

CORNHILL COMMUNITY ACTION LTD

Minutes of meeting on Thursday 18th February 2021 at 16.00 via zoom

1. **Present:** Directors: William Carrington
Martin Devon
Steve Wright
Members: David Richmond
Anne Legge
Elizabeth Devon

Apologies: Director: Oliver Wright

2. Welcome to Anne

Anne was warmly welcomed to the company; she has agreed to help William with finances and her expertise will be invaluable. Martin will make sure Anne has a company email address.

3. **Minutes of meeting on 18th December** were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

Item 1 – David’s query about the PC’s formal resolution of the CAT application had been answered satisfactorily at the CPC meeting on 14th January.

Item 2 – it was agreed that we should now go ahead to convert the company to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Martin and Elizabeth will pursue this.

Item 3 – it was agreed not to wait any longer for Bank of Scotland to open an account for us. Further investigation is needed (Martin and Elizabeth).

5. **Action needed?** It is now just over two months since we heard that our proposal had been accepted. Martin said that he had contacted Iain over a week ago to ask about re-connection of the water and electricity supplies as he sees this as being a major stumbling block. Iain promised to forward Martin’s email directly to Paul Urwin, head of Strategic Estates, to push for progress both on the agreement of Terms and on re-connection of services. We have since heard nothing.

It was decided that we really must try to move things forward. Steve agreed to write to Paul Urwin at NCC, copying Iain and Roderick in. It is vital to pursue Roderick for the money; **we did not receive a reply** from him to our ‘Why fund the Cornhill Centre’ document sent on 18th January, 2021, (attached with these minutes). The members of NCC and CCAL are all working for the benefit of Cornhill community so there can be no reason for delay.

William also offered to write to Paul Urwin. He suggested we should be like a ‘dog with a bone’ and keep contacting them until something happens.

All members of the company can use their company email address when writing on behalf of the company – it is their first name followed by @cornhillcommunityaction.co.uk.

William pointed out that he is very conscious of the local elections in May when he thinks Dougie Watkins will be elected. He fears that everything will then be centred on Norham with nothing for Cornhill and almost certainly no money from Roderick.

David feels that all members of the PC should be aware of what is going on; this was agreed and these minutes (when agreed) will be added to the private <https://www.ccal.uk> website, to which PC members have access. Steve is wary of making the minutes fully public.

It was also suggested that we ask Angela and Clive to write to Glen Sanderson to try to get things moving.

6. Publicity

Elizabeth shared the screen with the temporary website. This can be viewed at: <http://www.cornhillcommunityaction.co.uk>. To secure the site using https, Oliver has paid for the necessary certificate himself but this has still not been activated. This means that some browsers will come up with a message that the site is not secure and potentially dangerous. Martin has written to Tyler Krett at Lonres about this but to no avail. William agreed to contact Tyler to discover the problem.

7. Cornhill Village Shop

Elizabeth said that in an ideal world, she would like Lynda and Julie to take over both the kitchen unit plus unit number 2 in the Cornhill Centre and run their coffee shop from there. Currently the Coffee Shop, at the back of the Village Shop, is closed because of the pandemic. It was agreed that Elizabeth should contact Lynda and Julie about this.

8. Village Green

Turning the school playing field into a Village Green has been considered to be a separate venture from the refurbishment of the old school building, needing separate funding. Steve said that he sees it as just one part of several in the whole project, all of which need funding. David has already done a great deal of work on filling in the forms for the application for Village Green status. Steve said he would be very happy for David to be the CPC representative for the Village Green project.

9. a.o.b.

Martin asked if we should now press on with the application to NCC for change of use of the building. He thinks it costs about £200 and CCAG has sufficient funds to cover this. It was agreed that we should do this a.s.a.p.

10. Date of next meeting

William suggested we should have a quick get-together in about three weeks to see if we had made any progress.

Monday 8th March at 5.00pm was agreed by email later.