

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th July 2005.

PRESENT

Cllr J Hutchinson (Chair)
Cllr Mrs S Templeman
Cllr P Child
Cllr I Bexon

Cllr K Croysdale
Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth
Cllr T Stirling

County Cllr T Kershaw
Borough Cllr R Shepherd
Borough Cllr D Slater

Internal Auditor Mr David Southwart

Mrs K Paterson	-	Clerk to the Council
Mrs B Holland	-	Administrative Assistant

2 members of the public

05/95 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J Backus, Cllr Mrs E Harrison, Cllr T Tyler and Cllr J Maltby.

Cllr Stirling commented regarding low attendance at meetings, which put pressure on other members. Mrs Paterson advised that rules state that if a councillor misses 6 consecutive sessions (which includes all committee meetings) Council have to consider the reasons given and are able to ask for the person to be removed. This is not relevant regarding any members at the present time.

05/96 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.

1. Mr Southam spoke regarding grass cutting in the village and in particular in the Wood Lane vicinity. He said the standard of cutting throughout the village was generally poor, although the results of the recent cutting were reasonably good. Over the years the cutting has been poor and he asked if the Parish Council should continue with the present contractors. He commented that Mountsorrel areas were immaculate since they had dispensed with the County Council and made arrangements themselves. The County Council undertake grass cutting of some areas of Quorn and Charnwood Borough do the other areas, and Mr Southam was advised that the Parish Council are looking at long term grass maintenance. Thanks were given to Mr Southam for his comments.

2. Ms Suzanne Baxter of 31 Meeting Street spoke on behalf of residents in the area regarding the Blacksmith Arms' application to vary their licence to include entertainment/music 7 am to 2 am daily, and asking for the Parish Council to support the residents regarding concerns around the implications

of extension of the licence. Charnwood Borough Council is unable to reject applications unless objections are received. Ms Baxter was advised that this topic would be discussed under item 5 of the agenda – Policing Matters.

05/97 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH JUNE 2005

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

05/98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mr J Hutchinson - Personal and prejudicial regarding item 5 (b) of Agenda with reference to the Blacksmith Arms

Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth - Personal and prejudicial regarding item 5 (b) of Agenda with reference to the White Horse and personal regarding electrical contractor for Xmas lights

05/99 POLICING MATTERS

Apologies were received from Chris Kendall – who was on day duty. PC Neil Smith had vacated his post from the start of July.

(a) Report of the meeting held on 21st June 2005.

Cllr Mrs Templeman, Cllr Mrs Bloodworth and Cllr T Stirling attended the meeting. Cllr Mrs Templeman reported back. She said the police would not reconsider the redeployment decisions made. They were rationalising the beats as they felt there were huge discrepancies at present. The police were specifically asked if the current situation in the village would improve by next year and the answer was a categorical 'yes'.

Cllr Stirling supported Cllr Mrs Templeman's comments. He said they put forward points raised at the last Parish Council meeting and also the public's perception. In the last 2 or 3 years the situation in Quorn had improved vastly due to the preventative attitude locally. There had been no major incidents and the litter situation was far better. They expressed concern at the reduced police attendance at Parish Council meetings, and the fact that the continuation of the Community Support Officer position was subject to funding. The public perception was that things were not going to be as good as they had been.

Borough Cllr Shepherd asked if Microbeats (low policing profile) had been mentioned. Mention of these had been made when the new Chief Constable had been appointed – all officers would be assigned a small area they would go to when other duties allowed. He was advised these were not mentioned at the meeting.

Discussion was held and it was agreed that a letter should be sent from the Parish Council expressing concerns, then at least it would be written down and put on the records and be able to be referred to later. Emphasis should be placed on whether things will be better or not in 12 months' time, and the Parish Council should monitor if things were going wrong. Cllr Mrs Templeman will supply the Clerk with notes from the meeting.

(b) Licensing Act 2003.

Cllr Stirling spoke regarding the Licensing Act 2003. He said it draws together all the various licence applications and treats them as one premises licence.

Cllr Stirling commented that the Parish Council were not on the consultative list over licensing matters. Members are entitled as individuals to make representations and the Parish Council is a responsible body working on behalf of the public. He suggested writing to the local MP etc. Unless anyone 'spots' details of the applications in local papers they may not know an application is being made.

He had spoken to Rob Simpson, the Leicestershire Secretary of the National Association of Parish Councils, who would be prepared to see a resolution from the Parish Councils to the National Association deploring the fact that Parish Councils are not included on the consultation list.

It was proposed and agreed to write to the Borough Council asking that the Parish Council are formally included in the list of consultees.

Cllr Stirling provided information regarding individual licence applications recently made, and for which any objections were required by 4th August 2005. Cllr Hutchinson and Cllr Mrs Bloodworth left the meeting whilst these were discussed and Cllr Child took over temporarily as chair of the meeting.

Some applications may already have gone through, but the following were known – 1. Blacksmith Arms, 2 The Apple Tree, 3 The White Horse and 4. The Quorn Football Club, and possibly the Quorndon Fox. Full details are not available on the notices and actual applications needed to be looked at. Cllr Stirling had looked at these.

Discussion was held and concerns expressed regarding the character of the area and public houses in residential spots, and noise and disturbance after a reasonable time. Objections should be made on the basis of density and environment of public houses and concentrate on noise and disturbance. When licenses had been granted it was possible to ask for a review if there were problems.

After the discussion the following was agreed: The Appletree – no objection. Blacksmith Arms – object on the grounds that there should be no dancing and entertainment except on Fridays and Saturdays. The White Horse – suggest dancing to 12.30, except for Friday and Saturday. Drinking to midnight every day but Friday and Saturday 1 am.

The Quorn Football Club – no objection bearing in mind the type of premises and location.

Letter also to go immediately to Borough Council and ask for notification of any pending applications.

Village Hall: This was not exempt and a form was being completed at the present time.

Thanks were given to Cllr Stirling.

05/100 MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Partnership funding for 'bus shelter. Written confirmation that funding has been obtained is on its way and then a site meeting can be arranged.
- (ii) Additional bollard for Barrow Road. The County Council is anxious not to erect an additional bollard but asked if the Parish Council would consider a planter. This item to be referred to the Environmental Committee.
- (iii) School Lane/Station Road road markings. A site meeting to be arranged.
- (iv) Quorn Activity Club. The Clerk has received a letter of thanks for support from Mr Barlow for the open day. They had a good response.
- (v) Christmas Lights – electrical contractor. Cllr Mrs Templeman provided a statement with proposals/recommendations, including conditions and reasons regarding how the requirements were met in order to keep the same supplier as last year for the Xmas lights. Cllr Mrs Templeman proposed and recommended that under Financial Regulations 11.1 (c) the Council waives Financial Regulations and allows that the Council does not obtain three competitive quotations but uses the same electrical contractor as last year. This was agreed. *(Cllr Mrs Bloodworth did not participate in the discussion and vote on this issue)..*
- (vi) Mountsorrel Quarry – noise impact assessment. Cllr Bexon advised that the quarry have to adhere to certain standards, and there are 4 detectors at locations and decibels at these locations would not normally exceed the 70 decibel limits. The quarry to be asked to give actual sites of the detectors for information. Thanks were given to Cllr Bexon.
- (vii) VE/VJ exhibition. Cllr Stirling advised that arrangements were progressing well. Exhibits were forthcoming and information would be in the Loughborough Echo. They wish to have greater input of personal aspects from residents to give the Quorn point of view. The new mayor and mayoress will visit the exhibition at 2 pm on the 31st July. Offers of help were requested. This exhibition will be run in conjunction with the Open Gardens weekend and admission will be by the Open Gardens Passport. A grant application has now been made. It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council would underwrite the expenses should a grant not be forthcoming.
- (viii) CCTV. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth has advised she has received a further quotation. She is awaiting contact with Mr Middleton after his annual leave.
- (ix) Recorded crime: Cllr Hutchinson advised that he had been provided with a note giving details of this by PC Neil Smith for the police meeting. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth advised that she attended with meeting with Cllr Stirling and Cllr Mrs Templeman.
- (x) Seat on Mill Farm walk. Parker Farms Ltd has written to say they would be willing to pay for the seat if the Parish Council will provide the plaque. This was agreed.
- (xi) The Slabs footpath: Cllr Stirling advised that the remedial work had now been carried out. The next step was to look at the refurbishment of the slabs

as a whole. There should not be much difficulty in formulating the Parish Council policy. The Clerk will contact the Environmental Agency asking for a flood assessment. Cllr Stirling will liaise with Mrs Paterson and then 'resurrect' the original group.

(xii) Village Design Statement: Cllr Stirling advised that he and Cllr Mrs Backus are meeting with Hazel Fish on 15th August to look through the preparation of the Village Design Statement.

(xiii) Litter bins in churchyard. The Clerk advised that she is still awaiting contact from the Borough Council regarding bin bags.

(xiv) Socket for Christmas tree: This is in hand and Cllr Mrs Templeman will obtain quotes for the tree.

(xv) Quorndon Terrace: Work still not undertaken. Cllr Stirling asked that this item be brought forward until the work is completed.

(xvi) Barrow Road – excess gravel. This has now been removed.

(xvii) Weed spraying: The alleyway by the Medical Centre and the Wedding Path need attention. Cllr Stirling will contact Mountsorrel Depot.

(xviii) Review of Parking: Cllr Stirling advised that he had responded that parking for the church rooms, village hall, etc. are adequate at present time. In the Barrow Road area there are concerns regarding access for emergency vehicles/removal lorries.

(xix) Jubilee Stone: Cllr Child advised that he had cleaned the wording on the bronze plaque and it was now readable. He will jet wash the stone.

05/101 COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Village Hall Committee meeting held on 13th June – copies of the minutes were circulated with the agenda.

The Clerk to the Council will provide a confidential report for all Parish Councillors regarding the confidential matter. There were concerns regarding financial implications.

Centre Screen: Cllr Mrs Bloodworth reported the response was better than expected and the event went very well.

Redevelopment of the Village Hall. The deadline was 24th June and no tenders had been received. Cllr Child had spoken to a number of prospective tenderers and 1 was still interested. It was proposed that this issue go back to committee and attempts again made to try to get an idea of costs etc. Thanks were given to Cllr Child.

(b) The Environment Subcommittee meeting held on 14th June. Minutes of this meeting were enclosed with the agenda.

There were two proposals from the sub-committee. Councillor Stirling was not in agreement with either proposal. The first proposal was that the committee recommend that Council accepts the proposal from Bellinger Design for a

landscaping study of the Station Road Car Park dated 9th June 2005. This was agreed. The second proposal was to approve funding for the study, if necessary from the Council's reserves. This was agreed. A request had been received from Fenella to approach a structural engineer regarding Phase II of The Banks. This was proposed and agreed.

05/102 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- (i) Meynell Road – proposed TRO. A copy of a letter received had been circulated with the agenda, and the plan was shown at the meeting.
- (ii) Consultation on Waste Development Framework, Minerals Development Framework, Statement of Community Involvement. Information and leaflets received.
- (iii) Drainage: Cllr Hutchinson will be attending a site meeting which will start by looking at outlets to the brook.

C Cllr Kershaw had no other items to report.

05/103 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- (i) Eastern Gateway redevelopment papers received. Cllr Croysdale took the papers and will respond.
- (ii) Core Strategy issues and options paper – Local Development Framework (consultation). Cllr Bexon was given the papers to look through.
- (iii) Refuse/recycling rounds – papers were with agenda. Noted.

05/104 PLANNING MATTERS

- (i) 2004/0791B/02 (County Council consultation) Replacement of existing sports pitch with artificial turf, erection of 8 new lighting columns and replacement boundary fence (amended application). Details were enclosed with the agenda. A resident from Thompson Close had drawn attention to the height of the fencing around the goal. It was agreed to respond that the Parish Council welcomed the improvements in overspill lights and the reduction, and ask that they ensure the height of the fence is such as to stop balls getting to nearby residences.
- (ii) Appeal by Huchison UK for installation of mobile 'phone mast on Leicester Road. Comments needed by 26th July. It was agreed to write to reinforce the points from last time and also state that the electric pylon appears to be a reasonable alternative.
- (iii) Miller Homes. Submission of reserved matters. A meeting was held on 30th June and Miller Homes presented their intentions. They are adopting what appears to be a sensible approach. The affordable housing being built to the same design and style for East Midlands Housing. The public space has been re-positioned to a more central site. The only concerns were the potential future access to Rawlins. The groundwork is planned to start in early November with completion early 2007. It was agreed that response to be made that the Parish Council give their support and would like to see the whole development dealt with as a single entity.

(iv) 05/1663/2 Conservatory – 16 Sanders Road. No comment.

(v) 05/1711 Single storey extension to front of dwelling Highfields Farm, Woodhouse Road. No comment.

05/105 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Visually Impaired Access Group – painted bollards on Barrow Road. Request has been received from the group asking for the tops to be painted in a contrasting colour. The Clerk to be asked to contact the group to obtain evidence to support the concerns.

(ii) BT – proposal to re-align payphone provision to meet consumer demands (consultation document). The company intends to change the phone box on Leicester Road to a cashless payment option. Information received, no objection.

(iii) Mr C W Edwards – proposal to apply for 'listing' of Mill Farm. Letter to go to CBC supporting this request and an acknowledgement sent to Mr Edwards.

(iv) R.O.S.P.A. – safety inspection report. Caves' Field will be included in future inspections.

(v) Memorial Garden: Jane Hollingworth has made a request for an urn-type pots for the Memorial Garden – cost £250 to £350 each. To be considered at the next Environmental Meeting.

(vi) Rural Community Council. Request has been made for a trustee.

(vii) Loughborough Community Chest: Mrs K Jamison, Clerk ,has written to raise awareness of the fund.

05/106 ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS

(i) Soar Road - dangerous vegetation – Cllr Hutchinson. Cllr Hutchinson advised that he has cut back the offending prickly bushes and asked that consideration be taken to removing them. Mrs Paterson will discuss this with Parkdale.

(ii) Stafford Orchard wire boundary fence – Cllr Hutchinson. A local resident has approached Cllr Hutchinson to ask if the fence can be replaced. The fence is old and in a dilapidated condition. Checks to be made if it is the Parish Council's responsibility – and if it is then the possibility of including it in the next financial year commitments to be considered.

05/107 PAYMENTS LIST AND SUMMARY SHEET

Copies were enclosed with the agenda. The payments list and summary sheet were approved and signed.

05/108 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) War Memorial: Mrs Paterson advised that the provision of the water supply to the memorial was imminent.

(ii) Daffodil area on the Banks: This grass area has still not been cut. Mrs Paterson will contact the relevant persons.

(iii) Financial Committee: Reminder given that the next meeting was Tuesday 12th July 2005.

(iv) Stafford Orchard – Climbing frame: Cllr Stirling reported a large amount of weeds around the fencing.

(v) Neighbourhood Watch: It was suggested the Neighbourhood Watch should put in an application to the Parish Council for funding rather than asking for voluntary contributions. The Parish Council do not object to voluntary contributions being requested but this is perhaps not the best method of funding. Mrs Paterson to write reminding them to contact the Parish Council. It would appear that not everyone in the scheme receives newsletters.

(vi) Drain in vicinity of old Homes and Garden: This still requires attention.

(vii) Churchyard lights: Cllr Child reported that light P4 was not working.

(viii) Planning application: Advance notice that an application relating to the rear of 2a to 14 Loughborough Road would be made soon.

The meeting closed at 22.10 hours

Chairman

Date