

## **Minutes of the Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Coxhoe Village Hall.**

S Dunn in the chair

**Present:**, K Pounder, C Wigham, D Smith , G Shotton, J Taylor and B Hepplewhite.

**07.132 Apologies for Absence:** P Dodsworth, C Thirlaway, J Beecham, R Mayo and City Councillor Plews

### **07.133 Questions from the Public**

There were no members of the public in attendance and no questions had been forwarded.

### **07.134 Declarations of Interest**

D Smith declared an interest in item (7c) on the agenda

### **07.135 Police Report**

PC Ogilvie attended the meeting and presented the report for the period 12<sup>th</sup> December 2007 to 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

**Assault** - 2 reported incidents –22/12/07 Ashbourne Drive, Coxhoe, 26/12/07-The Green, Coxhoe (one arrest and charge).

**Theft** - 3 reported incidents–19/12/07- theft from motor vehicle at Front Street East, 23/12/07-theft of Xmas ornament at Ashbourne Drive, 07/01/08-theft of lead from roof at Roslyn Mews, Coxhoe.

**Criminal Damage** – 4 reported incidents–29/12/07–damage to garden furniture, Ashbourne Drive Coxhoe, 05/01/08–damage to drainpipe at Church Street, Coxhoe, 05/01/08 damage to motor vehicle at Blackgate East, Coxhoe (2 arrests), 06/01/08-damage to window at Belgrave Avenue, Coxhoe (1 arrest).

**Arson** – 02/01/08-garden shed at Hawthorn Crescent, Quarrington Hill

**Anti-Social Behaviour** – 6 reported incidents in Coxhoe, 4 in Quarrington Hill

**Vehicle Nuisance**- 5 reported incidents in Coxhoe – 4 motorbike related and 1 parking related. 4 reported incidents in Quarrington Hill – all motorbike related.

**Crime Other** – 2 reported incidents-12/12/07 racially aggravated public order offence at The Green, Coxhoe, 16/12/07-possession of offensive weapon at The Grove, Coxhoe (1 arrest and charge)

**Other Issues** – a substantial number of alcohol seizures had been made during December and there was a noticeable reduction in cans on walkways

**Resolved:** (i) the details were noted (ii) PC Ogilvy to prepare an item, including statistics , for the next newsletter

### **07.136 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**

#### **07.137 Planning Applications**

The following planning application had been received:

- (i) Erection of 1.8m high fence and timber garden shed to side of existing dwelling at 69 Ashbourne Drive, Coxhoe
- (ii) Confirmation had been received from the City Planners of approval of the application for signage at Co-op Food Store, Petterson Dale, Coxhoe
- (iii) Details had been in the local press relating to an application for a licence to sell alcohol at Blackgate Garage. This item was discussed and concern expressed at the possibility of another retail outlet for alcohol in Coxhoe

**Resolved:** (i) there were no objections to item (i), (ii) the details were noted. The Clerk to again contact the Co-op asking their participation in proposals for Coxhoe commercial centre (iii) Further details be sought and if necessary a letter of objection sent.

#### **07.138 Traffic Management**

The Clerk provided a verbal update of the latest situation detailed by Gordon Wingrove. The Commercial Road scheme was being referred to Highways Committee

**Resolved:** a meeting be requested with Gordon Wingrove for early February

#### **07.139 Standing Orders**

The Association of Parish Councils recommended changes to standing orders for full compliance with the revised code of conduct. In accordance with standing order 67 when proposed and seconded the resolution was adjourned without discussion to the next meeting

**Resolved:** the resolution to vary the standing orders in accordance with the recommendation was proposed by G Marsden and seconded by K Pounder and adjourned to the next meeting

#### **07.140 Parish Plan**

Details of a training day on 31 January on village greens was provided. A joint meeting with Coxhoe Together was requested for 16 January to discuss plans for the village centre

**Resolved:** (i) S Dunn and D Smith to attend training (ii) All Councillors were encouraged to attend the joint meeting (iii) the Clerk to contact NEDL regarding the possibility of underground cables

#### **07.141 Budgetary Update**

The Clerk circulated a copy of the latest budget statement which was discussed by Members. The Clerk detailed the national pay increase for parish clerks

**Resolved:** (i) the latest budget position was noted (ii) the national pay increase was noted and the Clerks salary increased in accordance with the previous resolution (iii) the level of reimbursement of administration costs was confirmed at £250 as detailed in the budget papers

#### **Correspondence**

##### **07.142 Postwatch Network Change Programme**

The Clerk provided the latest information from the County Association on the issue.

**Resolved:** the details were noted

##### **07.143 Planning Application – Coxhoe Industrial Estate**

Extensive comments had been received from Mr D Anderson concerning this application, and this, together with other comments that were made available on the planning portal ,

were discussed at length.  
**Resolved:** the details were noted

**07.144 Training**

Details of E-learning libraries and risk management training had been circulated. The Councillors training scheme was discussed.

**Resolved:** (i) details of the E-learning libraries and risk management training were noted (ii) the Councillors training course would be completed with sessions in January and February.

**07.145 County Durham Environment Awards**

Details of this award scheme had been circulated and were discussed

**Resolved:** the details were noted

**07.146 Temporary Footpath Closure – No 40**

Details of the closure has been received from Durham County Council and previously circulated for discussion

**Resolved:** the details were noted

**Other Issues**

**07.147 Coxhoe Together**

Works on the cycle route had been started. A joint meeting was to take place on the 16 January

**Resolved:** the details were noted

**07.148 Quarrington Hill Village Partnership**

A draft response to the MP on children facilities would be forwarded next week. A joint meeting would be arranged for February

**Resolved:** the details were noted

**07.149 Accounts for Payment/ Requests for Financial Assistance**

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

<b>Creditor</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Minute</b>
Total Business Systems	Photocopier maintenance	£38.78	38
N King	December Salary		07.18fi
N King	Backdated Salary increase		07.141(ii)
N King	Reimbursed admin costs	£250.00	07.141(iii)

**07148 Sanderson Street Gardens**

In Private

D Smith had previously declared an interest and left the room taking no part in the discussion of this item. The Clerk had circulated advice from the Association of Parish Councils on the sale of assets. The latest situation was discussed in detail and the resolution was unanimous

**Resolved:** (i) The Clerk to contact the District Valuer asking him to look again at this matter  
(ii) the Clerk to advise all tenants of the current position

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

..... Clerk

(Pages 36 – 38 inclusive) ..... Date