

## QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

### PRESENT

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Cllr J Hutchinson (Chair) | Cllr P Child         |
| Cllr I Bexon              | Cllr Mrs J Backus    |
| Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth     | Cllr T Stirling      |
| Cllr T Tyler              | Cllr Mrs E Harrison  |
| Cllr J Maltby             | Cllr Mrs S Templeman |

Borough Cllr R Shepherd  
Borough Cllr D Slater

Community Support Officer Chris Kendall

|                |   |                          |
|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Mr D Southwart | - | Internal Auditor         |
| Mrs K Paterson | - | Clerk to the Council     |
| Mrs B Holland  | - | Administrative Assistant |

3 members of the public.

### 06/29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr K Croysdale and County Councillor T Kershaw.

### 06/30 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(a) Mr Ian Hayes spoke regarding a planning application for a new 4-bedroomed, 5-bathroom detached house adjacent to where he lives in Disraeli Street. Mr Hayes said he and 3 neighbours were hoping the Parish Council would consider making a formal objection to the application. A previous planning approval for a bungalow at the location had lapsed. He said the development would cause loss of natural light both to the rear and front of number 15, and, from a privacy point of view, the garden would be overlooked. The garden would be in shade from 2 pm each day. The adjacent property (10 Mansfield Street) would be completely in shade. Nursery Lane would also suffer from traffic noise. Disraeli Street could become the sole access to a number of households, and if this was the case the dimensions would appear to be less than the stipulated regulations.

Mr Hayes had no objection to a bungalow being built, as originally planned. Borough Cllr Slater said he discuss the matter with Mr Hayes.

Mr Hayes was thanked for his comments and advised that the application would be considered later in the meeting under item 10 - Planning Matters.

(b) Mr Ian Newcombe, proprietor of the Post Office in Quorn, said he wished to speak to the Parish Council regarding the possibility that from 2010 Post Office card accounts could be discontinued and this would have a serious

effect on users of the Post Office. In 2002 the government had made a decision that everyone who wanted to could draw their pension from Post Offices, it now seems that this policy is to be reversed. Mr Newcombe said that in Quorn some 250 customers used this facility – many in the more elderly bracket and many with disabilities. They would then have to go to a bank in town, which would encourage people to go out of the village to shop and therefore it could affect all businesses in Quorn. Endeavours were being made to bring pressure to bear at Borough, County and National level that the pledge should be kept and enable people to continue to use their Post Offices.

Parish Council members asked that this item go on the next meeting's agenda for discussion and Mr Newcombe was welcome to attend that meeting. Cllr Stirling said he would also raise the topic of preservation of community services at the next Parish Councils' Meeting and Leicestershire Parish Councils' meeting.

(c) Mrs Paterson advised that Mr D Cox had wished to attend the meeting to talk about the Quorn Wakes 2006. Mr Cox would be asked if he would like to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

#### **06/31 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2006**

With regard to point 06/19 (a) the school mentioned regarding the zigzags was St Bartholomew's Primary School.

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

#### **06/32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

|                       |   |   |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Cllr Mrs S Templeman  | - | Personal and prejudicial regarding planning application Spinney Drive and personal regarding Caves Field        |
| Cllr P Child          | - | Prejudicial regarding an item of correspondence regarding May Day celebrations and person regarding Caves Field |
| Cllr Mrs J Bloodworth | - | Personal and prejudicial regarding planning application Spinney Drive   |
| Cllr T Tyler          | - | Personal regarding planning application Spinney Drive   |
| Cllr J Maltby         | - | Personal and prejudicial regarding planning application Spinney Drive and personal regarding any church issues  |
| Cllr I Bexon          | - | personal as resident of Dower House Gardens (under matters arising)   |
| B Cllr Slater         | - | regarding planning application Spinney Drive  |
| Cllr T Stirling       | - | prejudicial re request for grant for Village Design Statement   |

#### **06/33 POLICING MATTERS**

Community Support Office Chris Kendall was welcomed to the meeting.

CSO Kendall reported that in February there had been 1 burglary (dwelling) and 2 burglaries (other than dwellings). There had been 3 thefts from persons and all were regarding mobile 'phones, 3 thefts from motor vehicles and 1 theft of a motor vehicle. The vehicle had since been recovered. An incident of fraud regarding a sponsored event was still ongoing and now in the hands of CID.

CSO Kendall was pleased to report that Quorn police now had 2 more PCSO's – 1 now for each village. A number of people had been put forward for the Safe at Home Scheme and had been given equipment which has all been fitted. They hoped to get more people forward for the scheme and details were in the recent newsletter.

Issues regarding yellow lines were still being taken up. Comments were made regarding recent leaflets circulated requesting clothing for third world which did not appear to be from a charity. CSO Kendall advised that registered business numbers were being declared on the leaflets, which showed they were not charities. Nothing was being done illegally but people may not always be aware as the registered business numbers were not always displayed prominently.

Cllr Child advised that he had been approached by residents at the Mills concerning a nuisance being caused by a number of youngsters revving up cars and playing music loudly etc. in the car park, particularly in the early hours of the morning. There also appeared to be underage drivers. CSO Kendall said these could be offences under Section 59 of the Road Traffic Act 2000 and the youngsters could be issued with a warning. Any further information would be welcomed, and he will arrange for the area to be visited.

Cllr Mrs Templeman reported that St Bartholomew School's Travel Plan had been nominated by the police and would receive Sainsbury's vouchers from the Quorn LPU. Cllr Mrs Templeman said this was very much appreciated by the school.

#### **06/34 MATTERS ARISING**

(a) Containers on Rawlins Playing Fields. Mrs Paterson advised that she had now received a reply from Rawlins to her letter regarding the containers and apologising for the delay in replying. The containers were secure storage for sports equipment – 1 for Quorn Juniors Football Club (for which permission had been given) and the other for Rawlins' College sports equipment. Planning permission had not been sought at the time for this and the college were now addressing this omission.

(b) Planning application 06/0091 Retention of tree house, Armston Road. Although this matter had been considered at the last meeting, new information had since come to light and, in consultation via e-mail with councillors, Mrs Paterson reported that she had objected on behalf of the Parish Council as the development is in protective woodland, and is considered to be an unwarranted visual intrusion. The matter was going to the planning committee on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006. Thanks were given to Mrs Paterson for taking this initiative.

(c) New 'bus shelter – Leicester Road/Wood Lane. Mrs Paterson advised that the bus shelter had been ordered and would be finished at the end of

March and installed in April. The total for supply and to install was £4750. Leicestershire County Council was giving 50% in grant aid, leaving the Parish Council's contribution to be £2375 (slightly higher than anticipated). It was proposed and agreed to pay for the installation and to take the balance out of Contingency. Thanks were given to Mr Southam for his input in the matter.

(d) Station Road Car Park: Mrs Paterson had received a letter from the Principal Building Surveyor for Charnwood Borough Council. Points raised were (1) The Council's obligation is to comply with the lease which runs out in 2010 and (2) regarding the environmental improvement, as an environmental agreement has not been agreed and funding was not in place then unless the lease can be extended Charnwood could only undertake repair works. Townlands charity had asked Charnwood Borough Council to go ahead with the repairs.

Cllr Bexon asked that a meeting with Charnwood be arranged to discuss town centre regeneration as the car park area could come under this heading and this should therefore be pursued with the borough council. The Borough Council did not appear to have liaised with the County Council regarding their highways meeting and plans put forward. Mrs Paterson will make enquiries.

It was proposed and agreed to step back and await developments, but pursue seeking support from Charnwood with regard to the lottery bid. There were concerns regarding the impact on the proposed county improvements from safety points of view on making the one-way system safer on leaving the car park, for which drawings had already been produced. Mrs Paterson will check with Mr John Brogden at County Highways

(e) Kelcey Road Lake: Cllr Mrs Backus reported that the skip had arrived and tidying work started, and all was moving along nicely. The working party that had been set up started the work the Sunday before, 5<sup>th</sup> March, and were going to undertake a litter 'hit' on Loughborough Road. Cllr Hutchinson advised that the hedge was being cut back by the County Council, which should aid the clearing of litter by Charnwood Borough Council.

*(f) Confidential item: It was agreed that this would be discussed at the end of the meeting.*

(g) The Banks 2: Cllr Bexon advised that the Flag Grant allocated for 2005/6 would have been used for the lights in Church Lane, the power supply to The Banks and the greening on Parish Council land. However the County Council had failed to order the lights and therefore the power supply could not be installed. The trees and their bases have been ordered. The £13,000 could now be lost.

Bellinger Design has identified a further grant fund at Charnwood, which has to be applied for, regarding artistic wrought iron work. This could raise about £9,000 towards the shortfall. There was no news yet on the deconsecrating. The contractors had agreed to extend the contract. Cllr Bexon hoped to come back to the next meeting with the budget and contract. The meeting thanked Cllr Bexon and Mrs Paterson for all their work.

(h) Heritage Lottery: Cllr Bexon advised that a lot of work had been done already and things were now at the pre-application stage. There was a

meeting to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2006 regarding the old St Bartholomew's primary school.

(i) Quorndon Terrace: Cllr Stirling said that he had spoken to Mr Bott, who had informed him that the County Council are insisting that Severn Trent reposition the stop tap on the pavement before anything could be done.

(j) Graffiti: The graffiti on the brick wall in the car park had been removed. B Cllr Slater suggested that the graffiti at the rear of number 5 Dower House Gardens and on the Wedding Path wall be reported to the Cleansing Department at Charnwood Borough Council. Mrs Paterson will report the matters to them

(k) Cave's Field: Cllr Mrs Templeman asked if all had received her e-mail regarding the consultation document for the project for the NE of Cave's Field, and requested any comments be forwarded to her.

(l) Flag grant for the Banks 2: The Parish Council wished to minute their thanks for County Councillor Kershaw for his full support for the Flag scheme.

(m) New crossing/traffic lights Woodhouse Road: Mrs Paterson had received an e-mail from a resident concerning the reinstatement. When the works were completed it is anticipated that the area would be reinstated to a good standard.

## **06/35 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(1) Village Hall Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February – minutes of which had been circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Child formally proposed, as discussed at the Village Hall Meeting, that a cleaner be employed 6 days a week for 1 hour a day at £6.25 per hour (approximately £1700 per year) from the start of the financial year on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006. This was seconded and unanimously agreed. Cllr Bexon commented that, although he approved of the principle, this was not in the annual budget and asked in future that that any anticipated spending should be put forward for the November budget-setting meeting each year.

(i) Cllr Child gave a presentation on Village Hall redevelopment. He showed the preferred (consented) scheme and the alternative DDA compliance scheme. Costings in 2002 for the preferred scheme were £250000 and the DDA (revised) plan £120000. Options were discussed including a phased approach – giving phase I as the extension and front of the hall and Phase II the back end of the hall. Mrs Paterson had put together a number of funding options which were listed and discussed in the presentation. A new Reaching Communities Grant for £10000 to £500000 was noted and a Community Buildings Fund was being introduced in June. No details were available yet.

Thanks were given to Cllr Child for all his work on the very clear and updated presentation. Cllr Child distributed sheets on his presentation.

This item was on the next village Hall Committee agenda and it was agreed to refer it to committee and feedback any views and look at recommendations next time. There had to be a plan and details on how the work was going to be undertaken.

2. Finance Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2006. Minutes of the meeting and revised financial regulations, risk assessment and guidance notes for events were circulated with the agenda.

(a) Banking arrangements: A satisfactory response had been received from the Co-op Bank regarding information needed to open an account. It was proposed, subject to confirmation from the local post office that it can act as banker and that the interest rates are still competitive, to attempt to switch accounts from the Royal Bank of Scotland to the Co-op Bank's Community Direct Plus Account. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

(b) Financial Regulations – emergency repairs to Council equipment: It was proposed to approve a revised Financial Regulations document for emergency repairs to Council equipment. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

(c) Risk Assessment: Minor amendments had been made to the Risk Assessment document. It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously to approve the revised Risk Assessment, to be produced as part of the annual accounts.

(d) Proposed changes to Finance Committee composition: It was proposed that the Committee consist of: Chairman of Council, Chairmen of all Standing Committees, two other councillors and the Clerk. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

(e) Staff salary increase: It was proposed that the Council approve increases from 1<sup>st</sup> April as proposed by NALC and that the Clerk should receive an incremental rise to SP33. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

(f) Parish Council events/activities: Cllr Mrs Templeman produced draft guidelines based on the Financial Regulations for all councillors and anyone running events on the Council's behalf. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that this document should form an appendix to the Financial Regulations.

3. Christmas Lights Subcommittee group – verbal report. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth reported that a meeting had been held the previous week and it was hoped to go ahead with the electrics in the War Memorial and Station Road. The lights would be left in the trees. Advice to be sought from Charnwood Borough Council on possible problems with tall vehicles catching the lights and the possibility of the trees being cut back further before the lights were installed. Any cutting would need Townlands Charity's permission and comments from the tree person at Charnwood should be sought. Estimates of costs were awaited.

### **06/36 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

(i) Waste Development Framework. Mrs Paterson read out details from the consultation document received. The only ones effecting Quorn were Lefarge considering an extension and transfer site. These were not considered to be significant. Copy of the details to be given to Cllr Bexon for the next Quarry Liaison meeting.

(ii) Hanging baskets on lampposts: County Council requirements included 2 to 3 months notice to street lighting be made. Cllr Mrs Bloodworth advised that she had been in contact with Rawlins who said they would like to help with the baskets. Mrs Paterson will pass a copy of the information to Cllr Mrs Bloodworth and the item to go on the next Environmental Subcommittee agenda.

(iii) ENABLE partnership event -29<sup>th</sup> March: Invitation received to this event – deadline 10<sup>th</sup> March.

(iv) Branchline: Information received and noted.

(v) Shire Grant: Mrs Paterson said that County Councillor Kershaw had advised her that the Shire Grant Scheme is going to continue in a slightly reduced way – film grants will be continuing.

### **06/37 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS**

(i) Campaign for Fairtrade borough status: Charnwood Borough Council have now joined the campaign for Fairtrade borough status.

(ii) Land Registry: Borough Councillor Slater read out a response from Charnwood Borough regarding Land Registry. Charnwood Borough say they are voluntarily registering land at present. By 2012 all land should be registered – this may become compulsory and incentives may not be available in the future if the Parish Council waited until it became compulsory. It was proposed that the Parish Council go ahead and register all land in their ownership. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

(iii) 34 Loughborough Road: Cllr Child reported that there were 3 black bin liners of household waste dumped on the verge at this location. Borough Councillor Slater suggested asking the fly tipping squad at the Borough Council to do deal with it.

(iv) Proctor's caravan site: Borough Councillor Shepherd advised that a site survey taken some 2 or 3 weeks previously was now being documented and would then be presented to Mr Proctor. Action could then be taken through the courts if he did not comply. Thanks were given to B Cllr Shepherd for all his work and support on this issue.

### **06/38 PLANNING MATTERS**

(i) Charnwood 2021 Planning for our next Generation: Core strategy and Loughborough Science Park. Every household in the borough should have received a copy of this document, but this did not appear to be the case and there had been a very poor response to the roadshow at the village hall. There were no specific allocations at the present time and no idea of exact locations but it was very concerning and the Parish Council agreed that they needed to make their feelings known at a very early stage. It was felt that the Village Design Statement should bring the issue to the fore.

There was an opportunity to attend a Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> March 9.30 am to 4.30 pm and a consultation document to be completed. Cllr Stirling will attend the event. The Parish Council delegated that the Plans and Policy subcommittee should respond in strongest terms on behalf of the Parish Council.

Long discussion was held on this subject. The idea of placing some information in the Village News in the Echo was discussed. A straw poll of those present at the meeting showed 50% had not received a brochure. The Parish Council felt there had not been a proper consultation and would wish to hold a public meeting with representatives from Charnwood Borough Council. The consultation on the 24<sup>th</sup> February appeared to have been completely ineffective.

Mrs Paterson was asked to contact Charnwood Borough advising of the Parish Council's concerns and asking if a representative could attend a public meeting. Also ask that in the circumstances the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> March be extended.

(ii) Planning applications:

(a) E-mailed and for discussion:

**06/0259 101a Meeting Street – alterations to access:** Cllr Hutchinson, Cllr Mrs Bloodworth, and Cllr Mrs Templeman left the room whilst this was discussed. Cllr Maltby had already left the meeting by the start of the Planning Applications item. Cllr Child took over as Chair of the meeting. It was felt that comment to planners should be made that the proposed access would be in a safer location but not a particularly good design from the visibility and highway safety point of view – also the actual design of the wall did not seem appropriate for a listed building.

The Councillors returned to the meeting and Cllr Hutchinson resumed as Chair.

**06/0285 102 Mansfield Street: attention to trees:** Mr Peter Gamble, the Council's Tree Warden had reported no problems with this application.

(b) New applications:

**06/0328 Demolition of garage and erection of detached dwelling at land adj to 15 Disraeli Street.** This item was also raised at the start of the meeting under Public Participation. There was an already lapsed planning application for a bungalow which was felt more suitable at this location – as the proposed 5 bedroomed house was considered to be over-dominant. Planners to also be requested to take into account windows overlooking properties etc.

**06/0436 Site for the erection of 1 dwelling (variation of condition) land adj Stoop Lane (Willow Cottage).** No comment

**06/0252 Erection of first floor extension to front and rear, conservatory to rear, bay window to front and entrance porch to side 8 Wrights Close.** No comment

**06/0398 Repositioning of air conditioning and refrigeration units at low level at 20 Station Road (Bradleys)** This was felt to be a visual improvement, but concern was expressed regarding noise being generated at pedestrian and residential level. It was not possible to know from plans available.

**06/0439 Two and single storey extension to side of dwelling at 38 Mansfield Street.** No comment

**06/0566 36 Northage Close – 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension.** No comment

(c) **Outcome of recent planning applications:** Granted: 12 Toller Road, 25 Beacon Road, 18 Alexander Road, 62 Woodhouse Road, renewal of planning permission 15 Chaveney Road agreed; Plot 8 Farnham Street garage agreed.

### **06/39 CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) **HMS Quorndon.** Last letter received from the present Commanding Officer who is leaving – Lieutenant Commander Mark Taylor will be taking over. Mrs Paterson read out the latest news received, which included a CD of photographs. Cllr Stirling has CD to look at photographs.

(ii) **EMA draft master plan consultation:** Draft masterplan and response questionnaire received. Consultation closes in May 2006.

(iii) **Rural Partnership – Living Local Grants for pubs:** Mrs Paterson will distribute copies of the information to local public houses.

(iv) **Mr R Brown – application to release monies for Village Design Statement:** Mr Brown, secretary of the Village Design Statement group applied to release £500 originally agreed by Council when the first group was set up several years ago. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to release up to £500 to the group after the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

(v) **Wall light by church yard:** Mrs Paterson and D W Windsors had met to look at lamps to hang off Bradley's wall. The cost of a suitable lamp would be £593 including delivery and then to install. It was agreed to order the lamp subject to Mrs Paterson contacting Mr Matthews to check that the light can go there and tap into their electricity supply and whether the supply needed to be metered.

(vi) **Leicester Sound – best village/town competition:** Quorn had been nominated and voting could be done via the website. Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March is closing date.

(vii) **Quorn Mayday Celebrations** (Cllr Child did not take part in this discussion). Request received for grant funding. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to give the Mayday Committee a S137 grant of £150.00 from the 2006/7 financial year.

(viii) **Annual Civic Service, Barrow upon Soar:** Invitation received to this service on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 10 am.

### **06/40 PAYMENTS LIST AND SUMMARY SHEET**

Copies of these were distributed with the agenda. They were formally agreed and approved.

### **06/41 GENERAL VILLAGE MATTERS**

(a) **'Bus stop outside Wakerley's site:** Cllr Tyler reported that traffic is blocked when 'buses stop at this location. A request for the 'bus stop to move was included in observations regarding the planning application.

(b) **'Bus stop by Quorn Country Club:** Cllr Tyler reported that road markings need to be made to 'draw' buses to the kerb.

(c) **Soar Road:** Cllr Hutchinson advised that Mrs Harrison of No 1 Soar Road had reported sewage coming out of pipe into the Soar. Checks had been made with the Environmental Agency – who had said this was fairly normal.

(d) **Parish Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May.** It was agreed to change the date of the Parish Council meeting in May to 9<sup>th</sup> May – with the Village Hall Committee meeting would still take place on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

(e) **Annual Parish Meeting:** It was agreed that this should be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2006.

(f) **Mrs Phyllis Field:** Cllr Stirling asked that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs Field on the recent death of her husband John. He was a well regarded resident of Quorn who always faithfully supported village events. Mrs Paterson will write on behalf of the Parish Council.

(g) **Bridle path sign – 41 Sanders Road.** The sign had been taken down during recent alteration works and not yet been replaced. Mrs Paterson will report to highways.

(h) **Bridle path by Quorndon Fox:** There are continuing problems with food odours from the Quorndon fox. The Environmental Health department to be contacted for advice.

*Standing orders were suspended for the following item:*

The meeting ceased at 23.05

Chair ..... Date .....