

## **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007 at Coxhoe Village Hall.**

F Burn in the chair

Present: J Ashford, D Smith, J Taylor, B Hepplewhite, T Duffy, S Dunn and P Dodsworth

Apologies for absence: M Crathorne and D Carruthers

Also present: City Councillor J Hepplewhite and County Councillor D Morgan

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

### **223. Mr Llewelyn**

Mr Llewelyn had asked to speak to the meeting and expressed concern about possible development of green belt land in Coxhoe. The Parish Council confirmed that they had already registered their objections in the strongest terms as part of the Local Development Framework and these had been confirmed.

**Resolved:** City Councillors would meet with Planning Officers to discuss this issue.

### **224. Traffic Calming Measures- Coxhoe**

Following on from the previous weeks meeting on this issue, Gordon Wingrove from Durham County Council presented an updated report on proposals and estimated costs of all schemes. He confirmed the level of funding from LTP2 Local Area Programme 2006/07 as £19,662. County Councillor Morgan had also now agreed to use his local area measures allowance in next year if necessary to ensure that the schemes could go ahead. Mr Wingrove confirmed that they had now looked at the alternative location requested for scheme 2 and this had now been agreed. It was proposed that schemes 2 and 3 be carried out in the current financial year and that a temporary trial be carried out for scheme 1 after informal consultation with emergency services, bus companies and directly affected persons. Potential funding for 2007/08 works were discussed and it was felt that some funding would be available through the Cycle Routes Fund for scheme 1. It had previously been agreed that scheme 4 would be carried out in 2007/08. Mr Wingrove provided details of possible funding streams to assist with the costs of works in 2007/08. Unfortunately Mr Wingrove advised that the allocation of funding for Quarrington Hill was now in 2009/10. The Parish Council had however allocated some funds in 2007/08 for Quarrington Hill schemes. The Chair thanked Mr Wingrove and Councillor Morgan for all of their work in ensuring that this project would go forward.

**Resolved:** (i) the alternative siting of scheme 2 was agreed. (ii) schemes 1 and 2 and the pedestrian phase of the traffic lights be carried out in the current financial year (iii) the temporary trial of scheme 1 was agreed subject to consultation. (iv) Parish Council to earmark funds at the end of the current financial year to meet the cost of works in 2007/08 (v) Councillor Morgan to allocate local area funds in 2007/08 (vi) the Clerk to investigate alternative funding streams for 2007/08. (vii) Durham County Council to continue to work on proposals for Quarrington Hill

## 225. Police Report

PC Blair presented the police report.

- Rowdy Nuisance – 8 reported incidents in Coxhoe –, 3 youth related, 1 licencing related, 3 community related, 1 animal related  
5 reported incident in Quarrington Hill – 1 youth related, 2 neighbour related, 2 domestic related
- Vehicle Nuisance- 6 reported incidents in Coxhoe – 1 parking related, 5 motorbike related  
2 reported incidents in Quarrington Hill – both motorbikes
- Assault - No reported incidents
- Theft - 3 reported incidents– 15/12/06 – theft of alcohol from Coxhoe Co-op. 19/12/06 – attempted theft from waste management site (no property taken), 01/01/07 - vehicle taken without owners consent from Co-operative Terrace
- Burglary - 2 reported incidents – 04/01/07 – theft of motor parts Church Street, Coxhoe, 04/01/07 – attempted burglary at Church Street
- Criminal Damage – 12reported incidents  
13/12/06 = racially aggravated damage to window at Beechfield Rise  
17/12/06 – damage to motor vehicle at The Grove  
23/12/06 – damage to motor vehicle at School Avenue  
27/12/06 – damage to motor vehicle at Victoria Terrace  
01/01/07 – 5 motor vehicles damaged in Linden Terrace  
01/01/07 – racially aggravated damage to window at Church Street, Coxhoe  
14/12/06 – Damage to motor vehicle in Front Street, Quarrington Hill  
25/12/06 – damage to window at Steetley Terrace
- Other Issues - concerns relating to violent dogs in the area and the potential threat to people. Agree Police to action.

It was reported that there had been a lot of petty vandalism in Coxhoe on a weekend and the Parish Council were concerned at the lack of a perceived police presence in the village. There had been considerable damage to the sensory garden despite CCTV in the area. Other areas had been made alcohol free zones or dispersal orders had been applied.

**Resolved:** (i) Police to action and investigate further measures through multi agency group. (ii) Clerk to contact City Council re signs relating to CCTV

## Matters Arising

### 226. Budgetary Issues

(i) Donations – The level of donations was discussed relating to each village. Specific reference was made to Coxhoe Village Hall and Quarrington Hill Community Centre and Councillors Burn and Duffy left the room and took no part in the discussion of this item.

(ii) Possible sale of assets – Councillor Smith left the room and took no part in the discussion of this item. The Clerk provided an update on details now received from the County Association

(iii) Grounds maintenance – the Clerk provided details of quotations received from 3 companies to carry out these works for 2007, although some details were still awaited

Resolved: (i) the annual payments to Coxhoe Village Hall and Quarrington Hill Community Centre would continue as grant payments. The balance of the donation budget would be divided among the villages pro-rata to the number of electors. (ii) the Clerk to contact the County Association to get legal advice on this matter before proceeding further. (iii) quotations from 2 further companies be sort before a decision was made on this item.

### **226. Quarrington Hill stones**

An order had been placed but weather had made it impossible to quarry the stones. Hopefully some progress in the next week. Still awaiting confirmation of SRB6 funding bid.

**Resolved:** that progress be noted

### **227 Tree Planting**

Confirmation of the viability of the sites had been obtained from the various utility companies. City Council owned the land and had requested that the matter be discussed with Planning Officers

**Resolved:** City Councillor Hepplewhite to discuss with Planning Officers

### **228. Hearing Aid Loop**

Councillor Hepplewhite was investigating the market for the supply of a hearing aid loop.

**Resolved:** to go ahead with the purchase of a loop subject to a ceiling cost of £300 to be earmarked from current funds.

### **Correspondence**

#### **229. Salt Bins**

County Councillor Morgan had agreed to meet the cost of a salt bin at Cornforth Lane. The Parish Council are required to restock the bin as necessary.

Resolved: the Parish Council agree to re-stock the bin as necessary.

#### **230. Planning Applications**

The following planning applications had been received:

(i) Demolition of existing garage and erection of double garage at 1 Victoria Terrace, Coxhoe

(ii) Erection of conservatory rear of existing dwelling house at 57 Hadleigh Court, Coxhoe

(iii) Retrospective consent for erection of conservatory to side of existing dwelling house 1 Belgrave Avenue, Coxhoe

(iv) Erection of second storey pitched roof extension to side of existing dwelling house 9 Oakwood, Coxhoe

(v) Installation of ATM at Coxhoe Post Office, Church Street, Coxhoe; and

(vi) Confirmation had been received that the application for the demolition and re-development of the Picture House at Coxhoe had been withdrawn.

**Resolved:** No objections were raised against the applications and item (vi) was noted.

### **231. Local Government White Paper**

Details had been received from Durham County Council concerning their application for unitary status.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **232. Tarmac- Quarrington Local Liaison Group Meeting**

The next proposed meeting of this group was to be on the 9<sup>th</sup> February.

**Resolved:** the Clerk to confirm that the Parish Council would be represented at the meeting and to circulate details to Members

### **233. Training**

The Clerk provided details of up and coming training courses

**Resolved:** the details were noted

### **234. Blackwellgate Bus Stop – Bus Fares**

A letter had been received from Mr Bowers concerning the difference in charges between stops in Coxhoe

**Resolved:** the Clerk to write to Arriva to determine reasons for this discrepancy

### **235. Parish Council Clustering**

The Clerk provided information on the clustering scheme for joint working

**Resolved:** the details were noted

### **236. County Durham Environment Awards**

Durham County Council had provided details of the above awards

**Resolved:** the details were noted

### **237. Coxhoe Village Hall**

A letter had been received from Coxhoe Village Hall concerning the sub-letting of the Parish room. Councillors Burn and Duffy left the room and took no part in the discussion relating to the contents of the letter

**Resolved:** the Clerk and Councillor Dunn to draft a response advising the Village Hall Association that the agreement allowed for the sublet of the room

### **Any Other Business**

#### **238. Planters**

A complaint had been received about glass in the planter outside of the hairdressers shop

**Resolved:** the problem was noted and would be rectified

### **239. Bus Timetables**

A complaint was received that there was not any timetables on view at Blackgate bus stop

**Resolved:** the Clerk to contact the County Council to request that this problem be rectified

### **240. Village Green**

It was felt that it would be beneficial if the village green in Coxhoe was so designated to prevent future development on it.

**Resolved:** the Clerk to contact the County Association for advise and ask the City Council Legal Department and Planning Department how to go about the designation.

### **241. Street Lighting**

A complaint was received that the street lighting at Linden Grove on the approach to the Leisure Centre was not working.

**Resolved:** the Clerk to contact the County Council to rectify the situation

### **242. Adoption of footpath**

A request was received that the County Council be requested to adopt the footpath in St Marys churchyard and provide some street lighting

**Resolved:** the Clerk to contact the County Council

### **243. Notice Board**

The notice board had been vandalised. Councillor Burn had ordered materials to carry out the necessary repairs

**Resolved:** the details were noted and the action authorised

### **244. Quarrington Hill Allotments**

An account had been received from Northumbrian Water re Quarrington Hill allotments. The charge was despite the water having been turned off. The Clerk had investigated the matter and somehow the water had been turned back on by persons unknown. This had now been rectified but Northumbrian Water were holding the Parish Council responsible for the water consumption

**Resolved:** payment of the account was agreed but a strong letter of complaint be sent to Northumbrian Water to ensure this could not happen again

### **245. Accounts**

The Clerk detailed the accounts for payment and the following were approved:

James Burell	Planters at School	£1399.43
Total Business Systems	Photocopier costs Sep to Nov	£35.25
Total Business Systems	Photocopier costs Dec to Feb	£35.25
N King	Salary	£353.07
N King	Reimbursement Admin costs	£12.51

Northumbrian Water            Quarrington Hill Allotments            £84.75

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Signed as a true copy of the meeting ..... Chairman

..... Clerk

(Pages 47 – 52 inclusive) ..... Date