



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Annual Parish Meeting
Date	Tuesday 12 th May 2009
Time	6.30pm
Venue	Coxhoe Village Hall

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Parish Meeting held at 6.30pm in Coxhoe Village Hall, Tuesday 12th May 2009.

Present: - **Chair** Cllr. P. Dodsworth and

Cllrs. S. Dunn, B. Hepplewhite, C. Thirlaway, J. Taylor, K. Pounder, G. Shotton, R. Mayo, C. Wigham, D. Smith; T. Rowe . Also Co. Cllr. M. Plews as indicated(*).

Clerk Mrs. M. Robinson; **Police** PCSO Neil Wilkinson and 2 members of the public.

- 1. Welcome** – the chairman opened the meeting and thanked those present for their attendance at this important meeting for the community.
- 2. Apologies** – Cllr Dennis Morgan and Sgt. M Ogilvie
- 3. Minutes of the last AGM held on 6th May 2008** – proposed, Cllr Pounder, seconded Cllr Mayo that they were a true record. All agree.
- 4. Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising.
- 5. Chairman's Annual Report** – Cllr Dodsworth presented a comprehensive report on the council's business during the year. He especially wished to draw attention to the progress made towards the areas of the village plan which had been brought about through strong partnership working between the council and other groups within the communities, especially the Coxhoe Community Partnership and Quarrington Hill Village Partnership. Cllr Dodsworth placed on record the council's immense thanks to all who had worked for the benefit of the whole community and the strides each are making into completing work on the village plan.
The year had also seen a change in clerk. Mr King was thanked for his work during his employment at a time when there were many changes in local government as well as an enthusiastic and committed council to work with. A full written report included in the unabridged annual parish meeting report.
- 6. Draft Financial Accounts 2008/09** – The clerk highlighted the salient points contained within the accounts. The draft accounts were reported to be with the internal auditor for inspection and report, after which they would be available for inspection from 17th May.
- 7. Unitary Council Report** – Cllrs. Dennis Morgan and Maria Plews had provided a report giving a flavour of some of the work which they had been doing over the past year. The chairman thanked them for the report and for their involvement especially in the community projects which were making a real difference. Written report included as above.
- 8. Police Report** – (*)PCSO Wilkinson presented the report on behalf of Sgt. M Ogilvie. It identified areas where the police had been targeting, as well as reductions in the recorded cases of violent crime, rowdy/nuisance incidents and vehicle nuisance. The recent introduction of the Police And Communities Together (PACT) initiative is looking at how locally raised issues can be addressed. The

council was thanked for its continued support throughout the year and emphasis was given on the critical role it plays in the neighbourhood policing role by the police force. Cllr Dodsworth asked that the council's appreciation be relayed to all officers concerned. Written report included as above.

- 9. Coxhoe Community Partnership** – John Hepplewhite advised that there were lots of projects which had been delivered over the course of the year, some already identified by Cllr Dodsworth in his report. He focused on projects in progress and advised on most recent developments which would soon see another project progress - Church Heritage.

The importance of the consultation and development of the Greenscape Master Plan was highlighted which would feature in the Coxhoe Chronicle next issue. Mr Hepplewhite thanked the council for its continued support and highlighted the important role which the City of Durham Council and its officers had played in the projects. He also noted the partnerships thanks to local businesses who had supported them during the year. Special mention was given to the pending Environment Award for the partnership which is to be presented at the Gala Theatre. The Chairman thanked the Partnership for its work in the community and with the council.

- 10. Youth Room** – Cllr Hepplewhite provided an interesting report on the activities and achievements of those involved in the Youth Room. Development of Girls Only sessions had proved popular with lots of activities as well as educational topics being enjoyed in planned sessions. The Boys Only sessions had also received good support. There had been many successes over the year and the entrance signs to Coxhoe were credit to the youth members who designed them. Future challenges include re-introduction of 8 – 12 year old sessions and increasing the number of volunteers involved in the projects. Additionally, the Area Action Partnership identified activities for young people as a major priority for the area. The youth Room had much it could contribute towards future discussions for youth provision. It was considered that the report should be passed on to the AAP for consideration.

- 11. Quarrington Hill Village Partnership** – none received.

12. Issues raised by members of the public –

- a. Eric Pratt raised parking on pavements causing obstructions to pedestrians, also double parking, especially in the vicinity of the Catholic Church, Gem's Cafe and old Belgrave House, as an ongoing problem. This was noted to be raised with the police.
- b. John Hepplewhite complimented the council on being very innovative and forward thinking and that it was evident that residents got good value for money from the precept raised.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.15pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Clerk

Date