

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 2nd March 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 J Hutchinson (Chairman)

Cllr Mrs E Harrison

Cllr J Maltby

Borough Councillor R Shepherd

Borough Councillor D Slater

County Councillor T Kershaw

4 Members of the public

K Paterson – Clerk to the Council

04/31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Croysdale and the police.

04/32 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Cotterill from Northage Close raised concerns on behalf of Quorn Tennis Club as to the current use of the land next to the tennis courts for off-road vehicle use. The perceived problems are those of safety and noise nuisance. The Chairman offered assistance by passing the letter onto the police and the planning authority with a covering letter from the Parish Council urging investigation. The Club was advised to take registration numbers of the vehicles.

Mr Southam from Wood Lane questioned the Chairman as to the proposed Wood Lane planting scheme. Residents were canvassed for their opinions three years ago but nothing has yet materialised. Cllr Mrs Backus commented that the project remained on the agenda for the environmental enhancement sub-committee.

Mr Moxon from Dower House Gardens bring the Council's attention to the parking congestion on Dower House Gardens. The Close is frequently being used by non-residents for over-night parking, making exiting from drives very difficult in some cases and potentially reducing access for emergency vehicles. As the authority to effect a solution to this problem lies with the County Council, a meeting will be sought to which Mr Moxon will be invited to express the views of the residents.

04/33 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd FEBRUARY 2004

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

- P4 04/21 (12) Revised to read: It was proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Templeman that the committee be set up as a standing committee with no delegated powers. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Templeman, seconded by Cllr Croysdale that the coopted members would have voting rights and the terms of reference are as tabled in the Minutes.
- P5 04/23 (3) Borough Councillor Slated to read Borough Councillor Slater

04/34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Consultation papers setting out proposals to issue regulations and guidance relating to the arrangements by which local authority monitoring officers may investigate allegations of misconduct were circulated. Comments are required by 18th May.

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 Bloodworth. – *Planning application for 1-3 High Street. Personal and prejudicial interest as a near neighbour*

Cllr I Bexon – *Dower House Gardens. Personal interest as a resident*

04/35 POLICING MATTERS

There were no police officers present at the meeting.

04/36 MATTERS ARISING

- 1 Lakeside seat. Dr Hubbard has written to the Council again about problems he is experiencing with the youths that congregate around the lakeside bench. He notes that the fence has been damaged yet again. Cllr Mrs Backus noted that the issue was discussed at the College/Village Liaison group and she felt that the college was taking the matter seriously and was intending to undertake a supervised litter pick of the area. A copy of Dr Hubbard's letter will be sent to the Police, the college and Charnwood Borough Council's parks department. Cllr Stirling offered to check and monitor the footpath cleansing schedule.

- 2 Village Hall Committee. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th February had been circulated. There was some discussion over the legal problems with the Quorn Country Hotel. It was agreed to await the report of the next committee meeting before progressing. It was proposed by Cllr Child, seconded by Cllr Hutchinson and agreed that due to the sensitive nature of the issues involved, any future debate or reporting will be regarded as confidential.

Cllr Child reported that Mrs Bruce had given advance notification of her intention to retire as village hall caretaker by the end of the year, therefore he had prepared two job descriptions. The post of administrative assistant to the Parish Clerk had previously been discussed by the Finance Committee and funding could be found from the contingency budget. It was agreed that a need had been proven for this post and that it would be advertised at a rate of £6.00 per hour for 10hrs per week. The job to be advertised on the noticeboard, the village website and The Quorndon magazine.

Questions were asked of Cllr Child regarding the scaffolding under the stage, the owner of which has been asked to remove, and the proposed extension to the hall and facilities for the disabled. Cllr Child replied that the implementation of facilities were not crucial as it has been minuted that committee has the issue under consideration.

- 3 Westley Close There has been one response from a resident of this new development who likes the developers chosen name of 'Quorndon Waters Court' and would consider a change only if the name of her family were chosen. Other members of the Westley family have objected most strongly to the developer's choice. Charnwood has since changed its policy on street naming and in future the wishes of the developer will carry no greater weight than those of other parties.
- 4 Footpath leaflets It was reported that the Post Office has agreed to sell the leaflets. One thousand packs will be printed and will be sold as a set of 6 for £1. The printing company will be asked to provide a wallet to hold the set in.
- 5 Dog waste bins Charnwood Borough Council will not provide dog waste bins on the highway but if the Parish provides them and removes the refuse to a central location, the Borough operatives will collect it. It was felt not to be appropriate to ask the village handyman to fetch the refuse from locations away from the village centre. Properly packed dog waste can be deposited in ordinary litter bins. It was felt that the most appropriate course of action would be to request a standard litter bin in the area of Mill Farm on Chaveney Road.
- 6 FLAG Scheme and Jubilee Gardens A small extension has been added to the deadline for final claims, all eligible work should now be completed and claimed for by 15th March. An interim claim has already been made.

- 7 Standing Orders It was proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Hutchinson and agreed to adopt the modifications to Standing Orders as tabled at the last meeting.
- 8 County Consultation with Parish Councils – response from Chief Executive The Chief Executive has replied to the Parish Council's concern that the village seems exempt from consultation on highway works by discussing in particular the Mountsorrel quarry application. He then comments that all County Council works apart from very minor ones are consulted on with all Parish Councils before work starts. He adds that the County Council is looking to provide more information to Parish Councils although it is not necessarily its responsibility.

It was generally felt that the Chief Executive is labouring under a misapprehension. Examples such as the Parish Council asking repeatedly in vain for sight of the plans for the permanent closure of Barrow Road, the installation of numerous unsightly cycleway and other signage and the fait accompli for the bus shelter outside Wakeleys were cited.

- 9 Christmas lighting The grant application for the 2004 lighting scheme is ready to be submitted. The scheme and the application was approved by the council.
- 10 Town Centre Strategy meeting. Cllr Hutchinson had attended this seminar and found it very useful. He has offered to sit on an on-going working party.
- 11 Refuse collection Cllr Bexon commented that he had received an unsatisfactory response via Cllr Slater which he felt would jeopardise house security. He has requested that Cllr Slater refer the matter back to the operatives.
- 12 Charnwood Design Awards Agreed to add Crown House to the conservation section nominations.
- 13 Donation of public seat The seat, kindly donated by Mrs Sutherland in memory of her father, has been delivered. Cllrs Hutchinson, Maltby and the Clerk would choose the most appropriate location and inform any nearby residents.
- 14 School Travel Plan Cllr Mrs Templeman reported that the draft plan has been agreed, a launch has scheduled for after Easter and a £5,000 grant has almost been secured for travel initiatives. The review of the traffic lights is first reserve for the 04/05 budget. Cllr Mrs Templeman requested that the Council gives consideration next month to a grant of £150 to support the launch of the Travel Plan.
- 15 10-15yrs Play equipment Cllr Mrs Templeman reported that she had 100+ replies to analyse from the first survey. The project will look to complement the 'village vision' as a whole and take into account where CCTV cameras will be

located.

- 16 CCTV Cllr Mrs Bloodworth has met with and obtained a quotation for CCTV monitoring on the park. She noted that the company is willing to attend Council to answer questions. It was agreed to seek alternative quotations. The Clerk will analyse the cost of criminal damage over the past few years.

04/37 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Branchline information Circulated
- 2 Archaeological Warden A letter has been received from the Heritage Services Department that Mrs Pat Coleman, appointed as joint warden in 2000 has now taken over sole responsibility following the resignation of Mr Bill Edwards
- 3 Barrow Road closure County Councillor Kershaw commented that he had not received a proposed landscaping plan for the closure, merely a drawing of what has been created. He will pursue the issue of why there was no landscaping. It was noted that cars are getting through the closure on two wheels.
- 4 The Slabs County Councillor Kershaw noted that the transformation of the footpath into a cycleway is back on the County's agenda as a 'reserve' matter. He will monitor the situation to see if it can be pushed further up the agenda. He warned however that the money would only be available for the full scheme, not for general repairs and maintenance.
- 5 Wall to Quorn Hall This wall which lies within the parish is in a poor state of repair and falling down in places. Barrow Council has asked for it to be repaired. County Councillor Kershaw will liaise with the Clerk in contacting the relevant department at the County Council.
- 6 Ivanhoe Line County Councillor Kershaw reported that the Ivanhoe railway line is under threat of closure as from next year as the City Council has cut its subsidies.

04/38 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- 1 Recycling. The proposed introduction of wheelie-bins has been referred back to Cabinet for a final decision.
- 2 Council Tax Borough Councillor Shepherd reported that the average Band D council tax for 2004/5 will amount to 6.3%
- 3 Planning application for 2 Orchard Estate This has been referred to the Planning

Committee for determination.

- 4 Mobile Recycling Unit This unit is touring the borough and a request has been for suggested venues. It was agreed to pass the letter to Townland Charity and ask if consideration could be given to using the Station Road car park

04/39 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning permission has been refused for the erection of a detached dwelling, land adj 21 Unitt Road and granted for a three bedroomed bungalow, land r/o 39 Nursery Lane

Planning applications received

04/0160 Two storey extension to rear and change from mixed use as shop and dwelling to use for shop and three flats and listed building consent at 1-3 High Street

There will be no objection to this application but the comment will be passed to the planning authority that the listed building is in a prominent location and any exterior alterations such as fire escapes, should be sited and constructed in such a way as to blend in or complement the building.

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:

- 04/0472 Two storey extension to side and rear of dwelling at 10 The Sandhills**
- 04/0352 Erection of 1st floor extension and porch to side of detached house at 20 Victoria Street**
- 03/3746 Erection of conservatory to rear of detached house at 44 Toller Road**
- 04/0287 Erection of 2 detached dwellings land rear of 49/53 Farnham Street**

04/40 CORRESPONDENCE

Leics Rural Partnership – Community Consultation Partnership Cllr Stirling offered to attend this seminar on 11th March.

Barrow-upon-Soar Civic Service An invitation to attend the Civic Service on 18th April has been received. Cllr and Mrs Hutchinson will attend.

Mrs J Hollingworth has requested a budget of £200-£300 for maintenance of the War Memorial Gardens, the same amount as last year. This was agreed.

LRCC Best Village competition. It was agreed to enter this competition. The Clerk with

Cllrs Hutchinson and Mrs Templeman would compile the entry statements.

Britain in Bloom competition Agreed not to enter this competition this year.

Mr A Reed MP has written to the Council concerning the expansion of East Midland Airport. He refers to a question he has asked in parliament. It was agreed to seek clarification of the question and the answer he received.

Winged Fellowship Annual appeal for donation. Agreed to grant £50 under S137 expenditure.

Boundary Commission Periodic Electoral Review. Proposals can be viewed at the County Council, local libraries and on line. Parish Councils are invited to send views by 26th April

L&RAPLC The association has moved offices to 41 High Street, Sileby. New telephone number from April – 01509 816400

04/41 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th February were ratified by the Council. It was agreed to transfer £3,000 from the Village Hall Redevelopment budget into Administration and to transfer £1,500 from Village Hall income into Village Hall expenditure.

The draft remit of the committee had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting and was approved.

The amended Financial Regulations had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting and were adopted.

The amended Risk Assessment had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting and was approved.

A revised funding plan for the Jubilee Gardens was approved.

04/42 VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

A report of the meeting held on 19th February had been circulated. It was agreed to approve the estimated expenditure of £1000 for the provision of three new trees on the Jubilee Gardens. It was noted that an application would be made to remove a Sycamore tree on the site and replace it with a Robinia.

Cllr Mrs Backus will raise the matter of a planting scheme at Wood Lane with Mrs Hollingworth.

It was noted that as a subcommittee, the group should produce a written remit.

At the request of the group it was agreed, under S137, to approve a grant of £25 to Rawlins for replanting the Church yard shrub bed and £200 for hanging baskets.

04/43 CAVE'S FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February had been circulated. It was agreed to ratify the Minutes and confirm the appointment of the co-opted members. A plan of the land owned by the Council has recently been obtained and will be distributed to members.

04/44 PLANS & POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

The revised Plan for Quorn had been circulated and was approved. The part of the Actions List relating to highway matters will be sent to the County Council with the suggestion that it forms the agenda for a meeting.

04/45 WICKSTEED PLAY EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

The roundabout (Whirlybird) has become loose in the ground again and a quotation of £420 has been supplied to refix it. It was noted that similar damage had been caused last summer and had cost the same to repair. It was felt that the equipment should be robust enough to stand usage by older children. Noted that security must be considered for future play equipment.

04/46 PAYMENTS LIST AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY

The list and summary had been circulated and it was agreed to approve all payments.

04/47 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS

Cllr Child noted that a team has been set up to coordinate the May Day fair. It will take place on 1st May and Cllr Child requested permission to use Stafford Orchard park. This was agreed. It was proposed by Cllr Hutchinson, seconded by Cllr Bexon and resolved that under the Council's S137 powers to make a grant of £300 toward the May Day fair expenditure.

Cllr Bexon expressed his concern that, at 9.50am that morning, he saw a group of seven students smoking drugs and possibly taking pills on the park. He questioned what police attitude and policy now is towards such behaviour.

The matter of the possible re-naming of Jubilee Gardens and an official opening ceremony will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs Bloodworth noted that the public seat outside Corner House interiors is in need of repair.

The meeting concluded at 22.40

Chairman.....

Date.....