

## **QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2002.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr J Hutchinson

Cllr Mrs E Harrison

Cllr P Child

Cllr K Croysdale

Cllr Mrs J Backus

Cllr D Cawdell

Cllr T Tyler

County Councillor T Kershaw

K Paterson – Clerk to the Council

Members of the public

**A minute's silence was held in respect of the late Mrs Celia Jessop, wife of Cllr R Jessop.**

### **02/107 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Maltby, Mrs M Gamble, I Bexon and R Jessop. Apologies were also received from Borough Councillors R Shepherd and D Slater

### **02/108 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2002**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.

### **02/109 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **02/110 POLICING MATTERS**

There was no police presence at the meeting.

### **02/111 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

At Councillor Kershaw's request, this item was brought forward on the agenda.

**Barrow Road closure.** A petition was presented to the Council on behalf of residents opposed to the closure. Councillor Kershaw noted that the County Council has received an insignificant number of comments both in favour and in opposition to the closure. All

correspondence received by the Parish Council will be copied and forwarded to the County Council. It was felt to be too early during the experimental closure to comment on its effectiveness.

**Upgrading of ‘The Slabs’ footpath.** Cllr Kershaw asked for confirmation that the money allocated to the scheme cannot be used as agreement has not been reached on the proposals. Cllr Mrs Backus stated that the position of the working party, as endorsed by the Parish Council, was that only low-level or no lighting would be acceptable. The County Council will only consider high-level lighting. As the proposal requires Parish Council support to proceed to public consultation, a stalemate has been reached.

**Mansfield Avenue skateboarding.** The residents of Mansfield Avenue have been experiencing problems with skateboarders outside their houses. These problems have been reported to the police and the County Council. The County Council has undertaken modifications to the kerbs to make them less attractive to skateboarders. Cllr Hutchinson has spoken to the young people involved and asked them to sketch their designs to see if they can be accommodated on the park.

**Surface water on Wood Lane/Leicester Road.** Cllr Kershaw noted that Severn Trent has accepted responsibility for the problems and has promised to schedule remedial work for the near future.

**Epinal Way extension** It was agreed to make inquiries as to whether the contractors currently working on the site would be prepared to landscape the roundabout. Cllr Kershaw will ask whether traffic lights are to be provided.

**FLAG grants.** Notification of a new grant scheme has been received. This grant is funded by the government and aims to address the environmental and social impact of aggregate extraction by supporting local environmental projects. The Clerk noted that there had no reaction to the brief she had sent to half a dozen local companies inviting tenders for landscaping works. It was proposed by Cllr Cawdell, seconded by Cllr Croysdale and agreed that an advert be placed in the Leicester Mercury inviting interested parties to tender for the works.

**Branchline information** Circulated

Cllr Kershaw was thanked for his attendance.

## **02/112 MATTERS ARISING**

- 1 Village Hall The Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August were ratified. The puppet show ‘ Magic of the Mummy’ will be booked at a cost of £295. The piano has been tuned. Cllr Child will report on the health and safety seminar he attended at the next meeting.
- 2 Village entrance signs The ‘Matlock’ pattern as loaned by Malcolm Lane and

Sons was approved. It was agreed to wait one further month to see if any responses have been received to the proposed name change of 'Quorndon' to 'Quorn' as noted in the village magazine.

- 3 Best Village Quorn has won the Leicester Mercury/Calor Gas Best Village (large) section and received plaques, a cheque for £250 and the offer of a tree from the International Tree Foundation. It was requested that the display cabinet, being made as a gift by Charnwood Borough Council, be constructed out of Oak rather than Mahogany.
- 4 Brook Clean-up. Rawlins youth club has arranged for a clean up of the brook running through the park on October 13<sup>th</sup>..
- 5 Rawlins students Cllr Hutchinson noted that the village remains very unhappy with the litter problems. He felt that the liaison committee were not making any headway in dealing with the issue. The suggestion was made that staggered lunch hours should be considered as 1200 students in a 45 minutes period takes a heavy toll on the village.
- 6 Affordable housing – School Lane Cllr Hutchinson offered to have informal discussions with Charnwood Borough Council over the possibility of creating affordable housing and off-street parking on School Lane.
- 7 Aircraft noise The appointed subcommittee will meet to respond to the Department of Transport questionnaire. The matter will be tabled for discussion at the next meeting.
- 9 Barrow Road closure The experimental closure is due to start on 27<sup>th</sup> August. The County Council will be asked to make sure that notices are posted.
- 10 Telephone Box on Chaveney Road This box has now been repaired and repainted.
- 11 Woodhouse Road seat The current seat is beyond repair. The Clerk will purchase a new seat and Gambles will be asked to install it with slabs at the base.
- 12 Loughborough Road shrub bed This has been weeded by Loughborough Road nurseries at a cost of £250. The County Council cost was £367.

## **02/113 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS**

- 1 Charnwood Strategic Partnership Forum The Clerk will keep Members informed of developments.
- 2 Wildlife News Circulated

- 3 Sustainability Strategy Passed to Cllr Mrs Gamble for information
- 4 Community Sports Facility Development Programme. The Clerk will investigate whether skateboarding enhancements will qualify for a grant. The existing ramp in need of refurbishment and Cllr Croysdale, the Clerk and Cllr Hutchinson agreed to meet with the youth tutor at Rawlins and the builder to discuss repairs.
- 5 Playing pitch strategy and assessment Charnwood Borough Council is employing consultants to assess the quality and provision of playing pitches within the borough. Cllrs Croysdale and Child indicated their interest in participating.

## **02/114 CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1 L&RAPLC – Leisure and Recreation Course. Cllrs Croysdale and Hutchinson showed interest in this course and it was agreed to pay for them both to attend at £10 each.
- 2 Leicestershire Rural Partnership The annual review was tabled for information
- 3 Rural Community Council. The annual review was tabled for information.
- 4 Mr P Dakin has applied to hold another football week on the park during half-term. This was agreed under the usual terms and conditions.
- 5 The Environment Agency has written to Cllr Jessop who has forwarded a copy of the letter to the Council. The Agency has commissioned an external company to design remedial measures for the floodwall along Soar Road. The Agency will consult with the Parish Council once proposals for the design proposals are complete.
- 6 Mr Iain Coates has written from The White Hart offering to run external bars for functions at the village hall at a reduced rate. The offer will be gratefully acknowledged and passed onto prospective hirers.
- 7 Mrs Jane Hollingworth and The Baptist Church have written inquiring whether the Council can provide a water supply and extra power to the War Memorial Garden. The Clerk will investigate.
- 8 Freedom of Information Act 2000 The Council is obliged under the Act to adopt and maintain a publication scheme. A model scheme is available and the Clerk will obtain copies for distribution and discussion at the next meeting.
- 9 Ethnic Monitoring Tabled for information
- 10 Mr P Towers has sent a copy of a letter he has written to Rawlins appealing for more appropriate behaviour from students in the War Memorial Garden

11 Mrs Georgina Maltby has e-mailed the Council following the article in 'The Quorndon' about a possible name change from Quorndon to Quorn on the village nameplates. Mrs Maltby warns of the confusion she recently experienced with a major institution when having referred to herself as living in 'Quorn' and not 'Quorndon'. The Clerk will make inquiries of the Electoral Registration Officer.

12 Mrs Wendy Colishaw has written to the Council inquiring as to the availability of village premises for a pre-school playgroup. The Bowls Pavilion, the Football Club and Rawlins Community Mobile were suggested.

### **02/115 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

It was agreed that the Christmas lighting in the village would be the same as last year. The contractor would be asked to make sure the lights on Station Road are positioned on the car-park side of the trees and that extra care be taken with the erection of the lighting in the War Memorial Garden. Cllr Cawdell will place an advertisement in the next issue of 'The Quorndon' appealing for someone to design a new decorative lighting scheme for 2003. The lights will be switched on during the carol service to be held on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk will organise refreshments in the Church Rooms afterwards.

Two trees will be ordered from Loughborough Road nursery.

### **02/116 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT – THE FUTURE DEVELOPEMNT OF AIR TRANSPORT IN THE MIDLANDS**

Discussion will be deferred until the next meeting. It was noted that Charnwood Borough Council will debate the matter on 8<sup>th</sup> January.

### **02/117 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLOR HUTCHINSON**

**Revision of Standing Orders.** Agreed that Cllr Mrs Harrison would undertake to look at this with Mr Tim Harrison's advice.

**Plan for Quorn.** Agreed that the Plan should be regularly modified and revised with an improved layout.

**War Memorial paving.** Agreed to seek quotes for raking-out and re-pointing.

**Quorn Cross bus shelter.** Agreed to ask G Gamble and Sons to remove the polycarbonate sheeting which is split in places and disfigured with graffiti and scratches.

**New seats.** The damaged Woodhouse Road seat has been removed and will now not be replaced at the wish of the residents. The new seat will be placed on the cricket field, near to Sutton Close.

**Scout hut/Church Rooms/23 High Street** It was agreed to ask the owners/caretakers to tidy up the frontages of these properties as a gesture towards keeping the village looking attractive.

## **02/118 PLANNING MATTERS**

**Local Plan – Inspector’s Report on the proposed modifications.** The Inspector has recommended that the land at Armston Road, Quorn be included within the limits to development.

It was agreed to ask the Planning Department if the development land at Meynell Road can include an element of ‘affordable housing’.

It was noted that planning permission has been granted for development of the allotment land to the rear of Farnham Street.

### **02/2748 Erection of three garages on car standing area at land r/o 45 Beardsley Road**

The Council has no objection to this application but would advise that the ownership of the land is carefully checked and, should planning permission be granted, the design of the garages and the materials used should be of good quality and enhance the area.

**The following applications were also considered but no comment passed to the planning authority other than those applications for new dwellings where it will be noted that the Parish Council does not consider that the village facilities can cope with any new development:**

### **02/2666 Two storey link extension to side, replacement pitched roof to garage and extension to canopy to front of terraced house at 4 Wood Lane**

### **02/2562 Erection of fire escape and retention of extractor flue on east elevation at 10 Leicester Road**

### **02/2662 Two storey extension to front and conservatory to rear of detached house at 23 Mansfield Avenue**

## **02/119 PAYMENTS**

The following payments were approved:

L&RPLC – new audit regulations	£19.90
J Unwin Ltd – war memorial light repair	£127.02
J Hutchinson – wheel barrow repair	£22.01

Rupert Taylor – piano tuner	£44.00
BT x 3	£329.06
Wicksteed Leisure – playground repair	£418.89
Salaries & Expenses (Sept)	£2,129.37
Inland Revenue (Sept)	£607.95
Wholesale blinds (village hall)	£300.00
Powergen – street lighting	£168.64
J Hutchinson – 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday flowers	£10.00
ESPO – supplies	£77.00
J Hollingworth – plant reimbursement	£83.25
Powergen – village hall	£109.28
O Heap & Sons – fire equipment service	£91.48
Rawlins – photocopying (July & August)	£53.81
Earth Anchors – new seat	£418.54
M Lee – skateboard ramp repair	£50.00
RAL display marketing – new sign	£581.63
Salaries & Expenses (Oct)	£2,019.19
Inland Revenue	£607.73
Clydebank Puppet Show	£295.00
L&PLC – course for 2 councillors	£20.00

**TOTAL = £8,583.75**

## **02/120 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Child reported that he is having difficulty in getting the primary school involved in the County Council's travel plan. He suggested that a large part of the problem was the fear of crossing the old A6. It was agreed to ask County Councillor Kershaw if he would press for a pedestrian crossing on Farley Way.

There is no street nameplate or lighting on Huntsman Close. This will be referred to the Borough Council.

The overgrown hedge at the end of Station Road will be cut back by Friday.

The footpath to the rear of Warwick Avenue requires cutting back. This will be referred to the County Council.

Cllr Mrs Backus suggested repainting the skateboard ramp in camouflage colours to disguise the graffiti.

It was felt that the village has received poor service from the County Council in terms of verge cutting. Alternative contractors should be considered

The clock outside the Doctors' surgery to be referred to the next meeting.

The possibility of the County Council undertaking all parish street maintenance will be explored.

The meeting concluded at 21.50hrs

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Chairman.....

Date.....