clerk advised that it is not legal to make donations to the Church, the Clerk is to write to Claudia to advise of this information that has been received.

7. Planning

To make recommendations to the Planning Authority upon the suitability of the following planning applications/appeals

Planning Ref	Property	Description of Application	Comments
No planning applications have been received			

8. Model Member Code of Conduct

The proposed Model Member Code of Conduct had been previously circulated for Councillor comments, there were no comments to be submitted.

9. Newent-Gloucester Cycleway

This agenda item was considered however it was agreed by all Cllrs present to take no further action.

10. To receive any urgent matters on Highways

Thanks were minuted to Cllr R Hall for carrying out the strimming around the Milestone on the A417.
The garages behind Boundary place have become overgrown and need cutting back, Cllr M Jones and Cllr P Burford are to assess before Two Rivers are contacted.

11. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

It was agreed by all Cllrs present to postpone the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council until May 2021.

11. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 1st September 2020

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

 Chairman's signature……. Date …….

Expenditure Corse Parish Council 2020-2021					£788.53	
Date	Payee	Details	Power	VAT Number	Gross (£) to date	Chq No
11.5.20	Freeola	Website Costs	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5	859110032	£12.56	D/D
7.7.20	V Roberts	Salary & Viking Direct	LGA 1972 s.142, LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5	536153357	£387.58	610 *
7.7.20	HMRC	PAYE / NI	LGA 1972 s.112(2)		£85.40	611

County and District Reports from Brian Robinson for July 2020 Meeting

County Council

Council meetings have resumed using webex virtual meeting software. A full council meeting and planning committee took place in June and Scrutiny will start in July. County Councillors paid tribute to the many voluntary groups in parishes and villages that stepped up to make sure local people had the support that was needed help.

Scrutiny committee members have been updated though online question and answer sessions over recent months. As chairman of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) I have attended. We have been advised of service changes at the Cheltenham and Gloucestershire Hospitals moving emergency admission to Gloucester and some specialist surgery to Cheltenham. Some minor injury units have also been closed to allow focus on Covid 19 issues. Plans to cope with a second wave of Covid 19 have also been drawn up.

At the Adult Care Scrutiny Committee today Covid 19 infections in care homes were discussed. In Gloucestershire there have been 222 deaths from Covid 19 in care homes. Steps are in place to test residents and care workers on a regular basis. All facilities have good supply of PPE.

The County has a test and trace service deplored in support of the national service. The number of Covid 19 infections remains low in recent week.

All waste recycling facilities are now open with booking required to ensure social distancing can be achieved.

Weddings have recommenced with 2 held on 4th at Shire Hall. Registration of births recommenced on 29th June with all registration offices except Tewksbury now open. The backlog of birth registrations in Gloucestershire which by law have to be done in person has reached several thousand. Some libraries are opening from 14th July including Cinderford, Coleford and Tewksbury.

Highways have continued to work throughout the lockdown period constrained sometimes by lack of materials. A number of resurfacing schemes are in progress. The grass cutting programme has been changed to allow visibility cut first and the general cut later. This was done because the dry weather made a general cut ineffective early in the year. If your grass has not yet been cut it will be over the next few weeks. The lengthman scheme is running so local Parish work needs to requested so it can be programmed in.

I attended the Gloucestershire Economic growth Scrutiny Committee where the GFirst Local Enterprize Partnership updated on post Covid 19 investment plans. The requirement to be shovel ready means in reality this is schemes that were planned before the pandemic. Around £9m of extra government funding is expected but yet to be confirmed.

I still have some community development funds that can be used to help people who are unable to access online services get connected.,

District Council

The District Council has also held an Annual Meeting using webex and has appointed a new Chief Fiancé Officer. Following interviews in June a new Monitoring Officer is likely to be appointed at our next meeting in July.

More than £20m of government grant has been distributed to local business in the form of £10k or £25k grants, This represents about 1 in 3 of Gloucestershires businesses.

The district has identified some schemes for improving cycle safety but currently they do not include schemes in my division.