

## **QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd November 2009  
at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Quorn Village Hall.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr P Child (Chairman)  
Cllr I Bexon  
Cllr T Stirling  
Cllr D Cawdell  
Cllr K Paterson

Cllr J Poland  
Cllr G Hughes  
Cllr E Harrison  
Cllr T Tyler  
Cllr J Bloodworth

Borough Cllr D Slater (for minutes 09/195 - 09/209)  
Borough Cllr R Shepherd (for minutes 09/195 - 09/200)  
County Cllr T Kershaw (for minutes 09/205 – 09/208)

Mrs Lindsay Swinfield            Clerk  
Mrs Melanie Burdett            Asst. Clerk

8 members of the public in attendance

*Note: All Minutes are subject to correction before formal approval at the following meeting. Please check the Minutes of the subsequent meeting to see if corrections were made to these Minutes before ratification.*

### **09/195 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman asked if the members of the public in attendance regarding planning application P/09/2032/2, 8 Loughborough Road would be in agreement to holding a public consultation meeting on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Any public members unable to make the public consultation meeting would be welcome to speak at this Parish Council meeting.

Mr Rick Hoyland attended regarding Santa Maria Bridge and the SSSI land. Mr Hoyland understood from the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting that County Cllr Kershaw was to submit a written response to residents questions prior to this meeting, has the response been received? Mr Hoyland wished to ensure that a written response be made at some point to enable residents to take up the issues with County Cllr Kershaw. Mr Hoyland added that he found it bewildering that residents had not been consulted.

Mr Neil Greenhalgh was unable to attend the meeting to discuss waste management in Quorn as previously advised, but would try and attend in December.

The Chairman wished to extend a welcome to new Councillor Mr Gary Hughes.

### **09/196 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **09/197 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman reminded Members to declare any interests either now or at the time that an item was discussed.

### **09/198 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th October 2009 were **APPROVED** as an accurate record.

### **09/199 POLICING MATTERS**

There were no Police representatives at the meeting.

Cllr Stirling had been informed of an incident on Barrow Road which had occurred on 30<sup>th</sup> October, eggs had been thrown at the resident's windows. There have been previous incidents of racial graffiti directed at the property and Cllr Stirling would like to know what

action is being taken. Cllr Stirling agreed to speak to the Police and report back in time for the next meeting.

It was noted that there had been a disturbing trend of forced entry burglaries, not the usual walk-in or distraction burglaries.

### **09/200 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS**

Cllr Stirling commented on an email received from CBC asking for nominations to attend an 'how to be a good chairman' seminar. Cllr Stirling felt that money would be better spent elsewhere. Borough Cllr Slater advised the seminar was part of an IDEA run scheme and a Cllr Improvement Skills Programme which is now being extended to Parish Councils.

QPC had been waiting for information on the Street Cleansing programme, but have since been informed the rota is not available. Borough Cllr Slater added that due to a change in procedure, a rota is no longer available. Mr Neil Greenhalgh will attend the December Parish Council meeting to provide further information through a presentation. Borough Cllr Shepherd advised that Mr Greenhalgh would like Cllr's to be the 'eyes and ears' of the village and would welcome problem areas being pointed out.

### **09/201 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a) Appoint a new Parish Councillor

Due to the number of public members present, the Chairman suspended Standing Orders and deferred the item to the end of the meeting.

b) Council rescinds its resolution 09/117 (a) of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009

After studying correspondence from CBC about increasing the number of Parish Cllr's from 11 to 13, it appears that QPC would not be able to take on new Cllr's until the next election in 2011. Since the reason for taking on additional Cllr's was to ease current work loads, Cllr Bexon suggested QPC rescind resolution 09/117 (a) of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009. The Chairman fully understood the views put forward, however with the two large projects aside, there are still several groups / committees that are understaffed and increasing numbers can only help. Waiting two years is clearly a problem, however if in two years it is felt QPC needs to increase its numbers there could be a further wait of two to four years. The projects will still create a workload even when completed.

**RESOLVED**, 9 in favour, 1 against (proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Cawdell)

Council rescinds its resolution 09/117 (a) of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 which seeks to increase the number of elected members of QPC to 13.

c) BT Telegraph Pole

The Chairman wished to inform Council that the BT Telegraph pole on High Street had now been removed.

### **09/202 CLERK'S REPORT**

a) Update on Allotment Provision for Quorn

An email was circulated prior to the meeting. As long as QPC distinguish between allotment provision and planning applications, would remain within the rules. CBC have confirmed that this is the only suitable allotment land (refer to 09/186 of 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009), and there are now options open to pursue this land through the legal framework. Cllr Stirling asked if QPC wished to take matters forward or drop the issue. It was agreed there was not enough information available at this point to debate fully. The Clerk reminded Cllr's to be very careful not to confuse the issue of allotment provision and planning application. CBC only looked at available land within the Parish; allotment land can be located outside the Parish. Clerk to contact Chris Traill at CBC to seek further advice on taking this forward in view of the number of people on the allotment waiting list.

b) Annual Meeting Dates

The annual meeting dates for 2010 were **NOTED AND ACCEPTED**.

### **09/203 UNPROTECTED ANCIENT REMAINS**

Cllr Cawdell requested this item be added to the agenda. It was not realised there were such historic remains so close to the Village. Cllr Cawdell showed photographs of the site in the area of Chaveney Mill and proposed that some degree of protection be obtained to keep the remains as an ancient monument. It was suggested that the Secretary of State be approached to obtain this protection. There are land owner grants available to restore / preserve areas such as these. Cllr Cawdell felt that Cllr Paterson may be able to advise what needs to be done. It was suggested the first course of action would be to have the remains scheduled / protected. Clerk to contact Andy Hayes for advice and ask him to contact English Heritage on QPC's behalf. He may also be able to suggest the best way of seeking help from the Secretary of State.

### **09/204 MAINTENANCE OF IT, CCTV AND SOFTWARE FOR QPC**

The item was raised as it is felt that QPC do not have support in place for computer and data systems. Cllr Cawdell had recently had to re-programme the CCTV system following a camera failure, but may not always be available should this need to be done again in the future. The Clerk informed Cllr's of recent problems in attempting to install the HMRC CD Rom, which is used for PAYE. The online helpdesk are still looking into the problem however it would be helpful to have an IT expert in the background to call on if necessary. Cllr Child suggesting approaching the IT section at CBC to enquire if they can offer help. Borough Cllr Slater was unsure if they could offer this type of service but it would be worth trying and suggested contacting Steve Horner. Cllr Bexon added that a contract did exist with Tim Rodgers; he is happy to continue with the maintenance of the website and deal with any email issues but doesn't wish to take on the role of IT guru.

**RESOLVED**, Unanimous (proposed by Cllr Cawdell and seconded by Cllr Harrison)  
QPC pursue the resource of an IT Consultant.

### **09/205 THE OLD SCHOOL UPDATE**

#### a) Planning Application – Car Parking

At the last joint meeting of QPC and Trustees the final plan was presented. As part of the plan there is a requirement by the Library Service for car parking, with a minimum of three spaces. There were two options provided by the Trustees, both options involve using a part of Stafford Orchard. Option one involves part of the raised hedge being removed to put in parking bays, while option two would involve driving in off School Lane into Stafford Orchard. Twenty spaces would be created with option two and ten spaces with option one. A long discussion was held on the pros and cons of each option. The Chairman made the following summary of the discussion. There are a number of issues which QPC remains ignorant of. There will be damage to trees with both options and therefore should be further investigated. No decision can be made at this meeting and it is suggested that Trustees come back to December's meeting with further information. There would be nothing to stop QPC contacting highways for their opinion and also obtaining a professional opinion on the trees **AGREED**.

#### b) Old School Budget and Finance Management

There are no plans to add to the budget next year at this stage. This year's budget is now almost gone.

### **09/206 PARKS FOR PEOPLE (P4P - STAFFORD ORCHARD)**

#### a) Heritage Buildings Grant Application

QPC are now responsible for the Lock Up, which is a listed building. A meeting was held on site and it was recommended a survey be carried out on restoring the building, there are funds available for this.

**RESOLVED**, Unanimous (proposed by Cllr Paterson, seconded by Cllr Cawdell)

A grant application to restore the Lock Up building is made in the name of Quorn Parish Council.

#### b) Permission to use Stafford Orchard for parking on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009.

Cllr Bloodworth sought permission to use Stafford Orchard on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 for parking at the Christmas Lights Switch On, **AGREED**.

#### c) K47 Footpath

Cllr Stirling was not in the room for this discussion.

The K47 footpath currently runs around the back of the Station Road toilet block and not straight through to the Church as you would expect. By re-routing the footpath it would be possible to block off the area behind the toilets, and perhaps use the area as a groundsman's store. Costs involved in the re-routing process would be £200 for the re-route and £600 for advertising and could take approximately 12 months. Cllr Bexon suggested trying to move money within the P4P budget to cover these costs.

**RESOLVED**, Unanimous (proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Harrison)

Council embarks on the process of re-routing the K47 footpath.

d) Future Use of Stafford Orchard Park

Cllr Bexon has received emails regarding the use of the Stafford Orchard Park next year. As per a note to Cllr Harrison containing the schedule of works, major events will not be able to take place next year as the park will be under construction.

A request has been received from the Quorndon Magazine for answers on how the park will be managed. These questions cannot be answered by the P4P team, who are only concerned with the design and reconstruction of the park.

e) Swyne Green

QPC has now purchased Swyne Green (land between K47 and the brook, including the brook). Land Registry has identified a small section of land registered to David Wilson. The options available are as follows

i. Don't register the land in QPC's name.

ii. Challenge the ownership, David Wilson would then be required to prove ownership.

iii. QPC register ownership and it would then be up to David Wilson to object.

If David Wilson does own the land they would have riparian responsibility for half of the weir.

**RESOLVED**, 9 in favour, 1 abstention (proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Tyler)

In the event that David Wilson's (a) satisfy the Land Registry that they are in possession, or (b) object to a change of title even if they cannot show possession, QPC does not apply for alteration of title LT332002.

## **09/207 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) The minutes of the HR Sub Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and the Environment Committee meeting held of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 were **NOTED**.

## **09/208 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) Santa Maria Bridge and SSSI Update

County Cllr Kershaw had forwarded his response to resident's questions on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009, but it had not been received, due to an incorrect email address. County Cllr Kershaw agreed to re-send his email to the Clerk. The questions had been answered by Andrew Winnington. The Chairman read out the response from a hardcopy supplied by County Cllr Kershaw. Cllr Stirling wished to see measures put in place to improve the quality of the SSSI area. County Cllr Kershaw confirmed that LCC have no interest in any land relating to the SSSI, Mr Proctor owns the whole of the meadow area. Mr Proctor's stewardship of the site should be brought into question. Cllr Stirling queried whether CBC knew, having embarked on enforcement action against Mr Proctor, that LCC had agreed to sell him further land. The lack of communication between LCC and CBC is concerning. Clerk to write to Natural England to encourage better stewardship of the site, **AGREED**.

Borough Cllr Slater agreed to access Land Registry to confirm areas owned by Mr Proctor and to provide the legal indictment list for circulation to residents who raised the queries.

b) Raised Footpath

The Environment Agency has been contacted for a grant re the raised footpath; however no response (either positive or negative) has been received as yet. County Cllr Kershaw will keep QPC informed.

c) Street Lighting

County Cllr Kershaw had previously raised the issue of light pollution. LCC are considering a scheme trialling the switching off/dimming of street lights and using alternative lights. The scheme is likely to happen in the foreseeable future. QPC would like to put the village forward to take part in the trial.

## **09/209 PLANNING**

**P/09/2032/2:** 8 Loughborough Road, Quorn, LE12 8DX.

This application was deferred for discussion until the public consultation meeting scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2009. It was agreed that Cllr Paterson (Vice-Chair) would Chair the public consultation meeting as it would be inappropriate for Cllr Child to do so. The Clerk will write the submission based on notes/comments from the public consultation meeting.

### **Soar House**

Correspondence from Mr Alan Godber and Mr Geoffrey Smith was circulated prior to the meeting.

Borough Cllr Slater confirmed the matter will be brought to the CBC Cabinet meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009, the outcome of the meeting will be available on the CBC website from 27<sup>th</sup> November. He felt that as the owners had chosen not to put the problems right they have laid themselves open for future action.

**RESOLVED**, Unanimous (proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Cawdell)

QPC to write to the acting Chief Executive and Cabinet Members at CBC highlighting the failings of those involved over Soar House. The developer for not correctly following planning conditions, Charnwood Borough Council for not acting quickly enough to resolve the issues and Solicitors for failing to correctly advise their clients.

There is a moral obligation for someone to put this right.

A copy of the letter should also be copied to Dave Hankin at CBC. The item will be added to a future agenda for discussion. A copy of the Cabinet report should be circulated to all Cllr's following the meeting.

### **Notification of the following applications had been e-mailed to the Planning Scrutiny Group with no requests for any to be considered at this meeting:**

**P/09/2121/2:** Works to lower branches of tree (Conservation Area Notice), Santa Maria Lodge, 31 Soar Road, Quorn, LE12 8BN.

**P/09/2029/2:** Erection of first floor extensions to rear and side of dwelling, 10 Toller Road, Quorn, LE12 8AH.

**P/09/1998/2:** Erection of first floor extension to side of dwelling, 3 Beardsley Road, Quorn, LE12 8UX.

**P/09/1931/2:** Erection of 2 two-storey, four bedroomed dwellings with associated garages (revised scheme P/08/0904/2 refers), Rear of 56 Woodhouse Road, Quorn, LE12 8AJ.

**P/09/1866/2:** Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling, 4 Giles Close, Quorn, LE12 8YS.

### **Decisions had been notified concerning the following applications:**

**P/09/1729/2:** Work to various trees, 10 Meeting Street, Quorn, LE12 8EX, **Do not make Tree Preservation Order.**

**P/09/1340/2:** Demolition of dwelling and erection of 12 dwellings with altered vehicular access (Revised scheme – withdrawn P/08/2507/2 refers), Land at 34 Woodhouse Road, Quorn, LE12 8ED, **Grant Conditionally.**

**2009/1902/02 (County Council Identity Number: 2009/L116/02):** Variation of condition number 4 of planning permission 2009/0680/02 to extend the period of time the existing mobile classrooms remain on site, St Bartholomew's Primary School, Willowcroft, Quorn, **Grant Conditionally.**

## **09/210 CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Letter from Quorn Tankard Society

Quorn Tankard Society has requested use of Stafford Orchard on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2009 for a charity football match and on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010 for Party in the Park.

Cllr's agreed to the request for 26<sup>th</sup> December, however in August 2010 the park will be undergoing refurbishment therefore will be unavailable for use. Clerk to write to Quorn Tankard Society and advise.

b) CPRE – AGM

The AGM of the Leicestershire CPRE will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November at Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall, **NOTED.**

c) Lafarge Liaison Committee

The minutes of the Lafarge Liaison Committee have been received. A section of the minutes referring to a recent planning application by Lafarge states that no objections were received from either Rothley or Quorn Parish Councils. QPC did submit comments on the application, Clerk to contact Lafarge.

**09/211 PAYMENTS, RESERVES LIST AND SUMMARY SHEET**

**RESOLVED**, That the payments list totalling **£12,041.53** be approved. The payments list was signed by the Chairman.

a) Closure of Annual Audit

The Clerk confirmed the annual audit was now complete and had been closed.

b) Five Year Budget Plan Update

It was suggested that unless QPC embarks on any other large projects there may not be a need to continue with a five year budget plan, however it was agreed to monitor the five year plan on an ongoing basis. Cllr Tyler suggested the situation be reviewed at the end of the current five year plan.

c) S137 Grant Applications

S137 Grant applications had been received from Mrs J Bloodworth (£200.00) for the Salvation Army Band to play at the Christmas Light Switch On and from Mr D Cawdell (£260.00) for the Christmas Carol Concert.

**RESOLVED**, Unanimous (proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Child)

The Christmas Lights Switch On and the Christmas Carol Concert are classed as Parish Council sponsored events and as such, funds should come from the events budget.

Meeting ended @ 10.25pm

Chairman ..... Date .....