

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th November 2002.

PRESENT

Cllr J Hutchinson (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs E Harrison
Cllr P Child
Cllr K Croysdale

Cllr Mrs J Backus
Cllr J Maltby
Cllr T Tyler (Vice-chairman)
Cllr I Bexon

County Councillor T Kershaw
Borough Councillors R Shepherd and D Slater
Mr D Southwart – Internal Auditor
Mrs K Paterson – Clerk to the Council
Members of the public

02/121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs M Gamble, R Jessop and D Cawdell. A card will be sent to Mrs Gamble as she is in hospital.

02/122 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1st OCTOBER 2002

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

02/123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

02/124 POLICING MATTERS

There was no police presence at the meeting.

02/125 MATTERS ARISING

- 1 Upgrading of 'The Slabs' footpath Cllr Hutchinson reported that he has received phone calls from three people wishing to comment on the Slabs project. It was noted that the Clerk has written an article for the next issue of 'The Quorndon' inviting observations on the proposals. Cllr Hutchinson has visited County Hall in an attempt to negotiate a solution over the lighting but the officer he spoke to will not consider anything but high level lights for the footpath.

- 2 Traffic Regulation Orders Following observations made by the Parish Council that many sign posts in the village centre appear to be redundant as they have no signs attached to them, a County Council officer has visited the village and explained that No Cycling regulations still exist on the footpaths which the sign posts relate to. To be able to remove the posts, the Orders must be revoked and the Parish Council is invited to make a formal request to do so. The matter will be referred back to Councillors Hutchinson and Bexon to make recommendations to the next Council meeting.
- 3 Village signs No response has been received to the Council's suggestion to name the village as 'Quorn' rather than 'Quorndon' on the signs. The Borough Electoral Registration Officer has commented that it makes no legal difference as to what the village signs state the name of the village is. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the new signs will name the village as 'Quorn'. Councillors Hutchinson, Mrs Backus, Mrs Gamble and Bexon will agree the design and siting of the proposed new signs and apply for County Council approval.
- 4 Epinal Way Island County Councillor Kershaw confirmed that there will be no traffic lights at the new entrance to the Epinal Way extension and that the bus lane will be removed. The Parish Council's desire to see the roundabout landscaped must be referred to the Highways Agency for permission.
- 5 Bus Shelters Most of the structural work has been completed on the new shelters and the electrical work will be completed by January or February next year. Cllr Hutchinson noted that a site meeting had recently been held to discuss the siting of a couple of bus shelters. He felt that the County Council officer listened to the complainants sympathetically.
- 6 Village Hall subcommittee The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th October were ratified by the Council. Cllr Child spoke of the need to publish a Health and Safety policy document. Cllr Croysdale agreed to pursue a new meeting with the hotel management. A compensation claim has been received from the tenants of the village hall flat who were without hot water for the majority of September due to the failure of the boiler. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to compensate the tenants by £170.
- 7 Village Hall redevelopment plans Cllr Tyler circulated plans and budget proposals which had been prepared by Ms Jackie Scott, the architect working with the village hall redevelopment group. It was agreed to invite Ms Scott to the next meeting of the Council for a decision on whether or not to proceed with the plans. Any proposed changes to the submitted budget or plans to be circulated with the agenda. The finance committee to include the sums as provisional items within next year's precept.

- 8 Freedom of Information publication scheme It was agreed to sign up to the model scheme and adopt the core classes only.
- 9 Village Ventures competition It was suggested that the New Shakespeare company and the pond constructors at St Bartholomew's school might be eligible for this competition.
- 10 Barrow Road closure Cllrs Bexon and Jessop (by e-mail) noted their concern that the County Council has not explained how the success or failure of the experimental closure will be judged. It was felt that consultation is needed before the end of the closure period. A letter will be sent to the officer dealing with the scheme requesting details on how the scheme will be assessed.
- 11 Brook clean-up The youth club's clean-up of the brook through the park was very successful with a skip load of refuse being removed from the area. Cllr Bexon noted a current gap in legislation which exempts water companies from their responsibilities for ensuring that water courses are free from litter. Cllr Child informed members that the County Council team which used to clean brooks and streams no longer exists due to financial constraints.
- 12 Skateboard Emergency repairs have been authorised, some are partly due to vandalism.
- 13 Water supply to the War Memorial Garden A form has been obtained from Severn-Trent for a quotation to provide a water supply. The Clerk will liaise with Mr Dilkes, the local plumber.
- 14 Refreshments following the Christmas Concert A budget of £75 was authorised.
- 15 Bus shelter in Quorn Cross The bus shelter has been cleaned and is in better condition. Cllr Maltby reported that removing the polycarbonate panels could undermine the stability of the fittings and render the shelter dangerous. The view was expressed that the Borough Council might contribute to new panels as the cleaning materials used by their operatives had resulted in the misting to the polycarbonate.
- 16 Revision of Standing Orders Cllr Mrs Harrison's husband has kindly reviewed Standing Orders in the light of the new Code of Conduct. A revision incorporating the responsibilities of the internal auditor will now be undertaken.
- 17 Plan for Quorn Councillors were requested to re-read the document and refer any amendments back to the next meeting.
- 18 Plaques for planters It was agreed to order 6 brass plaques 'funded by Quorn Open Gardens' and an additional one for the chimney pot planters stating that they were built from bricks reclaimed from Wrights chimney.

02/126 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Leicestershire Community Strategy A consultation document on this draft strategy has been received. Cllr Hutchinson and the Clerk will complete it on behalf on the Council due to the limited time period.

02/127 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Christmas events The usual notification of civic Christmas events to be held in Loughborough has been received.
- 2 Local Election costs. It has been calculated that the estimated cost for a contested election next year is liable to be in the region of £2,250.
- 3 Action for a Better Charnwood An invitation to attend a meeting on Saturday 23rd November in Sileby to discuss the viability of a Community Transport Partnership was declined.

02/128 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1 Mrs Jane Hunt has written to the Council requesting a sign at the new play equipment stating that it for the use of younger children only. This sign has been ordered and received and is awaiting installation. Mrs Hunt also requests a fence around the equipment. It was felt that the Council's finances could not extend to fencing the entire area. It was noted that the multi-play equipment was fenced in any case.
- 2 Remembrance service Invitations have been extended to Members to attend both the Quorn and Barrow-upon-Soar Remembrance Services.

02/129 THE FUTURE OF AIR TRAFFIC IN THE MIDLANDS

Cllr Cawdell, as the Parish Council's nominated person, had suggested appropriate responses to the national questionnaire on the future of air traffic. It was agreed to complete this in accordance with his comments. Cllr Cawdell was thanked in his absence for the research he had undertaken on such a complex document. A letter addressed to all local Parish Councils from the Chairman of the 'Wings' group was read out, and the observations noted. Mr Jon Cox, senior air traffic controller at East Midlands airport has offered to address the Parish Council on the current East Midlands consultation. The proposed changes to the flight paths were discussed as were the Borough Councils comments on the perceived lack of control over night flying.

02/130 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2001/2002

Mr David Southwart, the recently appointed internal auditor has now had an opportunity

to consider the end-of-year accounts and small adjustments have been made. It was proposed by Cllr Maltby, seconded by Cllr Tyler and agreed that the revised accounts be accepted and signed by the Chairman of Council.

02/131 INSPECTION OF NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT BY WICKSTEED LEISURE

Wicksteed Leisure Ltd has reported that the repair to the safety surfacing has not set, and that the roundabout and the swings are loose in the ground. The Clerk is corresponding with the company on these matters as the equipment was only installed in June and it is felt that the company has an obligation to undertake the works without charge.

02/132 COLLEGE/VILLAGE LIAISON GROUP

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 7th October were circulated for information.

02/133 PLANNING MATTERS

Charnwood CPRE. A letter from the Chairman of the local CPRE has been received noting that the branch has contacted the national office for guidance as they do not feel that the Inspector has followed the PPG3 guidelines in his report on the proposed modifications.

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:

02/2715 Cutting down of 1 Yew Tree (Conservation Area Notice) at The Hollies, School Lane

02/3096 Topping and reshaping of 1 Yew Tree (Conservation Area Notice) at 2 Soar Road

02/3050 Pruning back of lower branches of 3 Copper Beech and 3 Beech trees (Tree Preservation Order) at Quorn Mills Bowls Club

02/2894 Siting of building for temporary replacement office and re-siting of timber shed at land r/o 1-3 Leicester Road

02/2937 Single storey extension to front and side of detached house at 24 Alexander Road

02/2890 Erection of 2 bedroom detached bungalow (reserved matters – outline permission already granted) at land r/o 29-33 Farnham Street

02/2910 Erection of conservatory to side/rear of detached house at 2 Bayliss Close

02/2908 Siting of storage container for football equipment at land at Rawlins College

Cllr Croysdale declared an interest in this application as a governor of the college and left the room during the discussion.

02/2801 Construction of visitors car park at land adj to Quorn Fields Farm lake

02/134 PAYMENTS

The following payments were approved:

A J Electrical – new boiler	£757.87
Cllr Mrs Backus – Christmas decorations	£89.96
Rawlins - photocopying	£11.86
Farm Supplies	£34.90
Wicksteed Leisure	£35.25
British Legion - wreath	£17.25
Potters Carpets	£652.13
Quorn Home & Garden	£221.90
Leicester Mercury	£112.80
Lycy Direct	£31.42
British Gas	£68.96
Malcolm Lane Ltd – playground sign	£616.88
J Unwin Ltd	£44.06
Rawlins - grant	£100.00
Salaries and Expenses	£2,385.40*
Inland Revenue	£763.43
Flowers by Sarah – electricity for street lamp	£67.00
Katie White – rent reimbursement	£170.00

TOTAL = £6,181.07

02/135 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The lack of lighting or lights needing repair in the churchyard and Love Lane was noted. A light is also needed on the footpath next to Bradleys

Kinches buses will be requested to remove the timetable by The Thatch restaurant as it relates to the wrong bus.

The doctors' clock to be referred to the next meeting.

The school bus picking up children from Quorn to go to Barrow collects them from outside the grammar school playing fields. This means they have to cross the busy Woodhouse Road.

Cllr Jessop has suggested resurrecting the Village Design Statement project in the new year. He has offered to become involved with the group

The meeting concluded at 21.56hrs

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Chairman.....

Date.....