

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th May 2003.

PRESENT

Cllr J Hutchinson

Cllr P Child

Cllr I Bexon

Cllr Mrs S Templeman

Cllr J Maltby

Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth

Cllr Mrs J Backus

Cllr T Tyler

Cllr K Croysdale

Cllr Mrs E Harrison

Cllr T Stirling

Members of the public

03/55 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor T Kershaw, Borough Councillors R Shepherd and D Slater and PC Clarke.

03/56 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr Croysdale, seconded by Cllr Mrs Harrison and unanimously resolved that Cllr Hutchinson be elected Chairman of the Council for 2003-2004.

Cllr Hutchinson thanked the Council and welcomed all to the meeting, especially the newly elected Councillors

03/57 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr Tyler, seconded by Cllr Croysdale and unanimously resolved that Cllr Child be elected Vice-chairman of the Council for 2003-2004.

The Council offered its thanks to Cllr Tyler for his many years of service as Vice-chairman.

03/58 ELECTION OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO)

It was agreed that the Clerk would act as RFO for the year 2003-2004

03/59 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

It was noted with gratitude that Mr David Southwart had agreed to continue acting as voluntary internal auditor for the Council.

03/60 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

It was agreed that the Finance and Village Hall committees now be treated as properly convened committees of the Council. The village hall budget will now be devolved to the committee.

The following representatives were appointed:

Dr Babington's Charity – Councillor Mrs E Harrison

Leicestershire & Rutland Parish and Local Councils – Councillor T Stirling

Rawlins Swimming Pool Committee – Councillor Mrs J Bloodworth

Townlands Charity – Councillors Mrs S Templeman and Mrs J Bloodworth

Redlands/Lafarge Quarry Liaison Committee – Councillors T Tyler & I Bexon

Charnwood Road Safety Committee – Councillors Mrs S Templeman & P Child

Soar Valley Liaison Committee – Councillors T Tyler & Mrs J Backus

Police Consultative Committee – Councillor Mrs E Harrison

Rawlins/Village Liaison Committee – Councillors J Hutchinson, Mrs J Backus & K Croysdale

Thomas Rawlins Educational Foundation – Cllr K Croysdale

In addition to these external committees, the Parish Council also has a **Finance Committee**, **Village Hall Committee** and an **Environmental Improvements Committee**. These Committees are informal and meet on an irregular basis, when and as needed. They do not have the authority to act without ratification from the full Council meeting other than to meet small items of expenditure (less than £200). They act as advisory bodies to the Council.

Finance Committee – Councillors Bexon, Tyler, Hutchinson, Maltby, Mrs S Templeman and the current Chairman of the Village Hall committee. Meets once or twice a year to recommend budget requirements and capital projects and to oversee the council's spending.

Village Hall Committee – Councillors Child, Tyler, Mrs Bloodworth, Mrs Backus, & Hutchinson. Meets monthly to discuss the running of the village hall.

Environmental Improvements Committee – Councillors Mrs Backus, Hutchinson, Bexon & Stirling. Meets when required.

Village Hall Redevelopment Group – Councillors Hutchinson, Tyler, Child, Mrs Backus now merged with the village hall committee

Cave’s Field Management – Councillors Bexon, Mrs S Templeman, Child and Croysdale. Group meets to discuss future management plans for Cave’s Field.

Village Design Statement – Ms Jackie Scott, Mrs Katrina Collie, Mr G Smith, Mr R Jessop, Councillors Mrs Backus and Hutchinson

03/61 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1st APRIL 2003

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

03/62 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs Backus declared an on-going personal interest in the Barrow Road closure due to the proximity of her residence on White Street. Cllr Stirling felt that he did not have an interest to declare in relation to Barrow Road.

03/63 POLICING MATTERS

There were no policing matters raised.

03/64 MATTERS ARISING

- 1 Redevelopment of the Village Hall Plans have now been submitted to the borough council
- 2 Village Hall subcommittee. The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April had been previously circulated. A meeting has been arranged with the manager of the Quorn Country Hotel for 22nd May.
- 3 Barrow Road closure Cllr Child has now analysed the wider consultation. 26 letters and e-mails have been received from residents other than those involved in the survey. Cllr Child noted that the letters included some very good ideas for traffic management and that correspondents who had written both for and against the closure would support traffic calming measures. A meeting has been called

by the County Council for 21st May. County Councillor Kershaw, the police and county officers will be present and any parish councillor who can attend is invited. A motion was proposed by Cllr Croysdale, seconded by Cllr Child that Barrow Road should be re-opened as soon as possible and that the County Council be urged to work with the Parish Council to solve the traffic problems. This motion was carried. Cllrs Bexon and Mrs Backus wished it recorded that they abstained from voting. Cllr Bexon expressed his concern that Cllr Stirling has failed to declare an interest in this matter. He felt that due to his business interests he may have a prejudicial interest and recommended that advice be sought from the Standards Officer. Cllr Stirling agreed to seek this advice.

- 4 Drainage. Severn Trent has indicated its willingness to meet with the council. Cllr Hutchinson and the Clerk would represent the council to discuss the flooding problems in the village.
- 5 Footpath Wardens. Laurence Coe and Richard Guise have offered themselves as voluntary footpath wardens and have been supplied with a copy of the definitive map by the Clerk. They have already walked the paths and would like to attend the next meeting to deliver a report.
- 6 Joint Responsibility The new director of the company has kindly offered the use of photocopying for the Council. Unfortunately the new Code of Conduct precludes acceptance of this type of gift. A suggestion that Neighbourhood Watch might care to benefit from his generosity will be made. The suggestion will also be made that a smoking litter- bin be placed on the inside of the nursery wall for use by staff.
- 7 FLAG grant A meeting of the environmental subcommittee with Fenella Bellinger, landscape architect is arranged for Friday 16th May. The group will report back to Council.
- 8 CCTV Cllr Croysdale has conversed with Mr G Wright of Wright's Mill who has kindly offered to site, monitor and maintain a camera should the Council wish to place one on his premises. Cllrs Croysdale and Mrs. Templeman will investigate costings and consult with the police.
- 9 Wm Davis Ltd has written to confirm that the company has funded much of the works on the roundabout by the Epinal Way extension. According to the letter, the County Council has undertaken the work and it will be up to that authority to decide if improvements are to be made. Due to the past confusion over ownership, it was agreed to wait until next year when the road is de-trunked before considering further landscaping works.
- 10 Bottle Bank Mrs Collishaw of Hall Leys has written to the Council noting the difficulties she has experienced in obtaining access to the new site of the recycling banks. There is a deep puddle on one side and bushes on the other. It

was noted in debate that the Council has threatened to move the banks back to their original site due to the intransigence of David Wilson Homes in honoring the plans to lower the wall and topping it with railings. Problems exist with the original site in that access for emptying now difficult due to the relocated car park spaces. One solution might be raised platform. A copy of Mrs Collishaw's letter will be sent to Charnwood Borough Council and Townlands Charity as managers and owners of the site.

- 11 Audit The Annual Return for the year to 31 March 2002 has now been completed and returned. The letter accompanying the Return requests that the following is brought to the attention of Council:
' The Council's records and accounts have not been subject to continuing internal audit although this has now been remedied. The accounts for the year ended 31st March 2002 were not subject to audit but were reviewed by the internal auditor following his appointment'.
- 12 Christmas lighting Cllr Mrs. Templeman agreed to approach her contacts at Charnwood Borough Council for supply and funding information. A working party of Cllrs Stirling, Mrs. Bloodworth, Mrs. Templeman and Hutchinson would meet to consider the findings.
- 13 Warwick Avenue – encroachment by residents onto public footpath. A letter will be sent to Jelsons whom it is believed still own the land warning about the encroachment and reiterating the Council's offer to take over ownership of the land.
- 14 The Annual Parish Meeting. Due to a double booking in the hall, the APM has been rearranged for Thursday 29th May.

03/65 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Leicestershire Community Strategy – public consultation. Tabled for information.
- 2 Highway Services. New contact details were circulated
- 3 Annual meeting with Parish Councils. A written answer to the Council's concerns about the management of the Loughborough waste disposal site has been received. Assurances have been given that a known and experienced contractor has been appointed.

03/66 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Standards Committee – appointment of Parish representative. Mrs B Crick of 161 Homefield Road, Sileby has been appointed as the Parish Councils' representative on the Standards Committee.

- 2 Mechanical street cleaning. Referred to the next agenda
- 3 Caravans in field next to the river. Cllr Hutchinson has asked Borough Councillor Shepherd to investigate the reason for the large number of caravans appearing in the field behind The Brinks, next to the river.

03/67 CORRESPONDENCE

1 Ms A Thurman has written from School Lane expressing her concern at the parking congestion due to the dance school and also her worries about late-night youth activities in the area of the park. Copies of her letter will be forwarded to the police and the highways authority together with a request for double-yellow lines outside the dance school. Some members had heard that the dance school was relocating away from School Lane. With regard to the youth problems at night, the police would be asked to carry out random checks and Ms Thurman will be advised that the Council is considering CCTV.

2 Mr. R Jackson has written on behalf of the Artists in Quorn Group thanking the Council for inviting the group to exhibit in the village hall and requesting a donation from the small grants fund to cover the costs of the hire of the screens from Sileby Photographic Society. Ten per cent of any sales are donated to the village hall improvement fund. Mr. David Cawdell, observer, noted that the group was welcome to apply to his village hall support fund for assistance.

3 Abbeyfield AGM An invitation has been received to attend the AGM on 20th May. Cllrs Bexon, Mrs. Harrison and Hutchinson would be present.

4 The British Legion. Quorn Branch intends to visit Holland in August. It is suggested that on behalf of the people of Quorn, the Council might like to provide a wreath to laid at the American Memorial in memory of the American servicemen stationed in the village during the war. This was agreed under S137 to value of £30.

03/68 CAVE'S FIELD MANAGMENT

The newly convened Cave's Field working group will meet to discuss management options in the near future.

03/69 PLANNING MATTERS

The following applications were 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:

**03/1133 Erection of three bedroom detached bungalow and garage at Plot 2
Farnham Street, Quorn**

03/1198 Single storey extension to rear of detached house at 58 Loughborough Road

**03/1204 Siting of a single mobile classroom with toilets to provide an ICT area at St
Bartholomew's Primary School (LCC application)**

It was noted that the Conservative Club has submitted an application for the demolition of outbuildings and erection of 4 three-bedroom terraced houses. Cllr Tyler declared an interest in this application.

03/70 PAYMENTS

The following payments were approved:

Salaries & expenses	£2235.46*
Inland Revenue	£740.47
Ed Maltby – seat repair	£40.00
Mick Lee – skateboard repairs	£770.00
Jane Hollingworth – reimbursement for plants	£68.91
Midlands Newspapers – May Fair advert	£105.75
Rawlins Community College – playscheme grant	£180.00
Rawlins Community College – playscheme grant	£250.00
Rawlins Community College – hanging baskets	£200.00
Edward Hands Lewis – Cave's Field repayment	£5,000.00
ESPO – bin bags	£26.73
RCC – subs	£25.00
Rawlins – photocopying	£20.90
British Gas	£282.15
Hacker Young – audit	£763.75
Jackie Scott – architect fees	£5,561.51
Glasdon – dog bins	£351.01
D Cawdell – reimbursement for 'no smoking' signs	£24.67

* Includes agreed pay rises as detailed on confidential sheet.

TOTAL = £16,646.31

03/71 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that Quorndon Terrace was not yet made up nor had a street nameplate.

Parish Council e-mail addresses would be made available for those councillors who require them.

Barbed wired has been noted on the public footpath leading past Mill Farm. The footpath wardens will be asked to investigate.

Cllr Croysdale suggested that consideration be given to a 'cut-off' date for the receipt of items to be placed on the agenda. Referred to the next meeting.

A copy of the 2003/4 budget to be given to new members.

An alternative to the current glass in the Quorn Cross bus shelter will be explored.

The Chimney pot planter in the Cross requires attention.

It was agreed that the Clerk should upgrade the Council computer memory from 64mb to 128mb at a cost of £49.61.

The meeting concluded at 21.40

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Chairman.....

Date.....