

QUORNDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Quorn Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th May 2009
at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Quorn Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllr P Child (Chairman)
Cllr I Bexon
Cllr J Bloodworth
Cllr E Harrison
Cllr K Paterson
Cllr D Cawdell

Cllr T Rodgers
Cllr S Templeman
Cllr G Glover
Cllr T Stirling
Cllr T Tyler

Borough Cllr D Slater (for minutes 09/89 – 09/110)
Borough Cllr R Shepherd (for minutes 09/89 - 09/94)

Mrs Lindsay Swinfield Clerk
Mrs Melanie Burdett Asst. Clerk

1 member 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.

09/89 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED (unanimous) Proposed by Cllr Tyler, seconded by Cllr Paterson.
That Cllr P Child be elected Chairman of Quorn Parish Council for the municipal year 2009/10.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the Clerk.

09/90 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED (unanimous) Proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Cawdell.
That Cllr S Templeman be elected Vice-Chairman of Quorn Parish Council for the municipal year 2009/10.

09/91 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor T Kershaw and PC Matt Orton.

09/92 APPOINTMENT OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO)

The Clerk to the Council, Mrs L Swinfield, was appointed Responsible Financial Officer.

09/93 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED (unanimous) Proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Templeman.
That Mr D Southwart is appointed the Council's Internal Auditor.

The Clerk will forward a letter to Mr Southwart confirming his appointment.

09/94 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS & ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN.

- a) Proposal by the 2008/9 HR Sub Committee to suggest committee members change committee's, and also to restrict membership to a maximum of 5 members per committee.
Cllr Paterson advised that a discussion had taken place within the HR Committee regarding committee groups. The discussion centred on ensuring a breadth of

skills across the Committees, a spread of the work load amongst Councillors and easing voting. One way forward would be to suggest committee members change committees and restrict membership to a maximum of 5 members per committee. Cllr Stirling disagreed with limiting membership to 5. Cllr Glover added that having an odd number of members was not really relevant, as full attendance at each committee meeting could not be guaranteed. Therefore, the possibility of having an even number of attendees would continue. Cllr Paterson concluded that the feeling of the meeting was not to change at the moment; however, change of members would be encouraged to maintain skill levels within each committee.

b) Appointment of Council Representatives to Committees and External Organisations & Election of Chairmen.

i. **Appointment of Council Representatives to External Bodies**

RESOLVED (unanimous)

1. That Cllr's Templeman and Glover be withdrawn from the Area Forum.
2. That Cllr Bexon be added to the Area Forum.
3. That appointments be made to External Groups as follows;

Dr Babington's Charity

Cllr E Harrison & Cllr K Paterson

Leicestershire & Rutland Parish & Local Councils

Cllr P Child

Community Support of Physical Activity (Rawlins Swimming Pool)

Cllr I Bexon

Townlands Charity

Cllr S Templeman & Cllr J Bloodworth

Redlands/Lafarge Quarry Liaison Committee

Cllr T Tyler & Cllr I Bexon

Rawlins/Village Liaison Committee

Cllr J Bloodworth & Cllr S Templeman

Thomas Rawlins Educational Foundation

Cllr D Cawdell

Quorn/Barrow Footpath/Slabs

Cllr D Cawdell & Cllr S Stirling

Area Forum

Cllr P Child & Cllr I Bexon

ii. **Appointments to Standing Committees and Sub-Committees**

Village Hall Committee

Cllr Cawdell asked to be withdrawn from the committee, Cllr Paterson expressed a wish to join the committee.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

The Village Hall Committee be appointed as follows; Cllr J Bloodworth (Chair), Cllr P Child, Cllr T Tyler, Cllr E Harrison, Cllr T Stirling and Cllr K Paterson.

Environment Committee

Following resignation from the Council, Cllr G Glover should be withdrawn from the committee. Cllr's Templeman and Cawdell asked to be withdrawn from the committee. Cllr Child put his name forward to join the committee, providing meeting times could be altered to evenings. It was suggested to encourage the replacement Cllr to join the committee.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

The Environment Committee be appointed as follows; Cllr E Harrison (Chair), Cllr J Bloodworth, Cllr P Child, Cllr T Stirling and 1 Vacancy.

Finance Committee

Cllr Bexon expressed a wish to remain on the Finance Committee but not as Chair. Cllr Bexon proposed Cllr S Templeman as Chair, which was seconded by Cllr Harrison.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

The Finance Committee be appointed as follows; Cllr S Templeman (Chair), Cllr I Bexon, Cllr P Child, Cllr E Harrison, Mr D Southwart, Cllr T Tyler and RFO.

Planning Group

Cllr Paterson asked to be withdrawn from the Planning Group. It was queried if the Planning Group could continue with only 2 members. Cllr Bexon added that if a group is not delegated all planning applications would have to be discussed at Full Council meetings. Cllr Stirling felt that the public appreciate the help and guidance offered by the Council on planning issues. Cllr's Child and Stirling agreed to continue the Planning Group, which would act as a filter, **AGREED**.

Policy and Plans Sub-Committee

Cllrs Child (Chair), Bexon, Templeman and Stirling to continue, **AGREED**.

Christmas Lighting Sub-Committee

Cllrs Bloodworth and Stirling to continue, **AGREED**.

iii. **Appointments to Working Groups**

HR Group

Following resignation from the Council, Cllr G Glover (Chair) should be withdrawn from the group.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

The HR Working Group be appointed as follows; Cllr K Paterson (Chair), Cllr E Harrison, Cllr T Rodgers, Mrs L Swinfield (Clerk) and Cllr T Tyler.

Cave's Field

Cave's Field has been incorporated into the Environment Committee. As no longer required this group is disbanded, **AGREED**.

Village Design Statement

Cllr Cawdell suggested Cllr Stirling be elected Custodian, **AGREED**.

Parks for People (Stafford Orchard) Lottery Bid

Cllr Glover and Mr J Hutchinson should be withdrawn from the Group. Cllr Cawdell asked to be included in the Group. Parks for People Group has been appointed as follows; Cllr I Bexon (Chair), Cllr P Child, Cllr D Cawdell, Cllr K Paterson, Cllr T Rodgers, Cllr S Templeman, L Swinfield (Clerk) and Volunteers, **AGREED**.

The Old School Project/STOPS

Cllr Glover advised that these groups had been amalgamated into The Old School Trustees and could therefore be disbanded, **AGREED**.

As the Old School Project Account had been controlled by Cllr Glover, responsibility must now return to Full Council, **AGREED**.

The Old School Trustees

A maximum of 3 Trustees from the Parish Council is permitted. Cllr's Bloodworth and Stirling were nominated. Cllr Glover is no longer a Parish Council Trustee following her resignation from the Council, but will continue to offer her services to the Trustees. One Parish Council Trustee vacancy remains. Cllr Stirling asked if the minutes to the meetings held by The Old School Trustees could be made available as a public Trustee, Cllr

Templeman suggested they be circulated by email to 'All Cllrs'. The Clerk to follow this up with David Saville, **AGREED**.

Tree Warden
Mr P. Gamble, **AGREED**.

Clerk to write to Mr Gamble confirming his appointment.

Footpath Warden
Mr K. Brown, **AGREED**.

Clerk to write to Mr Brown confirming his appointment.

09/95 DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2010

RESOLVED

The Annual Parish Meeting 2010 be held on Tuesday 11th May 2010.

09/96 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no Public Participation items.

09/97 UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS 08/09

Cllr Bexon confirmed that the internal audit was not yet complete; however the figures were fundamentally complete. Cllr Bexon confirmed the accounts would be returned to Full Council at next months meeting following completion of the internal audit. At this time the Annual Return should be approved.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

The Council approves the unaudited accounts for 2008/9.

Councillors wished to extend a vote of thanks to Cllr Bexon for the hard work and commitment shown during his time as Chair of the Finance Committee.

09/98 MINUTES

a) Minute Format and Content

Cllr Child advised that this item had been deferred from the last Parish Council meeting. Cllr Child felt that due to the length of the report it would be advisable to defer the item to the June meeting. Cllr Child agreed to revise the format of the report and circulate via email to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th April 2009 were **APPROVED** as an accurate record.

09/99 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

09/100 POLICING MATTERS

Quorn Neighbourhood Watch report for the period 1st April 2009 to 26th April 2009 had been previously circulated. Police representation was not present at the meeting. The main item of concern was the increase in graffiti which had been noticed around the Village. It was requested the Clerk contact PC Matt Orton asking for the situation to be closely monitored, particularly in view of the Council taking over responsibility for the toilet block. The Clerk confirmed the Police are aware.

09/101 BOROUGH COUNCIL MATTERS

Cllr Rodgers asked Borough Cllr Slater to advise the progress with advertising on roundabouts. Borough Cllr Slater confirmed the issue was still ongoing and as soon as there was something to report he would do so.

Cllr Templeman raised the subject of Proctors Park. Borough Cllr Slater confirmed the matter was proceeding. Cllr Stirling wished to add that he had been approached by a number of residents who were unhappy with the length of time that CBC has taken to deal with this problem. Borough Cllr Slater confirmed there was talk of approaching the Local Government Ombudsman. The Enforcement Department are involved.

Complaints have been received from members of the public regarding the state of the Station Road toilets. The complaints are over cleanliness, not the state of repair. CBC had agreed to replace broken windows in the toilet block but as yet this has not been completed. Borough Cllr Slater will raise the issue.

Cllr Stirling wished to note the Station Road car park appears to be disintegrating, with holes appearing all over the car park. The Clerk confirmed the pot holes had been reported to CBC. Cllr Stirling also noted the car park has not been swept for a long period of time. Borough Cllr Slater advised the car park owners are currently in discussions with CBC over the lease, it may be the work is on hold until these discussions are complete.

Following discussions at last months meeting, Borough Cllr Slater confirmed that comments on the latest plans for the Vicarage/Allotment Site would be accepted until 13th May 2009.

09/102 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR GEORGI GLOVER

Cllr Child wished to express thanks, on behalf of the Council, to Cllr Glover for the commitment she has shown to the Council and the hard work put in, particularly with The Old School. A bouquet of flowers was presented. Cllr Glover expressed her thanks to the Council in return.

A notice of Vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor, dated 6th May 2009 will be displayed. Cllr Bloodworth agreed to add the notice to the Village News section of the Loughborough Echo. The notice will be displayed in the Parish Office Window, Parish Noticeboard, Village Website and Village News, **AGREED**. The Clerk will email a copy of the notice to Cllr Rodgers for inclusion on the website.

09/103 THE OLD SCHOOL

The following resolutions were made to ratify discussions held at the April 2009 Parish Council meeting;

RESOLVED (10 for, 1 against)

Where project benefactors have expressed a wish to have their donations used for the purpose of purchasing The Old School (as opposed to general refurbishment), donations will be accepted by the Council on a no return basis and allocated to its Old School Project Reserve.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

Given the recent collapse of property values and a perceived Duty of Care obligation to its Parish, Council agrees to initiate an approach to LCC with a view to re-negotiating the purchase price of the School.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

Council will enter into discussions with The Old School Trustees about how the Trust will ultimately acquire an interest in the property.

09/104 PARKS FOR PEOPLE (P4P - STAFFORD ORCHARD)

RESOLVED (unanimous) Proposed by Cllr Bexon, seconded by Cllr Templeman.

Parish Council to approve the signing of the HLF Contact for the Parks for People project.

Cllr Stirling asked if there was anything in the agreement which would prohibit a parking inlet for The Old School. Cllr Bexon confirmed there was nothing in the proposal which would disallow anything.

09/105 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The minutes of the HR Group meeting held on 20th April 2009 and the Environment Committee meeting held on 21st April 2009 were **NOTED**.

Cllr Harrison added that further to the Environment Committee meeting, the slide in the Stafford Orchard had now been removed by Wicksteed for health and safety reasons.

09/106 MAY DAY AND ST GEORGE'S DAY

May Day

Cllr Templeman wished to praise the efforts of Helen Spiby, Cllr Bloodworth and Cllr Glover in making this years May Day event a great success. Cllr Child hoped the success would encourage people to volunteer for next year's event.

St Georges Day

Cllr Stirling requested this item be added to the June agenda for discussion.

09/107 COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Santa Maria Bridge

The Council is concerned with the apparent lack of interest in the Santa Maria Bridge. It was suggested that LCC be contacted asking if they have any thoughts on restoration. The Clerk to contact County Cllr Kershaw requesting a report be forwarded to the Parish Council.

The Slabs / Raised Footpath

County Cllr Kershaw has been trying to arrange a meeting with regard to The Slabs and Raised Footpath. To date, there has been no information. The Clerk is to prompt County Cllr Kershaw for an update.

09/108 PLANNING

P/09/0547/2: Site for the erection of 34 dwellings, Land at 8 and rear of 6-12 Loughborough Road, Quorn, LE12 8DX.

Cllr Child declared a prejudicial interest in this item and left the room. Cllr Templeman (Vice-Chairman) took the Chair.

Cllr Paterson read extracts from a report which had been compiled for submission to Development Control. (A full copy of the report can be made available upon request).

This application follows withdrawn application 08/2857, which was submitted in December last year. In this new application, the developer has tried to address/accommodate the considerable concerns raised with the previous application. The described area is inaccurate. The proposed development in fact reaches as far as 16 Loughborough Road and not 12 as specified, meaning the development is more like two thirds the size of the previous application and not half. A flood risk still applies with the new proposal. The impact to wildlife, especially the badgers, remains considerable. Badgers would have to traverse the development and cross the estate road to reach the foraging ground. The Parish Council questions the need for additional housing in the Village – has an assessment been carried out? There is no requirement for a development of this size in the Local Plan and there are currently at least two relatively new developments within the Village with unsold properties.

Cllr Templeman asked Cllrs if they were happy to use the report as a basis for submission to CBC. The feeling was that slight amendments were needed, however it was generally acceptable. All necessary points have been made.

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/09/0642/2: Erection of balcony to the rear, dormer extension and porch to the front of dwelling, 60 Chaveney Road, Quorn, LE12 8AD

P/09/0603/2: Removal of over hanging branches on sycamore tree. (Tree preservation order), 22 Wyvernhoeh Drive, Quorn, LE12 8AP.

P/09/0723/2: Single storey extension to rear of dwelling, 11 Beacon Avenue, Quorn, LE12 8EW.

P/09/0787/2: Change of use for staff house to pre-school nursery. (revised scheme P/09/0135/2 refers), Quorn Grange Hotel, 88 Wood Lane, Quorn, LE12 8DB.

P/09/0756/2: Erection of porch to front of dwelling, 40 Sanders Road, Quorn, LE12 8JN.

Decisions had been notified concerning the following applications:

P/09/0319/2: Pitched roof over existing flat roof to rear of dwelling, 15 Castledine Avenue, Quorn, LE12 8DN, **Grant Conditionally.**

P/09/0660/2: Crown reduction of 1 Willow tree and 1 Ash tree, 9 School Lane, Quorn, LE12 8BL, **Do Not Make Tree Preservation Order.**

P/09/0402/2: Erection of a single storey extension to side of dwelling, 9 Freeman Way, Quorn, LE12 8SQ, **Grant Conditionally.**

P/09/3139/2: Erection of a 3 storey extension to provide an annexe, 4 Woodhouse Road, Quorn, LE12 8ED, **Grant Conditionally.**

09/109 CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter requesting use of The Banks and Cave's Field
A letter has been received from Mrs J Bloodworth requesting use of The Banks on June 7th 2009 and Cave's Field on October 4th 2009 for charitable events, **AGREED.** Clerk to write to Mrs Bloodworth.
- Letter from Barrow Parish Council (previously circulated)
Cllr Cawdell felt that the two minute rule should have been waived on this occasion. It was suggested that a further meeting be arranged, possibly to coincide with the Environment Committee Meeting. Clerk to write to Clerk of Barrow Parish Council.
- Invitation to attend Barrow Civic Service
Cllr Child will attend the Barrow Civic Service on Sunday 10th May on behalf of Quorn Parish Council. Cllr Stirling will also attend and offer to ring the bells prior to the service. Clerk to write and formally accept invitation.
- Proposed 20mph Scheme – Rawlins Community College
It must be pointed out that the proposed area is a conservation area. What is the significance of a conservation area? What can it stop people doing? Cllr Bexon felt that the Council must vehemently oppose the scheme. The signs will destroy the street scene and ambiance of the area. It is not possible to speed along Sarson Street, Orchard Estate or Castledine Street due to the number of parked cars which are always in situ. Contact Andy Reed, Martin Tincknell & Graham Stocks asking for their views and support. Cllr Rodgers will issue a press release to the Leicester Mercury and Loughborough Echo. Cllr Child to hold informal talks with Callum Orr, Principal at Rawlins.

09/110 PAYMENTS, RESERVES LIST AND SUMMARY SHEET

RESOLVED

That the payments list, totalling **£9835.41**, be approved. The payments list was signed by the Chairman.

The following S137 Grant Applications had been received by the Clerk;

- Quorn Open Gardens
£184.00 is requested towards the hire of Quorn Village Hall, **AGREED.**

Meeting ended @ 10.00pm

Chairman Date