

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 2nd September 2003.

PRESENT

Cllr Mrs J Backus	Cllr T Tyler
Cllr P Child (Vice-chairman)	Cllr J Maltby
Cllr I Bexon	Cllr J Hutchinson (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs S Templeman	Cllr K Croysdale
Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth	
Cllr T Stirling	

County Councillor T Kershaw
Borough Councillor R Shepherd
Borough Councillor D Slater
Community Beat Officer Clarke
Community Support Officer Kendal

K Paterson – Clerk to the Council

03/114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs E Harrison

03/115 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th AUGUST 2003

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

03/106 (iv) the reference to registering the Council's land with the Land Registry should apply to all Council-owned land, not just the common land off Soar Road.

03/106 (v) The reference to the consultation paper on indemnities should include 'other than the code of conduct'.

03/116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Interests declared:

Cllr I Bexon (*New Shakespeare Company – grant application*) – personal interest as his wife is a member of the group

03/117 POLICING MATTERS

Only 7 offences were reported during August. Cllrs Stirling and Hutchinson noted a

spate of litterbins having been set on fire.

03/118 MATTERS ARISING

- 1 Village Hall Committee. The minutes of the meeting held on 11th August had been circulated. It was noted that remedial external decoration work is required. There is £1,000 in a decoration budget that the committee could consider using.
- 2 Staff contracts of employment The draft contracts had been circulated at the previous meeting. Cllr Mrs Templeman made several suggestions/comments which Council was in agreement with. These will be referred back to the employment relations company compiling the contracts for incorporation or amendment.
- 3 Play Equipment for 10-14yrs The Borough Council's Recreational Services Manager has written to all Parish Councils concerning funding through the Community Sports Facility Development Programme for 2003/4. Application forms will be circulated once the criteria has been approved by Cabinet in September. Cllr Croysdale noted that he has arranged a meeting to consider fundraising the following night.
- 4 Epinal Way Extension. A response had been received from the County Council following the expression of Members' concern over the new lane markings. The response was not conclusively satisfactory and therefore the Clerk was asked to arrange a site meeting. Cllrs Hutchinson, Bexon and Stirling offered to attend.
- 5 Slabs footpath Mrs Noon from the local branch of the CPRE has offered to attend the next Council to discuss the difference of opinion over the public reporting of the rejection of the Slabs project. It was felt that this was not necessary and that the matter should now be considered closed. With regard to general maintenance of the path, it was noted that the County Council has refused to relay the slabs as it says that the flood waters constantly shift them out of place. It was generally felt that the appearance of the path would be enhanced if the modern-style concrete slabs were removed and replaced with something more in keeping with the original granite ones. Cllr Stirling agreed to liaise with LaFarge quarry for replacements and to pursue the possibility of heritage status and funding for the path.
- 6 FLAG grant Grant offers have been made from Leicestershire County Council totaling £40,000 against the estimated cost of £70,000. With the £20,000 already in the Parish Council budget, there is a shortfall of just over £10,000. Council approval was sought to take £10,000 out of reserves. It is hoped and anticipated that a grant application to Charnwood Borough Council will be considered favorably next month and the money will be available in the new financial year allowing the Council to 'repay' its borrowing from the reserves. It was proposed

by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Backus and resolved to pursue this course of action. The planning application for the works has been lodged with Charnwood and Cllr Shepherd was requested to use his best offices to ensure swift progress. Mention was also made of the second phase of the village project and that a dialogue with the Church Rooms fundraising committee might prove fruitful in that a joint application to the large WREN grant scheme could be of wider benefit to both organisations.

- 7 Christmas lighting The working party has now met with several sales representatives from Christmas lighting companies and obtained quotations. Cllr Mrs Templeman presented a spreadsheet breakdown of costings. It was noted that shopkeepers approval had to be sought for the suspension of motifs from buildings. There was an agreement in principal made that, subject to a demonstration, Andy Liddle's floodlighting scheme would be used in the War Memorial garden with pea lights in the two beech trees and the existing pea lights would also be used along Station Road. Firm quotations are expected in October from Irvine Martin for supply and J Unwin Ltd for installation. It was agreed to proceed with a grant application to Charnwood Borough Council using the current available information as a basis for costings. It was agreed later on the meeting that due to the rearranged next Council meeting, the working party could proceed with a budget of £5,000, £2,000 must be obtained as a grant from the Borough Council's Christmas lighting fund. The Council's heartfelt thanks was offered to the working party for the exceptional amount of work and research that has been undertaken.
- 8 Moss Chemist shop front The company has responded to the request to tidy up the shop frontage by assuring the Council that the current sign is only temporary and that it is considering disabled access subject to any local authority constraints.
- 9 Street Cleansing Schedule An e-mail has been received from Cllr Shepherd noting that, if the data can be transferred in a suitable format, all street cleansing schedules should be on the Borough Council's website by mid-September.
- 10 New entrance to park at Station Road No problems have been experienced with the new tarmac and the fair owner is delighted with the changes.
- 11 Farnham Street development Borough Councillor Slater agreed to check the planning conditions for the new development and whether they have been adhered to.
- 12 Village Hall redevelopment Cllr Child is pursuing contact with a professional fundraiser who lives in Hoton. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth has been made aware of another fundraiser who lives in the village.

03/119 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Branchline information. Tabled for information
- 2 Medium term corporate strategy and community strategy Tabled for information.
- 3 Barrow Road closure Councillor Kershaw assured members that the closure will be made permanent before the end of the year.
- 4 Bus shelters. The star trak system is still experiencing hiccoughs in some locations

03/120 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Charnwood News. Request for information noted.
- 2 National one-day count – anti-social behaviour Agreed that this is a police matter..
- 3 Litter and the Village handyman’s holidays To next agenda.
- 4 EMA and night-time flying A copy has been received from Charnwood addressed to the director of planning development at the airport. The letter invites the director to address a meeting of the Health & Public Protection Scrutiny committee over concerns raised. Cllr Bexon noted that he has had a response from Andy Reed MP noting that East Midlands has been excluded from night flying restrictions due to the economic investment put into the airport by businesses.
- 5 Inoperative light outside ‘The Thatch’ A strongly worded letter will be sent to the Borough Council noting that this light has never worked due to their contractor not connecting the electricity supply. The Parish Council and Borough Councillor Shepherd have been pursuing this problem for many months now with no progress made.

03/121 PLANNING MATTERS

- 1 Planning applications received.

03/1997 Site for the erection of 1 detached dwelling and double garage at 1 Woodhouse Road

An objection will be made to this application as the proposal lies outside the currently defined limits to development and it is felt would set a precedent for building if granted.

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:

03/2072 Demolition of outbuildings and erection of 2 two-bedroom and 3 one bedroom flats (two and a half storey) Revised scheme at land r/o Quorn Conservative Club, Nursery Lane.

03/1042 Site for the erection of 1 dwelling at land r/o 40 Woodhouse Road

03/1853 Replacement pitched roof over front bay and side garage of detached house at 29 Toller Road

03/2310 First floor extension to side and rear of semi-detached house at 71 Leicester Road.

03/122 CORRESPONDENCE

1 The New Quorndon Shakespeare Company has written to the Council requesting a grant towards props. This was agreed in principle but an idea of how much money is needed will be requested.

2 Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Parish and Local Councils is offering an evening course on the Disability Discrimination Act at a cost of £10. It was agreed that Cllr Hutchinson would attend.

03/123 FOOTPATH REPORT

The quarterly report had been circulated together with a report undertaken by the explorer scouts on two paths. The footpath wardens and the scouts will be thanked for their efforts and their observation passed onto the County Council to deal with.

Richard Guise has forwarded examples of the format which local footpath leaflets could take together with a proposal for costs of printing and folding (£213.50 for 250 x5 leaflets). This was agreed and Cllrs Child and Bexon offered to act as reviewers of the draft leaflets.

03/124 CAVE'S FIELD MANAGEMENT (REPORT OF WORKING PARTY)

The report, which had been previously circulated recommended that the Council sets up a charitable trust to manage and raise funds for the field and that expressions of interest from persons willing to be considered as Trust members are sought. After discussion it

was agreed that the working party would draw up a public statement asking the village what it sees as the future for Cave's Field and to invite applications for Trustees from persons who either live or work in the village. Cllr Bexon wished to withdraw from serving on the working party and Cllr Stirling offered to take his place.

03/125 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT DURING CLERK'S ABSENCE

It was agreed to cancel the October and November meetings and to hold a meeting on October 28th instead.

03/126 PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The payments list was circulated and approved. The example financial statement sheets were also approved

03/127 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS

Cllr Child noted that the bowls club appeared to be creating a car park at the entrance despite being refused planning permission. Cllr Shepherd has been alerted.

Cllr Mrs Bloodworth was informed that the County Council is considering a seat at Wood Lane. She also drew attention to a missing street name plate on Leicester Road

The village entry signs have been delivered. The Clerk will attempt to obtain quotations for installation

The meeting concluded at 22.10

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Chairman.....

Date.....