



Delivering Quality Services to  
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

## Coxhoe Parish Council

**Meeting** Monthly

**Date** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010

**Time** 6.45 pm

**Venue** Landsdowne House, Coxhoe

### **Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held at 6.45 pm in Landsdowne House, Lansdowne Road, Coxhoe, on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010.**

**Present:** Councillors P. Dodsworth, S. Dunn, R. Mayo, K. Pounder, A. Rowe, D. Smith, J. Taylor, C. Thirlaway and Mrs. C. Wigham. **Clerk:** Mrs. M. Forster

**Also Present:** County Councillor D. Morgan (part of meeting).

**10.136 Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. B. Hepplewhite and G. Shotton and County Councillor Mrs. M. Plews.

**10.137 Members' Declarations of Interest:** Councillor D. Smith had declared a conflict of interest in Sanderson Street.

**10.138 Questions from the Public:** There were no members of the public present.

**10.139 Police Report:** The Police report had been circulated for 22<sup>nd</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010, together with correspondence from M. Ogilvie advising that targeted patrols had taken place in Coxhoe, Quarrington Hill and Kelloe and several addresses associated with bikes had been visited regarding problems reported last month in connection with off road motorbikes. PCSO Wilkinson updated Members that the youth subject to an ASBO had broken its provisions on three occasions and had received fines of £20 each offence, £60 costs and a £15 surcharge. The Police were livid and assured Members that this was not usual. Residents should not be disheartened and should continue to report offences. The Chair stated that he would write to express his disgust at such punitive fines. A Member thanked the Police for their work in Quarrington Hill where youths were creating problems. The Neighbourhood Warden was producing fliers for every household to encourage residents to report incidents. The youth system needed to become involved with problems ongoing at the Youth Centre. N. Wilkinson left the meeting.

**Resolved** That the Police Report be noted and displayed on the village notice boards.

**10.140 Minutes of Annual General and Monthly Meeting** held 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010 had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting and last monthly meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010 be approved and signed as a true record.

**10.141 Matters of information:** County Councillor Morgan entered the meeting. The Clerk updated that **(1)** she had heard nothing yet from County Councillors who had agreed to investigate the possibility of **CCTV at the park** being monitored centrally at Durham. County Councillor Morgan provided an update of work undertaken to date, advising that there was no reason technically why central monitoring could not be provided for the park cameras. These were currently underperforming and an action plan to improve them was being developed. A full report was currently awaited on an assessment of proposals for CCTV in the Front Street at Coxhoe, prior to costs being ascertained. Several departments at the County Council were involved in the work and it was a big project but County Councillors were continuing in their efforts to procure improved CCTV in Coxhoe. The Chair thanked the County Councillors for their work to date. **(2)** The Clerk had heard nothing yet from Gerry Jones re the request for information regarding costs and order of rotation for the **Speed Visors** but County Councillor Morgan had forwarded information that NEDL had visited the site for the pole at Coxhoe twice and located the power cable required but had not connected it to the power post before they reinstated the garden. The situation was to have been rectified and completed 4<sup>th</sup> June. County Councillor Morgan updated that NEDL had located the power supply in a different garden and had left

the area to enable the appropriate wayleave to be obtained. NEDL had promised Gerry Jones that the work would be completed and power provided to the pole by 2<sup>nd</sup> July. **(3)** Nothing had been received from Gavin Cordwell-Smith on the request for the position to be reconsidered with regard to the street naming and the planning gain monies for the **Hellens Development**. County Councillor Morgan updated that an application had been received for the haul road to be closed for a further five weeks. Councillors had refused to sign the consultation papers to proceed to the next stage in view of the complaints received from residents; as Hellens did not appear to have mitigated the circumstances by working additional hours; and had not put forward alternative pedestrian and equestrian access. County Engineers had been asked to provide a technical assessment and they agreed that this was an accurate timescale due to the unknown ground conditions caused by the former railway bed so the closure may proceed without the County Councillors' signatures. Concern was expressed that the developers were not being fair to the community and were inconveniencing the residents of the village for their own profit. It was suggested that a letter be sent expressing concern and asking that, in view of this continuation, the developer look at providing something additional to the limited planning gain of mock level crossing gates that had been requested, such as paving. The Chair advised that he would send such correspondence. **(4)** Councillor Dunn did not yet have any progress to report on the land ownership of the **rough land adjacent to the allotments at Quarrington Hill** with a view to the Parish Council procuring this to provide additional allotment sites. **(5)** The Clerk had sent a reminder to the County Council on the information required on the three potential **Asset Transfers**. **(6)** The Chairman had not yet had a chance to look at whether he could alter the timer on the **Memorial lights** for any future requirements. **(7)** The review of Coxhoe Parish Council's **Standing Orders** and the **Policy for Applications for Grants and Donations** were outstanding and would be done as time and workload allowed, as would investigation of the possibility of **Direct Debit Facilities**. **(8)** The Council's External Auditors had been advised about the appointment of the **Assistant Parish Clerk**. Total additional unpaid hours worked to date from both employees was 173 (or 210 if unclaimed holidays to date were added on). A Member expressed concern that some items were not being progressed due to Officers having to spend time chasing responses. The huge workload was recognised and needed to be reduced. The Councillor suggested that a programme be developed for outstanding issues so Councillors could input into what they thought was urgent. The Chair and Vice-Chair reiterated that it had been agreed previously that the Clerk prioritise the workload. This was the busiest time of year with imposed deadlines beyond the Council's control. Less important things would be done when time allowed. A huge amount of progress had been made on some matters that had been needed for a long time such as the website and a lot of concentration needed to be directed to the large amount of County Council consultation that was occurring at the moment. Officers were already working a large amount of additional hours that they had not been paid for and could not do everything at once. **(9) Gate and Fencing at Parson's Walk** – Nothing further had been received from the County Council on the solutions they were looking at and the contractor who had installed the gate had not yet been contacted so the Parish Council could arrange for a new stronger spring to be installed. A Member advised that they considered that the gate was working well now but would check it and report back. County Councillor Morgan added that David Fishburn at the County Council was assessing the area further round Ashbourne Drive with one of his colleagues. Members hoped a solution would be found as the fence was often kicked down and this allowed access by bikes. **(10)** The Chairman updated that the **DRCC Community of the Year Competition** entry was almost complete and he would run this past the Chairman of Coxhoe Community Partnership prior to submission. **(11)** The review of tenancy agreements for **Quarrington Hill Allotments** was still outstanding due to workload. **(12)** The Chairman had sent a letter to **Coxhoe Banner Group** to advise that the Parish Council would be prepared to work with them once the Medical Centre plans were progressed further. Members updated that the Primary Care Trust was reviewing the District Nurse provision and whether to have this based at the Centre. The GPs were funding the practice and had been given the go-ahead but there was a need to ascertain the size of the additional requirements for other services so the position had been deferred until July. The Member of Parliament was taking the matter up with the Chief Executive of the PCT to ensure progress. **(13)** The possibility of the **Hanging Basket and Planter Service** being extended to Station Road and The Avenue had not yet been explored. A Member had raised the issue of nettles at Parson's Walk and the Clerk had received assurances from David Fishburn at the County Council and TP Gardens, the Parish Council's contractor, that both would be dealing with their respective areas the following week. Another Member raised concern that not all the baskets had been provided yet. The Clerk stated that a cheque had been prepared for signature that evening as the contractor needed to pay for the flowers up front. The Chair added that the contractor had done a good job for the Council on other services and the situation would be monitored to see whether such good service could be delivered on a larger scale. **(14)** With regard to the queries raised on the **Insurance for 2010/11**, the Clerk was still waiting for a full response from Zurich.

(15) Other than an update on the Christmas Lights, nothing further had been received on the actions required as a result of the **Joint Meeting re Improvements to St. Mary's Church and Front Street**. Once all information on schemes and costings had been received another meeting would be called to progress this prior to the land ownership issues at the Churchyard being discussed. In response to the Parish Council's letter, the Assistant Chief Executive at Durham County Council had advised that she had reiterated to all services the importance of good communications with local councils in line with the agreed charter. (16) The Clerk had registered Councillors Dunn and Pounder and Clerk and Assistant Clerk for the **Conference on Standards** at County Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> July. (17) She had advised Steve Ragg of the Council's **nominations for the CDALC Executive Committee**. (18) The Clerk had written to the County Council expressing concern that the **wheelie bin at Quarrington Hill** football field had still not been replaced. A Member updated that the red dog bin had been vandalised and the Neighbourhood Warden had removed it so there were now no bins at the field. (19) Cheques and accompanying letters had been prepared for the **donations** agreed for Coxhoe Allotments Association and Quarrington Hill Community Centre; the Clerk had written to advise Coxhoe Athletic Football Club that their request for photocopying match day programmes had been agreed; and had supplied the Limestone Linx copies for both Partnerships. (20) All documentation required for the **Audit of Annual Accounts** had been signed, collated and despatched to the External Auditors on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The electors' rights to view the accounts had ended 22<sup>nd</sup> June. The external audit was due to commence Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June but the Clerk had spoken to them and they had started it early as they had all the required information. (21) The Assistant Parish Clerk had sent an appropriate submission to the County Council in connection with the **tree at Vicarage Terrace**. The matter had been referred to the Planning Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> June and it had been approved to fell the tree subject to the works being carried out in the next three years and to the appropriate British Standard and that the felling could not take place until a scheme for the replacement had been agreed by the County Council. Members expressed their disappointment at this decision. A petition signed by many residents against the felling had been submitted to the County Council and it was understood that trees could recover from pathogen. County Councillor Morgan advised that the planning officer had recommended approval to alleviate any danger as the arboriculture specialist had referred to the possibility that someone climbing the tree to collect conkers could fall and be injured. The application had included such a danger in its grounds. The planning committee had had regard to the Officers' view and considered that liability may be passed to them should they go against that recommendation. It was considered that this would not set a precedent as permission would not be granted for a healthy tree to be felled. (22) Councillor Pounder updated that he had declared an interest at the last meeting in connection with **CDALC** as the EDRC AAP Local Councils Committee had appointed him as one of two Members. It had since emerged that they were only entitled to appoint one Member so his designation had been amended to alternative Member should the appointed Member not be able to attend a meeting.

**Resolved** (i) That the information be noted, the outstanding resolutions be actioned and progress be requested on those issues raised with other parties; (ii) That the Chair contact Hellens to express concern at the additional inconvenience and disruption caused to residents by a further road closure and request compensation for the community.

**10.142 Unauthorised Development and Planning Enforcement Issues:** An email updating the Council on various issues raised with the Planning Enforcement Officer at Durham County Council had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.143 Response to Query Raised by Quarrington Hill Village Partnership:** As part of the Annual Report to the Annual Parish Meeting, the Partnership had questioned whether it had the full support of the three Parish Councillors representing Quarrington Hill on the issue of the play park project and requested that the three Councillors state whether they did support the proposed scheme and if not what were the grievances. It had been agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting that this matter be placed on the agenda for discussion at this Parish Council meeting in order that the response to the Partnership may be determined. The minutes of the Parish Council of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 when this matter had been discussed showed that the Parish Council as a corporate body "strongly supports the development of a first class play facility for Quarrington Hill but notes that there are concerns from adjoining neighbours and these must be taken into account in determining the plan so as to allow for acceptable plans to be agreed." There were no dissenting comments recorded and the email sent to the City Council's planning department mirrored the minute. The Parish Council policy on this was

therefore set out and Members' views were sought with regard to a response to be sent to the Partnership's query.

The Chair advised that he was of the opinion that the Parish Council supported the Quarrington Hill Village Partnership; the play park had been identified in the Parish Plan; the Partnership had been successful in obtaining planning approval for it; and had secured £76,000 of funding towards it. He asked if Parish Councillors were still of the opinion that they supported a play park subject to the residents' views being taken into account. The play park in its present guise had planning permission and residents would have had the opportunity to put forward their views when the planning application was being considered. All nine Councillors present agreed with the policy that had been set out in December 2008, advising that they wanted to see a first class play facility for the young people of Quarrington Hill as soon as possible. Councillor Pounder advised that he spoke on behalf of the three Parish Councillors from Quarrington Hill and that they would like the Partnership to call a meeting of the residents at Quarrington Hill as those three Councillors considered that residents were against what was currently proposed for a play park in the village. A named vote was requested and Councillors P. Dodsworth, S. Dunn, R. Mayo, A. Rowe, D. Smith, J. Taylor, and C. Thirlaway all voted that they supported the play park in its present guise, in accordance with the planning permission.

Councillor Pounder stated that he spoke on behalf of him and Councillors Shotton and Mrs. Wigham. He advised that they and many residents were against the play park, as per the planning permission for one large park in its present position. They would prefer two small parks, one in that position and one at the top end of the village. Everyone wanted suitable play park facilities and for residents' views to be taken into account. The Chair asked that Councillor Pounder summarise the individual Quarrington Hill Councillors' responses to the Partnership's query and send this to the Clerk for her to forward it to the Partnership. Other Members reiterated that the land which had planning permission had been designated for the play park years ago; there was a need for the park to go ahead for the young people of Quarrington Hill; and consultation had taken place, including exhibitions at the school, and immediate neighbours would have received notification and been given the opportunity to comment prior to planning approval being granted. Councillor Pounder reiterated that his view was that there had not been proper consultation with the residents and that planners had approved the plans against the wishes of many residents. The Chair again highlighted the progress that had been made to date and it was

**Resolved** (i) That the Clerk send a summary of the response of the Parish Council to the Quarrington Hill Village Partnership; (ii) That Councillor Pounder send a summary of the individual response from the three Parish Councillors from Quarrington Hill to the Clerk in order that she may forward that to the Quarrington Hill Village Partnership.

**10.144 Quarrington Hill Community Centre:** The Clerk advised that the public meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> June had been very well attended and there had been a lot of support for the Community Centre to stay open. Ten people had volunteered to be further involved and had met again the following Monday evening. Even more residents interested in getting involved had attended that meeting, together with Councillors Dunn, Pounder and Shotton, and a Shadow Management Committee had been elected. The Shadow Chair was then meeting with the present Treasurer to talk through handover arrangements so this had been a really good result. Members added that the volunteers were very positive and enthusiastic and gave details of events planned for the future. The Chair thanked the Councillors for their assistance and County Councillor Morgan advised that this had been pivotal. He asked that the next meeting scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> July be amended as it clashed with the AAP Forum. As fliers had already been printed for this and there was sufficient on the agenda without the presence of the Community Development Officer, it was agreed to proceed with that date and County Councillor Morgan advise suitable alternative dates for a meeting with the Officer.

Councillor Pounder had asked that the situation regarding the hedge surrounding the Community Centre be discussed as Clive Lawson had asked about the possibility of this being cut back. County Councillor Morgan had advised that the County Council would not cut hedges during the bird nesting

season and may do a tidy up in the early autumn but if a more substantial cutting was required then he would suggest that the Parish Council's contractor be asked to carry this out for the Community Centre and that County Councillors may be able to offer a grant of £100 to the Community Centre for them to pay for this this year. County Councillor Morgan added that the Management Committee of the Community Centre had been told by the County Council that the hedge should not be there and was of the opinion that this was the Community Centre's responsibility. He reiterated that the County Council may perform a tidy up but it would be after the bird nesting season. A Member stated that the work would need to be carried out at an early stage as the Britain in Bloom judging was imminent.

**Resolved** (i) That County Councillor Morgan provide suitable dates for the Shadow Committee to meet with the Community Development Officer; (ii) That the Clerk ascertain the possibility and costs for TP Gardens to carry out the desired works to the hedge and that she be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman, to authorise the works up to a reasonable amount, and advise County Councillors, should the contractor be able to carry this out, in order that they may consider an appropriate contribution.

**10.145 Quarrington Hill Village Partnership:** No correspondence had been received but the Partnership had advised the Chair that they had secured a further £50,000 of funding so now had £76,000 towards the provision of a play park in Quarrington Hill.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.146 Coxhoe Community Partnership:** The Clerk updated that since the last meeting she had provided Councillor Mrs. Hepplewhite with the costs for tree lights and was waiting to hear back as to whether the amount left in the Memorial Garden fund could be used for that. Work was ongoing on the development of a new website in conjunction with the County Council. The Clerk had written to both Partnerships and the Police to officially request their reports a week in advance of the meeting. In responding to the request that the County Council give consideration to the introduction of broadband and a hearing aid induction loop at Landsdowne House, the Decent Homes Manager had advised that Landsdowne House was one of the centres that had high usage and he would not anticipate any reason to change from its current use as a community facility. Nothing further had been received from County Councillor Mrs. Plews in connection with her endeavours to obtain a hearing aid induction loop. The Decent Homes Manager had suggested trying the section within the County Council who were providing the computer classes to discuss the potential funding of broadband so the Clerk would take this up with Diane Mahoney at the County Council. She had not yet had time to discuss the possibility and costs of the Council insuring the History Group's equipment yet.

On the internal doors for the Village Hall, Councillor Mrs. Hepplewhite had requested a letter to state that the Parish Council would support the project to the tune of approximately £1020 (although it may be slightly more due to price increases since the original quotes) so she would send that on Parish Council letterhead to accord with the decision at the last Council meeting. Notification had been circulated that the next meeting of the Partnership was 30<sup>th</sup> June and a Project Update as at 20<sup>th</sup> June had also been circulated. The Partnership had also requested that the Parish Council ask its contractor to add cutting the turf and weeding the borders at the Memorial Garden to the usual maintenance schedule. Councillor Dunn had advised that the Parish Council had previously agreed to take over the maintenance of the Memorial Garden prior to funding bids being submitted as its commitment to the project so the Clerk would contact TP Gardens in that connection. A Member stated that he had heard that the funding or bus funding for the Saturday night sessions at the Youth Room may cease at the end of the month. County Councillor Morgan was of the view that this was to continue throughout the summer but advised that he would check this out and advise the Member accordingly.

**Resolved** (i) That the information be noted; (ii) That Councillor Mrs. Hepplewhite advise whether Memorial Garden funds could be used for the purchase of lights for the trees; (iii) That further information from the County Council in connection with the possibility of the provision of broadband and a hearing aid induction loop at Landsdowne House be awaited; (iv) That the Clerk investigate the possibility and cost of the History Group's equipment being added to the Council's insurance policy; (v) That County Councillor Morgan advise the Member in connection with the situation regarding the bus and funding for the Saturday night sessions at the Youth Room at the Leisure Centre.

**10.147 Crowtrees Heritage Group:** The agenda for the Annual General Meeting and Ordinary meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> June and minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> May had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.148 Quarry Liaison Committee:** The minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.149 Correspondence:**

**10.149.1 Durham County Council:**

**a)** Details had been circulated of the **Link 2 – Dial a Ride** minibus service. A Member advised that they had witnessed three Arriva buses that had broken down recently. In their view it was because they were so old.

**Resolved** That the Clerk write to Arriva to ask the company why they employed such old buses in Coxhoe and Quarrington Hill and express dissatisfaction that this resulted in a poor service due to frequent breakdown of vehicles.

**b)** **East Durham Rural Corridor AAP Local Councils Committee** – the agenda for 20<sup>th</sup> July and minutes of the Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> May had been circulated.

**Resolved** That as the Durham County Council Planners were to attend the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the County Durham Development Plan; the attendees from the Council be Councillor Pounder and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

**c)** **County Durham Development Plan – County Durham Plan Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation** – the County Council was requesting responses by 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010. In view of the length and complexity of the document, the Assistant Parish Clerk had started to put together a response paper which had been circulated.

**Resolved** That a Working Party consisting of Councillors Dodsworth, Pounder and Mayo and the Assistant Parish Clerk work through the suggested response in detail and that the agreed response be circulated to all Members for agreement at the July Council meeting.

**10.149.2 County Durham Association of Local Councils**

**d)** **The CDALC Executive Committee** agenda for 2<sup>nd</sup> June and minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> March had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**e)** Details had been circulated of a **£2m Community Wildlife Fund** programme from the Big Lottery Fund. The details had also been sent to the two Village Partnerships in case they wished to apply. The fund was to raise awareness of threatened wildlife or places.

**Resolved** That the information be noted and also sent to Crowtrees Heritage Group and the Quarrington Hill Community Centre in view of the number of nearby nature reserves.

**10.149.3 Other Correspondence**

**f)** **NALC Events Bulletin** had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**g)** A request had been circulated from **St. Andrew's Methodist Church**. The Parish Council at its meeting held in January had agreed that the Church could access Council land to enable them to carry out landscaping works to the rear and side of the Church as the area was landlocked. The Church was now asking that due to the costs involved (because the area was landlocked) whether they could dispose of the top soil (not the bricks or rubbish) on to the paddock area that was owned by the Council and rented by Mr. Robinson. They had advised that the chapel land being higher than the field made it more difficult for a

digger and made the fence posts unstable. The contractor had suggested that the soil could be graded onto a small area of the field immediately behind the fence. A Member stated that there was a difference in the levels where the soil could be disposed of.

**Resolved** That the Council grant permission to the Church to dispose of the top soil only, in the manner requested, subject to the Church first assuring the Council that the present tenant is happy with the proposals.

**10.150 East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership:** A Member advised that the County Council's Head of Highways had stated at the **Task and Finish Group** meeting that if PFI policies continued the plan was to replace all lights in the County within a 5 year period. A scheme had been put forward for The Grove at Coxhoe on safety grounds and the Chair advised that he would provide details of a survey of lighting levels that covered this area. Councillor Pounder stated that there was an area at Church Street at Quarrington Hill and asked Members to advise him of any further schemes required so he could put them forward at the next meeting in August. He advised that at the **AAP Board meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> June** it had been stated that emphasis would be changing for funding of projects to large projects that had more involvement with the community, rather than small grants. The Task and Finish Groups would handle the smaller projects. He gave details of the next Forum meeting to be held 5<sup>th</sup> July.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.151 Web Statistics:** had been circulated for the period 31<sup>st</sup> May to 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.152 Finance:**

10.152.1 **Budget Update:** An account summary had been circulated that showed the balance at the end of the last meeting and income and expenditure during the month and the balance at the end of the month. The Clerk gave details of costs provided by Durham County Council for spiral Christmas lights around the fifteen lamp posts that were to be replaced in the commercial area of the Front Street at Coxhoe. A Member suggested that the Council go ahead with these this year and ask the school to select a child to perform the light switch on ceremony. It was hoped that the Partnership would get approval to use remaining Memorial Garden funds for lights to be installed in the trees at the Village Hall and these could be switched on at times other than Christmas. The spiral lights would be removed and stored by the County Council and these should proceed regardless of the decision on the lights for the trees. County Councillor Morgan anticipated that the street lamps would be installed late Summer and those replaced would be relocated further down the street. A Member stated that there was a need to consider Christmas lights for Quarrington Hill in the future.

**Resolved** That the information be noted and that the Clerk be authorised to make the appropriate arrangements for the County Council to provide, erect, remove and store spiral lights annually for the fifteen new street lamps that were to be provided in the Front Street at Coxhoe and contact the school to ask them to select a child to perform the switching on ceremony at the appropriate time.

10.152.2 **Accounts for payment:** Details of financial payments required for the month had been circulated, together with the month end bank balances figure after the expenditure. The Clerk added that the payment for T.P. Gardens included payment for some hanging baskets not yet supplied as they had to pay for them up front.

**Resolved** That all payments presented be signed and paid:

<b>Creditor</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>£</b>
CIT Vendor Finance (UK) Limited	Landsdowne House copier rental 1/7/10 to 30/9/10	130.43
Total Business Group	Landsdowne House copier copies April-May and staples and Village Hall copier contract June-August	225.88
T P Gardens	Grass cutting May, hanging baskets, flower beds and planters	3095.00

<b>Creditor</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>£</b>
Coxhoe Allotments Association	Section 137 Donation for improvement works	200.00
Quarrington Hill Community Centre	Section 137 Donation / Grant 2010/11 for Miners' Gala Day	500.00
3 Mobile	Broadband & Mobile May	35.75
M. Forster	Clerk Salary June and reimbursement postage	
Post Office Ltd.	HMRC – PAYE Tax and N.I. contributions	

10.152.3 **Applications for Grants and Donations: (a)** A letter had been circulated from the Mayor of Durham who was asking the Parish Council to contribute to her chosen charities of **St. Cuthbert's Hospice and Diabetes UK as part of the Mayor's Appeal 2010/11**. A Member stated that, whilst they supported both charities, they did not agree that the electorate of Coxhoe Parish should have to pay £5 a year each for Durham City to have a Mayor. The City of Durham Council no longer existed and Coxhoe Parish Council could choose to have its own dignitary and should not have to pay additional Council Tax for the Mayor of Durham. County Councillor Morgan declared that he was a Charter Trustee by virtue of being a County Councillor. Members considered that the two causes were worthy of support and could benefit residents and that contributions should be made directly to the organisations. **Resolved** That a donation of £50 be made to St. Cuthbert's Hospice and a donation of £50 be made to Diabetes UK; both donations to be made under Section 137 expenditure and to be made direct to the organisations, rather than through the Mayor's Appeal.

**(b) Finchale Training College** was requesting support to their appeal for the Fitness Room Renovation Project to assist physical rehabilitation to trainees living with health conditions. Members considered that whilst this was a good cause, it was outside the Parish area and may not benefit residents of the Parish.

**Resolved** That no contribution be made to the College for the reasons stated.

**(c)** A letter had been circulated from **Coxhoe Community Partnership**. The application had been received after the agenda had been despatched. The Chairman had agreed that this could be handled as a matter of urgency due to the time factor involved as the Partnership had advised that the deadline for applications for funding from the Youth Opportunities / Youth Capital Fund was two weeks and the chances of success would be improved if there were promises of funding in place. The Clerk advised that the Council could be criticised for determining matters of expenditure that were not specific items on the agenda and so the suggestion would be that should Members be minded to approve a donation this be an in principle decision at this stage and the item be placed as a specific item on the agenda for the July meeting for ratification. The application was for financial assistance with alterations to the Youth Room at Coxhoe Leisure Centre, details of which had been circulated.

**Resolved** That the Parish Council agree in principle to a donation of £200 being made to Coxhoe Community Partnership towards the alterations to the Youth Room and this matter be placed on the agenda for ratification at the next Parish Council meeting.

10.152.4 A **letter of thanks** had been received from **Durham Citizen's Advice Bureau** for the Council's donation to the outreach service.

**Resolved** That the information be noted.

**10.153 Planning Applications:** Details had been circulated of planning applications that had been determined under delegated authority from 25<sup>th</sup> May to 14<sup>th</sup> June and of applications received since the last meeting.

**Resolved** (i) That the information on delegated authority decisions be noted; (ii) That the information on application 348 for a first floor extension over garage at Beechfield Rise; and 361 for a two storey extension to the rear of existing dwelling at Beechfield Rise; be noted.

**10.154 Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 6.45 p.m. in Landsdowne House. County Councillor Morgan left the meeting.

**10.155 Exempt Information – Resolution to Exclude the Press and Public:**

**Resolved** That in view of the confidential nature of the following items, the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act, 1960.

**10.156 Co-op and Village Hall Car Parks:**

**10.157 Sanderson Street: NOTE:** Councillor D. Smith **declared an interest** in this item and left the meeting during its consideration.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

***Signed on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010 as a true record of the meeting:***

**Cllr. P. Dodsworth (Chairman)**

**Cllr. S. Dunn (Vice Chairman)**