

## **Minutes of the Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at Coxhoe Village Hall.**

S Dunn in the chair

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

**07.149 Apologies for Absence:** P Dodsworth, J Beecham, and B Hepplewhite

### **07.150 Questions from the Public**

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

### **07.151 Declarations of Interest**

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

### **07.152 Police Report**

There was no Police presence at the meeting and the Clerk presented the report for the period 9th January 2008 to 10 February 2008.

**Assault** - 1 reported incident – 14/01/08 Coronation Terrace (one arrest/ongoing enquiry).

**Theft** - 5 reported incidents–12/01/07- theft of timber Roslyn Mews, 13/01/08–theft of motor vehicle Bogma Avenue, 15/01/08–theft of wheelie bin Blackgate West, 15/01/08 theft of number plates Church Street, 07/02/08–theft of vehicle trailer Cornforth Lane

**Burglary** – 1 reported incident–12/01/08–Cassop School

**Anti-Social Behaviour** – 8 reported incidents in Coxhoe, 1 in Quarrington Hill

**Vehicle Nuisance**- 6 reported incidents in Coxhoe – 5 motorbike related and 1 parking related. 1 reported incident in Quarrington Hill–motorbike related. 1 S183 notice issued.

**Other Issues:** Issues were raised relating to graffiti on roadside stones at Quarrington Hill and damage to football field at Coxhoe

**Resolved:** (i) the details were noted (ii) the Clerk to contact the Police and the City Council relating to the football field

### **07.153 Points of Note**

The Clerk had previously circulated an update of issues raised at the last meeting and these were discussed and also updated the meeting on the licensing application.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **Reports of the Clerk**

#### **07.154 Planning Applications**

The following planning application had been received:

(i) Erection of two storey pitched roof extension to rear of existing dwelling 22 School Avenue, Coxhoe.

(ii) Erection of 14 no. 2 storey dwellings on former omnibus depot and welfare club at Front Street, Quarrington Hill.

**Resolved:** (i) there were no objections to item (i), (ii) the details were noted. The Clerk to request a copy of the plans in order to identify changes to the previous application.

#### **07.155 Traffic Management**

Details of the previous week's meeting with Gordon Wingrove had previously been circulated and were discussed together with proposals for a possible alternative scheme at West

Parade/Coronation Terrace. A recommendation was made to purchase 2 speed activated signs, with 2 posts at Quarrington Hill and utilising the existing one at Coxhoe.

**Resolved:** (i) to confirm preference for original West Parade/Coronation Terrace scheme but to accept alternative proposal (ii) agreed, on show of hands, to finance purchase of speed activated signs.

#### **07.156 Standing Orders & Code of Conduct**

At the meeting in January 2008 amendments to standing orders were proposed and seconded. These were now discussed.

**Resolved:** the recommended changes to standing orders were agreed and adopted by the Council.

#### **07.157 Donations**

The criteria for granting donations was discussed in detail

**Resolved:** the previous criteria be disbanded, and each application be considered on its own merits in future.

#### **07.158 Training/Quality Council**

The Clerk provided details of a possible bursary for financial assistance for the Quality Council Scheme and an increase in the registration fee for CiCLA.

Resolved: (i) an application for bursary is made (ii) the Clerk to register for CiCLA now and the current fee of £70 be paid by the Council (iii) the next Councillors training session would be 4 March at 6:30pm

#### **07.159 Parish Plan**

(i) Details of the response from NEDL on underground cabling was discussed

(ii) Details of the response from Arriva on the request for Service 55 to go to the Gilesgate area were discussed.

(iii) Full details of the joint meeting on Coxhoe regeneration had been previously circulated and were discussed at length with the relevant plans. Some concerns expressed relating to village green issues.

(iv) Details of proposed designs for village signs at Coxhoe had been previously circulated and were discussed at length.

(v) The Clerk had previously circulated a draft proposal of items to be included in the next newsletter. The Annual Parish Meeting to be advertised in newsletter

(vi) The Clerk updated the meeting on proposals for a constitution for Coxhoe Allotment Association

**Resolved:** (i) The Clerk to contact County Councillor Morgan for assistance (ii) the Clerk to contact retailers at Gilesgate/Belmont retail parks to illicit support for the bus service (iii) to express level of concern over some aspects of development. Parish Councillors to attend the open day presentations on 14/15 March (iv) the designs for the signs were agreed. The Clerk was to make necessary enquiries with relevant agencies. Funding for a planning application and if necessary for erection of signs was agreed. (v) the newsletter items were agreed. The Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Tuesday 6 May at 6:30pm (vi) the progress on the Allotment Association was noted.

#### **07.160 Budget Update**

Details of the latest budget position were provided verbally.

**Resolved:** the details were noted

## **Correspondence**

### **07.161 Local Government Review Update**

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

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.162 Possible Devolved Services**

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

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.163 Awards for Local Councils**

The Clerk provided information from the County Association on the awards.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.164 Post Office Closure Consultation Process**

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

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.165 Freedom of Information Act Model Publications Scheme**

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the draft proposals for introduction from June 2008.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.166 External Auditor**

Notification had been received that the Audit Commission proposed to appoint BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as external auditors for a further 5 years. Standard fees would be £285

**Resolved:** the proposal was noted and accepted

### **07.167 Employment Bill**

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

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.168 Local Petitions and Calls for Action**

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

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.169 Quarrington Hill Facilities**

A letter from MP Roberta Blackman-Woods on the issue was detailed.

**Resolved:** the details, including possible funding streams, were noted.

### **07.170 County Durham Economic Partnership**

Details of consultation on the economic strategy had been circulated for discussion.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

### **07.171 Coxhoe Village Improvements**

A letter of thanks had been received from Mr & Mrs Eason concerning improved pathways in Coxhoe

**Resolved:** the details were noted with thanks and the Clerk to reply to the letter.

**07.172 Parish Paths Partnership**

Details had been circulated and were discussed regarding the P3 grant scheme.

**Resolved:** the Clerk to discuss with Victoria Lloyd and make the relevant grant application.

**07.173 Community Engagement Advisory Group**

A letter from Durham County Council providing details of the group had been circulated for discussion.

**Resolved:** the details were noted.

**Other Issues**

**07.174 Coxhoe Together**

Councillor Mayo provided an update on progress on various issues. The churchyard project needs partnership working between the Church, Durham County Council, Coxhoe Together and the Parish Council on street lighting issues

**Resolved:** (i) the details were noted (ii) agreement in principle to work in partnership on church lighting issues

**07.175 Quarrington Hill Village Partnership**

Councillor Pounder provided an update on various issues. A request had been received for the Parish Council to meet costs of maintenance and insurance liability for the proposed play park.

**Resolved:** (i) the details were noted (ii) the Partnership advised to contact the City Council regarding play park maintenance and insurance (iii) a joint meeting with the Parish Council would be held at the Resource Centre on Wednesday 27 February at 7:15pm.

**07.176 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>
N King	January Salary		07.18fi
N King	Reimbursed Admin Costs	£46.37	07.18fi
SLCC	CiCLA Registration Fee	£70.00	07.158(ii)
TP Gardens	Grasscutting/Hedge Trimming	£360.00	249

**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 circulated a letter from the District Valuer detailing the current situation and this was discussed in detail.

**Resolved:** (i) the details were noted (ii) to negotiate a sale price with each of the tenants (iii) a panel of Councillors Dunn, Thirlaway, Mayo and Pounder was appointed for negotiations (iv) the Clerk to contact each of the tenants inviting them to individual meetings

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

..... Clerk

(Pages 39 – 42 inclusive) ..... Date