

## **QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2003.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr J Hutchinson (Chairman)  
Cllr P Child  
Cllr I Bexon  
Cllr Mrs M Gamble  
Cllr J Maltby

Cllr Mrs J Backus  
Cllr T Tyler (Vice-chairman)  
Cllr K Croysdale  
Cllr Mrs E Harrison

County Councillor T Kershaw (part of meeting)  
Borough Councillors R Shepherd & D Slater (part of meeting)  
PC Ian Clarke  
Members of the public

### **03/42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Cawdell and R Jessop.

### **03/43 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2003**

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

### **03/44 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Mrs Backus declared an on-going interest in the Barrow Road closure due to the proximity of her residence on White Street

### **03/45 POLICING MATTERS**

Issues raised with PC Clarke were:

- Use of Cave's field by young people during day-time including motorcycles and bikes on the cricket square.
- Misuse of the bus shelter outside Rawlins

PC Clarke gave assurances that he will monitor these problems.

### **03/46 MATTERS ARISING**

- 1 Redevelopment of the Village Hall Details of costings as supplied by Jackie Scott were considered useful. Hazel Fish from the Rural Community Council has

offered her assistance with funding applications. This offer is much appreciated and Mrs Fish will be invited to a future meeting of the Finance Committee when methods of financing the redevelopment will be considered.

- 2 Village Hall subcommittee. The Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March had been previously circulated. No response had yet been received from the Quorn Country Hotel. Cllr Bexon drew attention to a recent article in the Village Voice concerning unauthorised use of car parks. Cllr Mrs Backus felt that the Parish Council should retain the right to insist that fly-posting is only permitted in approved locations for events taking place in the village hall. Cllr Child responded that the Council can only advise that it is against the law. He did agree that some control should be maintained over village hall events and the matter will be referred back to the subcommittee.

Cllr Mrs Gamble suggested that a cover be obtained for the Council table as it has become scratched by other users of the hall.

- 3 Barrow Road closure Cllr Child circulated a summary sheet following the latest survey on the closure. It was noted that Mr John Brogden, the County Council officer who has been advising the Parish Council on this issue has taken semi-retirement but will be returning to work part-time as of the end of April. He intends to continue his involvement with the Barrow Road closure. Due to this, the forthcoming elections and that the views of other residents have been invited by letter, it was agreed to postpone decision making for at least another month and then to consult further with the County Council. Cllrs Child and Jessop would analyse any further comments received.
- 4 Village Entry Signs. Agreement has now been reached with the County Council as to the siting of 5 signs. Due to County regulations, the signs will need a black and white inserted back-plate with the village name on it. It was agreed that the money for this project be carried forward into the new financial year.
- 5 Drainage. The County Council has jetted the gully at the entrance to the car park on Station Road. All the water from the gullies in the centre of the village goes into the bed of the stream and all outlets into the gravel bed of the river therefore there is no remedy to the flooding other than removal of the dam below the mill or a pumped system driving the water back into the water course. A letter will be sent requesting a meeting with Severn Trent as it is the opinion of the County Council that the remedy lies within that authority's hands.
- 6 Air Traffic – second consultation. The second consultation takes into account the options for Gatwick. It was not felt necessary to amend the Council's earlier response.

- 7 Staff contracts. Cllr Jessop will present these to the next meeting.
- 8 Plan for Quorn. Due to the submission of the document in a different format, it has been possible to obtain a significant reduction on the quoted price for publishing. The invoice received is for £750 instead of £1162. The Plan has attracted written comments from residents. It was agreed that a working party of Cllrs Bexon, Mrs Backus and Hutchinson be set up to consider the comments and continue to review the document. Cllr Bexon was thanked for his hard work in preparing the Plan.
- 9 Bottle Banks. No response has been received from David Wilson Homes concerning the lowering of the wall. Cllr Hutchinson agreed to speak to the Borough Council to ascertain its view on the re-siting of the banks back to the original position.
- 10 Tree Foundation. Thanks will be offered to the Foundation for the presentation of a tree following the Council's success in the Leicestershire Best Village competition.
- 11 Rural Community Council Cllrs Hutchinson and Bexon attended a seminar on communication. One of the Rural Community Council's officers, Diana Cook has agreed to look at the re-issued Plan for Quorn to consider whether it is acceptable as a Parish Plan and therefore attract funding.
- 12 Parish Lights. Despite recent attention by the County Council, lights P4 and P5 remain out.
- 13 Joint Responsibility. Although great improvements have been made to the car park and landscaping, it was felt a shame that the staff continuously drop smoking litter on the Wedding Path. A litter-bin will be suggested.

### **03/47 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

- 1 Pedestrian crossing at Farley Way. No response has been received from the County Council. The Clerk will write another letter with a copy to Councillor Kershaw
- 2 County and Borough Councillors will now be invited to the College/Village Liaison Committee.
- 3 Bus shelter outside Rawlins. Cllr Kershaw reported that the County Council has suggested Perspex side panels in order to alleviate the problems. Cllr Kershaw felt that this would be unacceptable to the Parish and has urged the County to re-think

- 4 Loughborough Tip. The tip is now under new management although its future is still under discussion as the whole site needs redeveloping.
- 5 FLAG grant application. A letter from Fenella Bellinger, the landscape architect recommended by the County Council had been circulated with the agenda. It detailed fees due for the project and a proposed schedule of services for the preparation of a vision for areas identified by the Council. It was resolved to accept the programme and schedule of costs and proceed to apply for a FLAG grant. Due to the time and funds available, the project for this year is likely to be restricted to landscaping the Jubilee Gardens.
- 6 Rights of Way. As problems have occurred hindering access to the rights of way network due to farmers ploughing and cropping, a code of practice has been introduced and a leaflet has been forwarded.
- 7 Crime and Disorder newsletter – tabled for information.
- 8 Confidential item – appended for Members only

### **03/48 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS**

- 1 Charnwood Community Strategy. Resolved that no comment be made.
- 2 Corporate anti-social behaviour policy. Tabled for information
- 3 Public lavatories, Station Road. A request has been made that the lavatories are re-opened at night. It was agreed not to support this request due to the extensive criminal damage that has occurred in the past.

### **03/49 CORRESPONDENCE**

1 Mr. V Sharrock has written from Orchard Estate welcoming the idea of new village nameplates and to suggest that boundary definitions such as false gates or small walls are also considered. Due to the budget already allocated this year, it was felt that the signs should be installed and then Mr. Sharrock's suggestion, which was welcomed, will be debated when next year's budget is discussed.

2 Mrs. J Lindley has written from Selvester Drive expressing her concern at the treatment of a major Oak tree in the grounds of Quorn Grange. She has contacted the landscape officer at Charnwood Borough Council and requests the Parish Council to support her application for a tree preservation order on this tree to protect it. This was agreed and Borough Councillor Slater would also press for a TPO.

3 Mr. C W Edwards has written from Chaveney Road noting with regret that he must

surrender his position as volunteer footpath warden due to ill-health. Mr. Edwards' many years of service were noted with gratitude and replacement wardens will be sought through the Loughborough Echo village column.

4 DEFRA. A paper on the 'quality' Parish Councils initiative has been received.

5 Master A Prince has written from Meeting Street in response to the Council's request for ideas to improve the skateboarding facilities. It was noted that a meeting has been arranged with the youth club on site for 2<sup>nd</sup> April where ideas will be discussed. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Prince.

6 Mrs. S Newcombe from Quorn Post Office has written to express her concern that her customers may not be able to access the post office if the parking spaces are blocked off during the May Fair. A reply will be sent stating that the situation will not arise as the May Fair stalls will not be set up any further than the beginning of Station Road

7 Wanlip Sailing Club has applied for a grant. It was not considered that this club offered sufficient benefit to the community to qualify for a grant under S137.

### **03/50 CAVE'S FIELD MANAGMENT**

The Cave's Field working group had met and recommends to the Council exploring charitable status for the management of the land. The L&RPLC will send through documentation on the constitution and management of playing fields through trustees. It was agreed that the group would investigate further and report back to Council after the elections.

### **03/51 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

It was agreed to defer this item until the new Council has been elected. Cllrs Hutchinson and Mrs Backus expressed an interest in taking part in a working party to explore the options.

### **03/52 PLANNING MATTERS**

Dr I Schofield – Quorn Borrow Pit Further correspondence indicates that a planning application is imminent. Councillors agreed that there is an outstanding case for leaving the area undeveloped for fishing or other recreational purposes.

Enforcement cases The unauthorised development at The Manor Hotel is under investigation although a letter has been received from Charnwood that enforcement cases can take a long time to deal with. The unauthorized banner across the front of Halina's – the Thai restaurant will be referred to the planning department as it is considered unsightly and inappropriate in a conservation area.

**03/0781 site for residential development, including replacement garage for No 6 at land r/o 6 & 8 Loughborough Road**

Strong objections will be lodged against this planning application. It will be recommended that a planning embargo is placed on the progress of the application until the Environment Agency has carried out a flood risk assessment. The intention to remove so many trees will inevitably have an impact on the displacement of surface water. There were also concerns as the future of an extremely large badger set.

**03/0694 site for the erection of one dwelling at land adj 87 Meeting Street**

The planning authority has called for a design statement to support this application. It was agreed to request sight of this once produced by the applicant.

**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:**

**03/0121 Cutting down of 2 Beech trees (TPO) at 41 Sanders Road**

**03/0380 Removal of deadwood and cutting back of 1 Acacia tree (CAN) at 33 Meeting Street**

**03/0743 Retention of flue to side of end terrace house at 5 Quorndon Terrace.**

**03/0762 Conversion of integral garage to living accommodation without compliance with previous planning condition at 4 Allen Avenue**

**03/0761 Extension of garage/barn for triple garage at Mansfield Lodge, 102 Station Road**

**03/0844 Dutch barn extensions to agricultural building at Woodside Farm, Wood lane**

**03/0716 Single storey extension to side and rear and replacement pitched roof to front of detached house at 28 Paddock Close**

**03/53 PAYMENTS**

The following payments were approved:

CBC – share of standards advert	£47.75
Sue Templeman – website research grant	£140.00
PRIDE alarms – grant	£160.00
L&RPLC – audit course	£36.00

Walter Dilkes & Son – plumbers	£41.36
Mrs J Bown – village hall additional cleaning	£30.00
Powergen	£52.65
Philip King – decorator	£470.00
Mrs P Kinch – secretarial assistance	£58.00
Mr E Maltby – minor repairs	£47.50
Powergen – street lighting	£168.64
Foxprint – Plan for Quorn	£749.90
Salaries & expenses	£2096.55
Inland Revenue	£635.98
L&RPLC – annual subs	£406.20
L&RPFA – annual subs	£15.00
RCC – village halls membership subs	£25.00
‘The Quorndon’ – Plan for Quorn distribution	£25.00
CBC – planning fees for village hall	£440.00

**TOTAL = £5,645.53**

### **03/54 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was agreed that due to the elections and the bank holiday, the next meeting of Council, the Annual General Meeting, will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> May.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Cllr Mrs Harrison drew Council’s attention to the encroachment of private gardens onto the public footpath which runs behind the houses on Warwick Avenue to Woodhouse Road.

Cllr Bexon expressed his concern at the misuse of the play equipment by older children. It was suggested that a camera be mounted in the vicinity. This will be referred to the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs Gamble reported on the large number of cars parking on the grass verges at Cradock Drive and Wood Lane.

Borough Councillor Shepherd reported that the light outside The Thatch restaurant has no power supply and that the original contractor will connect it once evidence has been posted to him.

An additional dog bin will be provided for Cave’s field, to be sited near the pavilion.

The rail on the seat on the Jubilee land has been broken. Mr Ed Maltby will be asked to repair.

The panels in the bus shelter need urgent attention.

Cllr Hutchinson reported that this was Cllr Mrs Gamble's last meeting. She was warmly thanked for her many years of loyal service to the village.

The meeting concluded at 22.35

.

Chairman.....

Date.....