

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st March 2005.

PRESENT

Cllr J Hutchinson (Chair)
Cllr T Tyler
Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth
Cllr J Gamble
Cllr T Stirling
Cllr I Bexon

Cllr P Child
Cllr Mrs J Backus
Cllr K Croysdale
Cllr Mrs E Harrison
Cllr Mrs S Templeman

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

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

3 members of the public

05/31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Police.

05/32 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Mr and Mrs Allwood attended the meeting. Mr Allwood addressed the Council with regard to a planning application relating to a property adjacent to his. He had objected regarding lack of privacy (regarding dormer windows), but there were other aspects that he considered effected the village. The Clerk to the Council read out a report from the Head of Planning Services which was to be presented at the Regulatory Meeting. The Regulatory Committee was to meet on Monday to reconsider this application and Mr Allwood asked if a representative of the Parish Council would speak on his behalf regarding the application.

This item was deferred – to be dealt with under Planning Matters later during the meeting.

2. Mr Tim Rogers spoke regarding quarry noise. He had recently met with Borough and County Council representatives and had also noted that Mountsorrel Quarry was an item on this Parish Council meeting agenda (relating to overburden). Mr Rogers asked that when discussing that item the Parish Council took on board the fact that almost 1 in 5 residents in his neighbourhood were concerned about quarry noise.

Mr Rogers confirmed that he would be liaising with Cllr Tyler and Cllr Bexon before each Quarry meeting that they attended to advise of any other concerns in the future.

05/33 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 1ST FEBRUARY 2005.

05/23 (3) The Banks Cllr Bexon wished to clarify that Cllr Stirling's comment regarding projects that had to be stopped/ceased because of costs related to the over-run of the First Phase. This was confirmed. Cllr Bexon also advised that the Parish Council's contribution of £30000 was his personal view. The Parish Council contribution would be determined at the November financial meetings and subsequently approved by Council.

The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record.

05/34 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs E Harrison	Personal interest (friend and neighbour) regarding planning application 20 Chaveney Road and left the meeting each time this was discussed
Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth	Personal and prejudicial interest regarding Quorn in Bloom
Cllr Mrs S Templeman	Cave's Field – personal as living near and with friends associated with the Scouts, Guides and Cricket Club
Cllr P Child	Cave's Field – personal as a member of the Cricket Club
Cllr J Hutchinson	Personal as a member of the church council
Cllr K Croysdale	Personal as governor at Rawlins and Personal as interest in church council
B Cllr R Shepherd	interested party regarding quarry blasting as a resident affected by the quarry
B Cllr D Slater	Personal interest regarding planning applications as a member of the Borough Council's Planning Committee

(i) The Clerk to the Council had received documentation regarding the Standards Board review of the code of conduct consultation. Comments were invited by 17th June 2005. It was agreed that a working group be set up, which will feed back to the Parish Council. (To include Cllr Hutchinson, Cllr Child, Cllr Tyler and other interested members).

(ii) Request was made for Item 12 on the agenda – **NALC and SLCC new pay structure, contract of employment and working conditions** for Clerks – to be withdrawn on the grounds that dispensation from the Standards Committee is required re quorum to vote regarding the matter. Recent advice obtained from the Standards Board gives clearer definition to the term 'friend'. All those Members who consider themselves under this definition as the Clerk's 'friend' are not able to debate and make decisions on her conditions of employment. Each Member needs to seek a dispensation from the local

Standards Committee. Provided dispensation is obtained at the next Standards Committee meeting to be held on 15th March 2005, this matter will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

(iii) The Clerk to the Council has received a letter from the Standards Officer reminding Parish Councils that Register of Interests information should be kept up to date and available to members of the public. The Clerk confirmed that all Members had completed the Register but it was up to the individual councillor to keep their entry up to date.

05/35 POLICING MATTERS

PC Neil Smith and the Community Support Officer were not able to attend the meeting.

(i) Attendance at Parish Council meetings by local beat officer.

A letter had been received advising that beat officers could attend Parish Council Meetings quarterly, and gave the following dates that PC Neil Smith could attend:- 5th April 2005. 2nd August 2005, 1st November 2005 and 6th December 2005.

Those present felt that attendance was a very good method of communication and very useful, and it was essential. A request to be made for the CSO to attend some of the other meetings

(ii) Deployment of Police Community Support Officers – letter received from Chief Superintendent Feavyour dated 7th February 2005. The Clerk was requested to write expressing dismay at the deployment policy, especially as it had been accepted by police that Quorn is in a unique situation (especially with regard to Rawlins), and Quorn should keep its Community Support Officer on the basis of need not cost. Cost sharing should not be considered a option acceptable to the Council, but in the event of this being a proposition, the Council would need to be informed as soon as possible. Copy of the letter to go to Mr David Saville, Chairman of the Police Authority.

05/36 MATTERS ARISING

(i) One-way system and traffic management. A copy of the report had been enclosed with the agenda. Cllr Hutchinson thanked the members of the Parish Council that attended the site meeting. The Borough and the County were involved in the proposed scheme to realign the car park exit, and it was felt beneficial to ask what the plans were for enhancement apart from the entrance and exit. Cllr Hutchinson will contact Vicky Walsh to ask if Charnwood could put present a design brief in this respect. Concern was expressed that this should not unduly delay resurfacing of the car park because of its poor condition.

B Cllr Slater advised that the Borough of Charnwood were presently embarking upon a car parking strategy, which could have implications.

It was proposed and agreed unanimously not to go ahead with point 9 of the points raised in Mr Stephens' letter (advance direction sign indicating route to School Lane to be erected at site of existing traffic signal and crossroads sign on the High Street.)

Discussion was held regarding signs, and in particular why signs could not be erected on lampposts (to save additional posts). The Parish Council feel that multiplicity of signs is unacceptable, and would request that if it is a policy decision not to erect signs on lampposts then they should ask for a change in policy. County Councillor Kershaw to be asked to clarify.

(ii) Litter bins in churchyard etc. Charnwood Borough Council will remove and dispose of old litter bins and install new ones at a cost of £65.00 per bin (3 for The Banks and 5 for the churchyard). A 'neat' installation was requested, and the Clerk to the Council will meet on site to discuss.

(iii) Affordable Housing Application. Amended details were enclosed with the agenda. There had been a change in road layout etc. The Clerk to the Council had received a copy of a letter addressed to the Planning Authority from Mr Hoyland, a local resident, who had complained regarding a "poor display of notices" and he also felt the consultation process was flawed.

(iv) Fire engines going down Barrow Road: C Cllr Kershaw was assured by the Director of Services that services were notified when Barrow Road was temporarily closed and when permanently closed, and they will be advised again.

(v) Planting scheme in Barrow Road: To go ahead in March. There were indications that vehicles were still getting through the closed off section and C Cllr Kershaw had requested an additional bollard.

(vi) Cllr Stirling had requested under what statutory power could a Parish Council spend money on someone else's land. The Clerk advised that this was under the 1894 Local Government Act Section 8.1. Cllr Stirling requested a copy of the Act.

05/37 COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) Minutes of the Cave's Field Management Committee meeting held on 27th January – circulated at the last Parish Council Meeting.

(a) Cllr Mrs Templeman proposed that the Parish Council ask their solicitors to write to the residents of 9 Warwick Avenue along the lines of the minutes of the Cave's Field Management Meeting – ie that the Parish Council had noticed the gate, and were comfortable with the pedestrian only access whilst that person resided in the property, but it should not be expanded past their ownership. This was unanimously agreed.

(b) Fun Run: Cllr Mrs Bloodworth was organising this. Cllr Mrs Templeman proposed that people obtain sponsorship and the money be used for a particular part of Cave's Field that they wished it to be used for (ie Parish Council, Scouts, Guides, etc.). Any money raised given to the Parish Council from the Fun Run to be used for Cave's Field. It was agreed that this will be earmarked for that purpose.

(c) Railings. Cllr Mrs Templeman has met with the representative from Stowfledge Ironworks. Stowfledge were holding the price and there was just one more item to be clarified. Request was made for the budget allocation to be carried forward as it could take a further six weeks. It was agreed that the money should be identified and then transferred into the new capital reserve

for next year (£4400). A request for an additional £400 approximately was made for a 6' height barrier for gates to be added to the order (to deter travellers etc.). It was agreed this should be dealt with as it occurs. The formal order to now be drawn up.

(d) Play equipment: Now installed – excellent but unfortunately in the wrong place. The Clerk to the Council is awaiting feedback from the representative regarding moving it to the correct place.

(ii) Village Hall Committee meeting held on 7th February 2005 (minutes enclosed with the agenda).

(a) Cllr Child reported that the cleaning contract had been awarded.

(b) Mrs Bruce would be attending at the start of the next meeting on Monday 7th March 2005 to receive her retirement gift. All members were invited to attend.

(c) Redevelopment plan: The 'design and build' option was considered suitable and tender documents, including the approved design on CD, would be going out to a list of persons with a closing date of June requested. Costs should then be known.

(d) Regular user booking: Mr David Cawdell and CAMRA have severed links. The Beer Festival booking is now changed to a private booking.

(e) Centre Screen: Cllr Stirling and Cllr Mrs Bloodworth advised they have £150 to hand over to the Clerk to the Council from the Calendar Girls showing. 'Ladies in Lavender' for 9th March has already sold out – 120 seats sold. The Clerk to the Council advised that the Mayor's fund had awarded a grant of £150. The Mayor will be attending the event on 9th March.

(iii) Finance Committee meeting held on 8th February 2005 – the minutes were enclosed with the agenda.

Cllr Bexon proposed that the Risk Assessment be adopted. This was agreed and all were in favour. Discussion was held regarding risk assessments. It was noted that it was important that risk assessment be regarded as an ongoing, not annual, assessment. Chair persons of committees to look at risks etc. within their own areas (i.e. Tom Long's meadow to be discussed at Cave's Field Meetings etc.).

Cllr Bexon also advised that David Southwart had indicated he may be moving and therefore the Parish Council may need a new internal auditor shortly.

05/38 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

(i) Loughborough integrated transport project. Consultation and questionnaire. The Clerk advised she had questionnaires for anyone wishing to read and complete. The area for the inner relief road had been identified for many years and 3 county projects were out for consultation – to be back by 7th March. Only 1 referred to a 'bus shelter/station facility. The land identified is now up for sale and for this to progress heavy negotiations were needed.

(ii) Mountsorrel Quarry. Request to vary conditions. An amendment had been received regarding overburden. The consultation period ceases 18th March 2005.

Cllr Stirling spoke in connection with 13 (i) of the agenda regarding Quarry tree planting and felling and asked for this to be discussed at this point. He had been in touch with Peter Gamble regarding replanting and asked that the Parish Council request that tree planting be of indigenous species and extra care be taken over the first 10 years regarding brambles etc. Bluebells, wood anemones, etc. had been pointed out to him by Peter Gamble and a brambles incursion would effect them. Cllr Tyler and Cllr Bexon had been advised that trees cut down so far have been because they are diseased. Cllr Stirling asked that Lefarge be asked what their plans were. The Clerk to the Council gave the papers regarding the amendment to Cllr Stirling for him to peruse. It was agreed the initial response should be that the Parish Council were very concerned that the result of the impact of the application on the SSSI would not be known until after the close of the consultation period. Until noise impact of construction and ongoing noise pollution and results of biological/ground studies were known the Parish Council would be unable to make informed comment. The Parish Council were concerned and needed more information on noise and need to see the outcome of the biological report. It was also felt that the information needed to be available before the County Council could make a decision. Copy of the response to go to C Cllr Kershaw and he be asked to present the Parish Council's views. An estimate of any noise pollution changes/benefits should also be requested.

C Cllr Kershaw advised he had been asked recently about quarry working hours and renewal date for the licence. He said the working hours are from 6 am until 10 pm and the licence was dated June 1994, with a review due after 15 years – ie in 2009.

(iii) Walk around village/speed readings to be taken: C Cllr Kershaw handed the Clerk to the Council a report of speed readings taken.

(iv) Traffic humps etc.: The Clerk has received a communication from a gentleman from Paddock Close regarding traffic cushions and cyclists. High Street is to be resurfaced in the summer and traffic humps would be replaced at the same time. Any repairs would be undertaken in the meantime. C Cllr Kershaw advised that if the Parish Council wished to make any changes then the work would be delayed and not be able to take place this summer. The Parish Council felt happy that changes were not needed.

05/39 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

- (i) Town Centre masterplan. Consultation and questionnaire. The Clerk handed out copies to all present should Members wish to respond.
- (ii) Air quality review and assessment in Charnwood: Re Mountsorrel Quarry and steam railway. Information has been received by the Clerk.
- (iii) Charnwood Development Framework. Consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Documents: The Clerk has the following documentation:
 - (a) Statement of consultation
 - (b) Leading in design. Supplementary planning document – consultation draft.
 - (c) Leading in design. Sustainability appraisal report.
 - (d) Leading in design. Shopfronts and signs – consultation draft.
 - (e) Leading in design. Shopfronts and signs – sustainability appraisal report.
 - (f) Loughborough University East Park. Supplementary planning document – consultation draft.

- (g) Loughborough University East Park. Sustainability appraisal report.
- (h) Loughborough Student Housing. Supplementary planning document. Options report.
- (i) Student housing provision. Supplementary planning document – consultation draft.
- (j) Student housing provision. Sustainability appraisal report.

05/40 PLANNING MATTERS

- (a) **04/4353** Planning application for Freehold Street – discussed at last meeting – permission had been refused.
- (b) **03/2364** site for residential development Meynell Road. This was granted subject to 'bus stops, access to shops and 106 agreement – to introduce 30 mph and traffic calming and no access to Rawlins. The Clerk to check if the Parish Council would be getting any funds from the development.
- (c) **04/3952** Removal of 1 Sycamore, 1 birch tree, 12 Orchard Estate. Permission refused.
- (d) **20 Chaveney Road:** Mr Allwoods comments were noted. This matter to be discussed at a Regulatory Committee Meeting on Monday 7th March at 5 pm. Personal presence was required for any objection and, in the absence of any Parish Councillor being available to attend, it was agreed to brief Borough Cllr Kershaw. It was proposed and agreed to object on the grounds of an inappropriate obtrusion in a conservation area and ask the Borough Councillor to present this view on behalf of the Parish Council.
- (e) **87 Meeting Street. 2 applications in – (1) for 2 dwellings and (2) for a single 5 bed roomed 2.5 storey house.** It was agreed the single property would be preferable.
- (f) **05/0264 - 29 Orchard Estate** – 2 storey rear extension.
- (g) **05/0298 - 39 Station Road** – single storey extension.
- (h) **05/0244 - 29 Chaveney Road** – 2 storey and side extension.
- (i) **05/0378 5 Orchard Estate** – 2 storey extension.

05/41 CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – 2 discussion documents received ; (a) Why neighbourhoods matter and (b) Vibrant local leadership. The Clerk to the Council has the paperwork.
- (ii) Mr M Tobin – Litter in Stafford Orchard. Mr Tobin wrote concerning the state of the children's play area. The period coincided with the time when the handyman was off ill. It was noted that the litter situation has improved considerably since the staff at Rawlins agreed to keep Year 10 in at lunchtimes.
- (iii) Mrs S Aldwinckle – dog fouling on village streets. Letter received, with copy sent to Charnwood Borough Council, regarding dog fouling.
- (iv) Macmillan cancer relief – request for donation. Donation agreed in principle but request to be made for this to go to a more local branch of the Macmillan Fund if possible.
- (v) Rural Community Council – new best village competition. Information regarding the new structure and separate categories. It was agreed not to participate this year.
- (vi) Loughborough Endowed Schools - use of field as community land. Tom Allardyce the Estate Manager had been in touch. They are keen to progress turning the field into community use. Working group to be formed (Cllr Child,

Cllr Croysdale, Cllr Hutchinson and others). The Clerk to contact Mr Allardyce and advise of the setting up of the working party.

05/41 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

(i) Quarry tree planting and felling – Cllr T Stirling. Already discussed under County Council Matters.

(ii) Quorn in Bloom – Cllr Mrs Bloodworth circulated information prior to the meeting. Cllr Child advised that the May Day group would have funds available and may consider making a donation to Quorn in Bloom.

It was proposed that the Parish Council underwrite any shortfall for Quorn in Bloom up to a maximum amount of £1000 if money cannot be raised. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth did not vote on this, but all others unanimously agreed.

(iii) State of tidiness of public areas in the village – Cllr Stirling. Discussion was held regarding the general standard of tidiness of many areas in the village – The Banks, School Lane, Stoop Lane, outside shops, footpath by Medical Centre etc.

It was agreed that more resources may need to be put in for the additional work required. It was also agreed to ask the Rawlins Liaison Committee to raise the questions of litter etc. at their meeting.

The Clerk advised that the handyman had a job schedule but that this was devised some time ago and may well need updating. The Clerk will provide a copy of the original schedule. Cllr Stirling agreed to liaise with the handyman and undertake a management audit with a view to looking at alternative working arrangements and more detailed instructions and ascertaining what additional resources may have to be input.

05/42 PAYMENT LIST AND SUMMARY SHEET FOR FEBRUARY

- (1) All payments were approved.
- (2) The barrister payment was noted, and also that the Xmas lights grant had not yet been received.

05/43 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS

- (a) Cllr Child reported the churchyard lighting was not functioning. The Clerk will report this. Cllr Stirling has a spare bulb if needed.
- (b) Cllr Child reported the Poulteney Brook appeared to be unnaturally high. This was as a result of a (natural) blockage in Tom Long's Meadow.
- (c) May Day celebrations will take place on Sunday 1st May 2005.
- (d) Cllr Bexon advised a meeting had taken place with the Church Rooms Committee to discuss proposals for the Banks II project. Proposals discussed were given back to the designer to consider and design to be revisited and funding ideas looked at.
- (e) Seats at the Cross: Attention to the condition of the seats was requested by Cllr Mrs Bloodworth.
- (f) Cllr Mrs Harrison advised that the 40 mph sign was down in Woodhouse Road.
- (g) Cllr Stirling advised he would be reporting to the Village Hall Committee regarding Centre Stage.

(h) Licensing being dealt with by local authorities. Cllr Stirling asked if the Parish Council should have a policy regarding licensing extensions etc. This item to be included on the next Plans and Policy Committee Meeting agenda.

The meeting ceased at 22.40.

Chair Date