

Minutes of the Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9th October 2007 at Coxhoe Village Hall.

S Dunn in the chair

Present: K Pounder, C Wigham, D Smith, J Taylor, R Mayo, C Thirlaway and B Hepplewhite.

07.57 Apologies for Absence: P Dodsworth, J Beecham and County Councillor Morgan

07.58 Questions from the Public

Mr J Tweddle attended the meeting and raised concerns relating to revised traffic calming measures proposed in Coxhoe. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed in the presence of Gordon Wingrove from Durham County Council.

07.59 Declarations of Interest

D Smith declared an interest in item 7g on the agenda relating to Sanderson Street gardens in budget proposals.

07.60 Police Report

PC Ogilvie attended the meeting and presented the report for the period 12th September 2007 to 9th October 2007.

Rowdy Nuisance – 10 reported incidents in Coxhoe – 7 youth related, 2 disputes and 1 domestic.
2 reported incidents in Quarrington Hill – both noise related.

Vehicle Nuisance- 8 reported incidents in Coxhoe – all motorbike related.
3 reported incidents in Quarrington Hill – 2 motorbike related 1 parking.

Assault - 2 reported incidents – assault at Coxhoe Medical Centre on 20/09/07 – on member of staff – known suspect – enquiry ongoing, and assault at Green Crescent, Coxhoe on 30/09/07 – one arrest and caution.

Theft - 3 reported incidents – 20/09/07 theft of cycle at Front Street, Coxhoe (possible suspect – enquiry ongoing), 21/09/07 theft of registration plate at Coronation Terrace, Coxhoe (used in crime elsewhere), 23/09/07 shoplifting at Coxhoe Co-op (enquiries ongoing).

Burglary - 1 reported incident – 30/09/07 commercial burglary at Church Street.

Criminal Damage – 2 reported incidents – 12/09/07 – damage to window at West Parade, Coxhoe, 30/09/07 – damage to motor vehicle at Blackgate East.

Drugs - No reported incidents.

Other Crime- No reported incidents

Other Issues - Youth incidents had continued to occur on a weekend and were not isolated to this area. Police now targeting the problem. There is a need for incidents to be reported. 6 alcohol seizures.

Councillor Pounder raised issues relating to continued motorbike problems at Quarrington

Hill. Crowtrees Heritage Trail being eroded through constant misuse. Action needed now. PC Ogilvie agreed to speak to Inspector Dodds about the issue. Signs relating to Section 34 Road Traffic Act 1988 were used elsewhere.

Resolved: (a) that the report is noted, and (b) the Clerk contact the County Council re signs (c) The Clerk contact the Chief Superintendent about the lack of resources used in the area.

07.61 Traffic Management

Gordon Wingrove (GW) attended the meeting and presented the latest proposals for traffic calming measures in Coxhoe and amended estimated costs for all schemes. Lengthy discussion followed and the issues raised by Mr Tweddle were answered.

Resolved: (a) the amended scheme for the entrance to Coxhoe was approved (b) the revised estimated cost of all schemes was accepted (c) GW would ensure that repair works near Bower Court would be carried out (d) the Clerk to contact UPS concerning the volume of there vans using the village roads (e) (GW) to monitor the effects of the measures taken in Quarrington Hill (f) GW to draw up plans for further proposals for Quarrington Hill.

07.62 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true copy and signed by the Chairman.

07.63 Points of Note

The Clerk had previously circulated an update of issues raised at the last meeting and these were discussed.

Resolved: the details were noted.

Reports of the Clerk

07.64 Planning Applications

There had been no reported planning applications for the area in the past month,

Resolved: the details were noted.

07.65 Standing Orders

The Clerk had previously circulated a copy of the proposed amendments to standing orders agreed at the last meeting.

Resolved: the amended standing orders were approved and adopted by the Council.

07.66 Public Rights of Way

The Clerk had provided an update on proposed maintenance works to be carried out by the County Council. Councillor Smith confirmed that works would be carried out in the near future.

Resolved: the details were noted.

07.67 Quality Parish Council Scheme

The Clerk had provided an update on proposed changes to the scheme. Additional strategies would be required.

Resolved: (a) the details were noted (b) the Clerk to prepare the relevant strategies.

07.68 Training

The agreed Councillors training course was discussed and additional courses on quality and meetings were considered

Resolved: (a) the next Councillors training session would be held on the 30/10/07 (b) other courses were noted

07.69 Budget and Account Update

The latest budget statement had been circulated for discussion and amended for the latest traffic calming costs. Discussion of Sanderson Street gardens was deferred until later in the meeting. A quotation had been received from P Taylor for £160 for repairs to the seats in the churchyard. Councillor Taylor declared an interest in this item and did not participate in the discussion or decision making.

Resolved: (a) the details of the budget statement were agreed and approved. (b) a meeting of the budgetary planning working party would be held on the 06/11/07 (c) the estimate of £160 for the seat repairs was approved and an order was to be placed.

07.70 Parish Plan & Action Plan

The Clerk had circulated the latest details relating to housing and bus services issues for Quarrington Hill. David Marrs had confirmed that a scoping meeting for the parish plan was now imminent. There was a potential meeting with the MP on housing issues at Quarrington Hill on the 20/10/07

Resolved: (a) the details were noted (b) due to problems with attendance on that particular date the meeting with the MP be deferred and another date requested.

Correspondence

07.71 Water Supply – Quarrington Hill Allotments

Northumbrian Water had provided an updated estimate for works to the water supply at Quarrington Hill allotments that had been agreed in March 2007.

Resolved: the revised estimate of £330.10 was agreed and an order to be placed

07.72 Community Asset Programme

Details had been received from CDALC of funding available under this programme for community assets

Resolved: the details were noted

07.73 Changing Spaces Programme

Details had been received from CDALC of funding available under this programme for 'green' issues

Resolved: the details were noted

07.74 Petitions

Details had been received from CDALC of new powers to devolve power to voters through petitions

Resolved: the details were noted

07.75 Statutory Annual Leave

Resolved: to defer this item to the next meeting

Other Issues

07.76 Coxhoe Together Update

Councillor Hepplewhite detailed progress on the various projects being carried out by Coxhoe Together.

Resolved: the details were noted

07.77 Quarrington Hill Village Partnership

A copy of the minutes of the last meeting had been circulated.

Resolved: the details were noted

07.78 Accounts for Payment/Requests for Financial Assistance

(a) No requests for financial assistance had been received this month

Resolved: the details were noted

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

Creditor	Reason	Amount	Minute
Total Business Systems	Photocopier charges	£35.25	38
Thinford Nurseries	Watering hanging baskets (QH)	£319.60	313
Thinford Nurseries	Watering hanging baskets (C)	£846.00	313
Thinford Nurseries	Replanting planters	£230.30	302
Smith of Derby	Clock maintenance (QH)	£171.55	
Smith of Derby	Clock maintenance (C)	£172.73	
N King	Salary – September		07.18fi
Northumbrian Water	Boundary box – QH allotments	£330.18	07.71

07.79 Sanderson Street Gardens

Councillor Smith left the room and took no part in the discussion having already declared an interest. Details of valuations received from the District Valuer had been circulated and a lengthy discussion ensued. A vote on whether or not the possible sale of the land should be agreed in principle followed and the resolution was passed by 6 votes to 1.

Resolved: (a) the District Valuer’s report was received and accepted in its entirety (b) the Clerk to contact the current tenants to ascertain by the next meeting if there were any expressions of interest from them in buying the land.

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Signed as a true copy of the meeting Chairman

..... Clerk

(Pages 22 – 25 inclusive) Date