QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd February 2004.

PRESENT

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

Borough Councillor R Shepherd
Borough Councillor D Slater

7 Members of the public
K Paterson – Clerk to the Council

04/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor T Kershaw

04/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Alan Southam from Wood Lane commented that the speed humps through the village are yet again in a poor state of repair and that he was concerned at the continued costs involved. Mr Southam also felt that the humps led to speeding on the outskirts of the village. The Chairman noted that last year the County Council were giving thought to replacing the present humps with those made of tarmac. The matter will be pursued, especially in light of another complaint to be dealt with later on in the meeting.

04/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th JANUARY 2004

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

- 04/12 Cave's Field – Cllr Croysdale's name to be added to the committee
- 04/06 Matters Arising (2) Village Hall Committee – the word 'weeks' to be inserted after 2-3.
- 04/06 Matters Arising (16) Barrow Road. Delete 'he is meeting' and insert 'County officers are meeting…'

04/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs Templeman has prepared an 'aide memoir' which the Clerk will circulate before the next meeting.

The Clerk briefed Members on a training session she had recently attended on the new ethical framework and implementation of the Code of Conduct. She advised Members of the importance of checking for their interests prior to the meeting and to seek advice if in doubt.

All alterations to the register of interests must be notified within 28 days of their occurrence to the monitoring officer.

Interests declared:

Cllr P Child – *Caves Field. Interest changed from personal and prejudicial to just personal as Cllr Child is a member of the Cricket Club*

Cllr Mrs S Templeman – *Caves Field. Personal.*

Cllr Mrs J Backus. *Lafarge aggregates Ltd. A personal and prejudicial interest as her family own property in the area affected by the quarry. White Street planning application – personal interest as she lives on White Street.*

Cllr T Stirling – *Planning application for 6 Castledine Avenue. A personal and prejudicial interest as he lives on Castledine Avenue.*

04/20 POLICING MATTERS

Lakeside seat. A letter of strong concern has been received from Dr Hubbard, the original complainant noting that criminal activity has increased to such an extent that he has put his house on the market. It was noted that the bench was retained partly on the advice of the police. A copy of Dr Hubbard's letter will be sent to the police, the headteacher at Rawlins and the Borough Council.

Leicestershire crimestoppers A circular letter has been received giving details of the success achieved by this project which the Council has grant-aided in the past.

04/21 MATTERS ARISING

1 Traffic Concerns The report of a public meeting held in October to discuss traffic matters in the village had been reissued to members. There was some confusion as to whether this document constituted the ideas and proposals required for an approach to the County Council. The comment was made that all the issues raised in this record of the meeting had been or were being dealt with

by the Council. The Policy and Plans subcommittee is due to meet shortly and will consider any new matters of concern brought to its attention.

2 Village Hall Committee. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January had been circulated. Cllr Child drew members' attention to the flaws in the current booking system. He proposed separating the administration from the caretaking duties and creating a new part-time administrative post This proposal received wide support as it was noted that the increasing number of committees, subcommittees and working groups placed an unacceptable workload on the Clerk. This new post could also provide cover for the Clerk's absences through holidays or sickness. It was resolved that Cllrs Child and Bexon would investigate the need and how the position could be financed. A report will be made to the March meeting.

Cllr Mrs Harrison noted that tables seemed to be missing from the hall. Cllr Hutchinson sought Council's permission for a picture, donated by the Folk Dance Club, to be hung in the Council Chamber.

3 Christmas lights An electrical specification will be prepared for tendering for next year's installation. The grant from Charnwood has been approved for payment.
The sub-committee was thanked for its work.

4 Proposed modifications to concrete batching plant – Mountsorrel quarry Despite the Council's objections, this application has been granted.

5 Parks and Open spaces draft strategy A response to this important document has been written by Cllrs Croysdale and Child and forwarded to Charnwood. The Clerk will write a note for the Quorndon and the website seeking interest in public allotments.

6 Police meeting on 29th January. Cllr Mrs Harrison noted that the meeting had been cancelled due to bad weather.

7 Medical Centre Clock The clock has been repaired and the light outside the Thatch is now working..

8 Slabs footpath Cllr Stirling has asked County Councillor Kershaw whether any funding would be available for future work on the path.

9 Barrow Road Cllr Stirling was annoyed that the parish appears to have been taken to task in the press over the defaced village entry sign when the responsibility lay with the County Council which had been informed some time ago about the damage..

10 Westley Close Cllr Child reported and the Clerk confirmed that the developer

has rejected the Council's choice of name and selected 'Quorndon Waters'. A letter of concern will be sent and the residents will be canvassed about the name change. With regard to the planning conditions attached to the development, Cllr Slater reported that the visibility splays have been accepted and the road will be tarmaced 'very shortly'.

11 Barrow Road The Council has still not had sight of a landscaping plan. Cllr Kershaw is in possession of one and has agreed to pass it to the Clerk.

12 Cave's Field The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January had been circulated. The Council's solicitor has been asked to provide a plan of the land indicating the exact boundaries. It was proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Templeman and resolved that the committee be set up as a standing committee with no delegated powers, the coopted members would have voting rights and the terms of reference are as tabled in the Minutes.

04/22 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

1 Footpath leaflets It was agreed to sell the leaflets at 20p each or £1 for 6. The intention being to cover printing costs. The publishing of the leaflets on the website would be delayed but a note published that they can be purchased locally. Cllr Stirling agreed to act as distributor and will approach the Post Office owners to see if they would be willing to sell the leaflets.

Charnwood will not install dog waste bins on the highway.

2 FLAG grant The latest information indicates that the grant may not be available next year to previous recipients. It now looks that the Council will have to use the capital budget intended for phase 2 of the Jubilee Gardens to finish phase 1.

04/23 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

1 Loughborough Town Centre Strategy. An invitation to attend a two-day event to prepare a strategy for the future development of Loughborough Town Centre has been received. Cllrs Hutchinson and Mrs Bloodworth indicated a willingness to attend.

2 Charnwood Design Awards 2004 A letter has been received inviting nominations for the design awards. It was agreed to recommend 31 Meeting Street under the conservation section, the Jubilee Gardens (if the project has been substantially completed by close of nominations) and the footpath leaflets under the community based publications section.

3 Refuse Collection Cllr Bexon requested that the collectors be asked not to tie sacks onto drainpipes or outside gates as it can advertise the fact that the

householder is not at home. Borough Councillor Slated noted that a protocol for operatives is being devised.

04/24 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning applications received

04/0058 Erection of a detached dwelling at land adj to 21 Unit Road
It was agreed to object to this application on the grounds that the site is not big enough to accommodate this proposal. It is also felt that the design is poor and would not enhance the street scene.

04/0041 Erection of two storey detached dwelling at land r/o 2 Orchard Estate
It was agreed to object to this application on the ground of highway safety. The narrow road serves Rawlins College and the location of this proposal would create a hazard for road users and pedestrians.

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:

04/0096 Retention of bungalow, as built, with raised floor level at 14 White Street
04/0091 Erection of detached dwelling at land adj 6 Castledine Avenue
04/0067 Two storey extension for offices with fire escape to rear and one additional window (planning permission 02/1886 refers) at 7 School Lane
04/0241 Erection of bay window and pitched roof to front of terraced house at 9 Farnham Street
03/3686 Erection of single storey extension to rear of detached dwelling at 19 Toller Road
03/3751 Single storey extension to rear of detached house at 17 The Pingle
04/0001 Erection of canopy to rear of detached garage at 54 Chaveney Road
03/3777 Single storey extension to rear of detached house at 98 Chaveney Road
04/0178 Erection of 9m high wooden pole (7.5m above ground) at land adj 84/86 Station Road
04/0116 Single storey extension to side and rear of semi-detached dwelling at 17 Beacon Avenue
03/3761 Erection of first floor extension to side of detached house at 8 Pepper Drive

04/25 CORRESPONDENCE

Mr D Wix – Quorn Book loan Mr Wix has forwarded the final £100 repayment of the loan. The Clerk has written in response acknowledging the contribution that the book has made to the understanding and appreciation of Quorn's history

Mrs J Sutherland from Melton Mowbray has contacted the Clerk with a request to purchase a bench for the park in memory of her late father, Mr E Russ who sat on the Council for many years. Her offer was gratefully accepted and the Council would pay for the installation of the bench. Concerns about possible vandalism were aired and would be put to Mrs Sutherland.

Mr D Mizen has written to the Council with some proposals for changing the traffic light sequencing at the Farley Way/Woodhouse Road crossroads. Cllr Mrs Templeman agreed to take the matter with the relevant County Council officers as it is connected with her School Travel Plan project.

Mr G Chapman from the High Street has e-mailed the Council seeking assistance with the problems he is experiencing with traffic traveling over the speed hump outside his house, which he feels may be causing structural disturbance. As this is the second complaint about the speed humps that has recently been received, it was felt that it would be an opportune time to discuss their replacement with the County Council. It was noted that the Parish Council had originally opposed the humps, preferring chicanes. The construction was also felt to be a mistake and that tarmac would have been preferable to bricks.

Rainbows A thank you letter has been received for the donation of £300 raised by carol singing in the village

Mrs H Beckley has e-mailed from Bexley in Kent noting that a road in the village is named Whall Close and wondering whether this was named after her father Robert Whall who owned Quorn Hardware. She asks whether any paperwork relating to this could be forwarded to her. An acknowledgement would be sent that the road was definitely named after her father, but the research to uncover the Minutes would take some time to find.

04/26 VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT GROUP

It was agreed that the group would comprise of Cllrs Mrs Backus, Mrs Bloodworth, Mrs Harrison and Stirling. Mrs Hollingworth would join as a consultant.

04/27 GREENWAVE TECHNOLOGY

The company has supplied a draft service agreement for the provision of IT services to the Council. This had been circulated to all Members. It was resolved to accept the agreement.

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04/28 STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Bexon has tabled suggested revisions to Standing Orders. In accordance with current

Standing Orders, the amendments were proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Hutchinson and must stand adjourned for discussion at the next meeting

04/29 PAYMENTS LIST & FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The payments list for January and the financial summary until 30th January had been circulated with the agenda. It was resolved to approve all payments

04/30 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS

Cllr Hutchinson warned Members to keep away from the building works on the Jubilee Gardens for health and safety reasons. Any queries should be directed through the Clerk to the Landscape Designer.

An inquiry will be made of Charnwood Borough Council as to whether the Church Lane street nameplates can be replaced with green and gold heritage style ones at the expense of the Parish Council.

Cllr Child noted that there has been a severe lopping of the roadside hedge on Loughborough Road. The Borough Council will be notified of the amount of rubbish which has now been exposed and that a litter bin has disappeared from beside the bus stop.

Cllr Child noted that he is now coordinating May Fair as Cllr Mrs Bloodworth is not available.

Cllr Bexon requested that Chairs of Committee put forward terms of reference and proposed delegated powers to Council for approval

The Cricket Club notice board was reported as being in need of repair. Cllr Child agreed to report it.

Cllr Mrs Harrison noted that the street nameplate for Chestnut Close is in need of repair or replacment.

The meeting concluded at 22.05

Chairman…… Date……