



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Monthly
Date	Thursday 24th January 2013
Time	7.00 pm
Venue	Coxhoe Village Hall

Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held at 7.00 pm in Coxhoe Village Hall, on Thursday 24th January 2013.

Present: Councillor P Dodsworth (in the Chair), Councillor Mrs B Hepplewhite, Councillors S Dunn, K Pounder, R Mayo, C Thirlaway (part) and R Carr. **Clerk:** Mr D Vasey. **Other:** County Councillors Mr D Morgan and Mrs M Plews, Mr B Buckley DCC (part). **Apologies:** Councillor D Smith and T Rowe.

13.31 Members Declarations Of Interest: Interests in EDRC AAP, Local Councils Committee, Quarrington Hill Community Centre, Quarrington Hill Village Partnership and CDALC items were declared by Councillor K Pounder, interests in Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe item were declared by Councillor S Dunn, interests in Coxhoe Community Partnership were declared by Councillor Mrs B Hepplewhite and R Mayo.

13.32 Questions From The public: There were no members of the public present.

13.33 Highways and Transport PP2 issues: The Chairman welcomed Mr B Buckley from Durham County Council who indicated he was new to the highways and transport issues reflected in PP2. Councillor K Pounder raised the issue of re-establishing the Transport Sub Committee and the Chairman indicated that this was not seen as a current priority. A number of issues including street lighting, Quarrington Hill school issues associated with parking and safety, rotation and data from village speed signs, waiting restrictions, provision of disabled parking, Sanderson Street in Coxhoe traffic issues and parking problems in the Coxhoe Doctors Surgery area were discussed. It was also noted that at a recent PACT meeting in Coxhoe one of the issues that was taken away as a priority was double parking and traffic congestion on the Front Street and Sanderson Street. From follow up Police visits there have been complaints that there are no time restriction on Front Street parking. Mr B Buckley undertook to advance the issues and take part in site visits and attend future meetings as required.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk provided further details of issues raised and liaise with Mr B Buckley.

13.34 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports: The report from the Police covering the period 27th November 2012 to 16th January 2013 was considered by Parish Councillors, together with the Neighbourhood Wardens reports covering the wider Durham area for November and December 2012. The Parish Clerk reported on a number of Neighbourhood Warden associated issues including the new format of the report, process to report issues and attendance at PACT meeting. Councillor K Pounder expressed concerns at the lack of local detail in the new report and concerns linked to level of service Quarrington Hill was receiving.

Resolved: That the reports be noted and that Parish Councillors contact the Parish Clerk with details of present or future issues reported to the Neighbourhood Wardens where there is no action. That the Parish Clerk ensure that the Neighbourhood Wardens are aware of the PACT meeting dates and that in both Quarrington Hill and Coxhoe efforts will be made to ensure they are towards the front of the agenda to allow their attendance.

13.35 Minutes of Last Monthly Meeting: Held on 5th December 2012.

Resolved: That the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on 5th December 2012 be approved and signed as a true record, with in 13.29 the following being deleted from the end of the first sentence "on the agenda" and the insertion of "to the exempt part of the agenda".

RB

13.36 Parish Clerks Report: The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Clerks Report which included a winter maintenance update, correspondence for information and Parish Councillors outside bodies report.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk submits the requests for consideration for additional salt bins, nominates Councillor P Dodsworth for the NALC draw and seek further information from CAVOS in relation to the Community Organiser post being advertised.

13.37 Resignation of Parish Councillors J Taylor and Carole Parkes: The Parish Clerk advised of the resignations and that the six month rule applied given the timing of the May 2013 elections.

Resolved: That the Parish Council not co-opt given the timing and the Parish Clerk make the vacancy known together with consideration of publicity around Parish Council vacancies in the May 2013 elections. That the Parish Clerk writes to Councillors J Taylor and Carole Parkes expressing the appreciation of Parish Councillors.

13.38 Quarrington Hill (incl. Village Partnership and Community Centre): The circulated report was considered.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

13.39 Coxhoe Community Partnership: The request for distribution of the Coxhoe Chronicle in the Parkhill area was considered and many issues associated with the Coxhoe youth room.

Resolved: That the Coxhoe Chronicle not be distributed in Parkhill as it would require use of financial resources outside of the Parish Councils area.

13.40 Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe Report: Councillor S Dunn provided a verbal update including details of the successful New Year's Eve event, the appointment of a volunteer event's organiser and the first AGM to be held in February 2013. Further discussion took place around resolution 13.19.

Resolved: That advances against the £30,000 grant for FLiC agreed for 2013/14 be made by the Parish Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman as required, as an alternative to short term loan funding.

13.41 Durham County Councillors Update: County Councillor D Morgan provided an update including the new Sunday bus service within the Parish and on work to play equipment in Coxhoe.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

13.42 Coxhoe Village Hall: The Chairman provided an update on the current position including that following the appeal for new volunteers currently 9 volunteers had come forward and that the Village Hall AGM will take place on the 5th February 2013 with a handover to a new management team. The production of a new constitution for the new trustees to adopt, the vesting of the freehold with the Parish Council and the granting of a lease to the new management trustees were also considered. The Chairman also thanked County Councillor D Morgan for organising at very short notice legal advice to support the process and advised of the current situation with regard to the external lights.

Resolved: That the Parish Council ratify subject to a core of new trustees coming forward and new constitutional arrangements being agreed by Coxhoe Village Hall that the Parish Council take on the role of holding trustees of the freehold of Coxhoe Village Hall and grant a new long term lease to the new management trustees for the day to day operation of Coxhoe Village Hall. . That the Parish Council ratify that the Parish Clerk in conjunction with the Chair or Vice Chair work with the Architect to procure the necessary surveys up to a value of £5,000.

13.43 Coxhoe Village Green and noticeboards project update: An update was given including that the Heritage Lottery Fund application for Coxhoe Village Green had been submitted. Discussion around the need for further funding to support the planning application aspect of the scheme was also discussed.

Resolved: That a provision of £2,000 be made pending the outcome of the Heritage Lottery application to support the planning aspect of the scheme.

13.44 Consideration of meeting day each month of the Parish Council: A previously circulated report was considered with suggested future meeting dates and guidance on publicity in the pre-election period. The purdah period was confirmed as running from the 18th March 2013 to the 2nd May 2013.



Resolved: That the suggested dates of 27th February 2013, 20th March 2013 and 8th May 2013 be Agreed.

13.45 Planning Applications – The refusal of planning application 4/12/00924/FPA Land adjacent 40 Landsdowne Road was noted, planning application 4/12/01080/VOC Barratt Homes was noted, Councillor P Dodsworth left the room and Councillor S Dunn took the Chair, planning application 4/12/01091/FPA 85 Ashbourne Road was noted, Councillor P Dodsworth entered the room and resumed the Chair.

Resolved: That the applications be noted.

13.46 Planning Application – 4/12/00762/FPA Land adjoining Holden's – The approval of the application and attached conditions were considered.

Resolved: That the outcome be noted.

13.47 Finance:

13.47.1 Accounts for payment: Details of financial payments required for the month had been circulated, together with payments made under delegation and the month end bank balances figure after the income and expenditure during the month.

Resolved That all payments presented be signed and paid:

Creditor	Reason	£
FLIC	Loan	10000.00
Soc. Of Local C Clerks	Annual membership	140.00
Lanchester Garden Ctr	Christmas Tree	700.00
G Fletcher	Internal Audit	50.00
Mr D Vasey	Salary – Jan 2013	
T P Gardens	Hedge Trimming Coxhoe	95.00
3 Mobife	Internet and tele Nov 2012	23.98
NWA	Allotment Q Hill	9.58
HMRC	TAX/NI Qtr 2/3	
Thinford Nurseries	Seasonal Planters	296.40
FLIC	Printing	121.50
Blachere	Lights Installation	1435.20
Mr D Vasey	Salary –Feb.2013	1060.42
3 Mobile	Internet and tele Dec 2012	23.98
Total Business Group	Copier Dec 12	115.10
Scottish Power	Oct / Dec 12	163.04
FLIC	Loan	10000.00

13.47.2 Revenue and capital information 2012/13: Councillors considered the financial Information presented for 2012/13.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

13.47.3 Request for donation from County of Durham School Benevolent Fund:

Councillors considered the request for a donation.

Resolved: That a donation not be made.

13.47.4 Request for donation from Coxhoe Scout Group: Councillors considered the request for a donation.

Resolved: That the inclusion based on the timing of the need for a decision of this item on the agenda be approved and a donation of £500 be approved, £200 as section 137 grant and £300 from the PP2 youth budget.

B

13.47.5 Notification of tax base and request for precept 2013/14: Councillors considered a previously circulated report. At the Parish Council meeting on the 7th November 2012 it was resolved to agree a precept of £76,000 for 2013/14 subject to receipt of final government guidance on precepts and the outcome of DCC consultation on the Council Tax Support System. Both of these areas were considered in detail. As a result of the changes in the council tax base the percentage increase at band D for a 2013/14 funding requirement of £76,000 is now 4.4%, compared to 2.5% at the time of setting the 2013/14 funding requirement. Parish Councillors considered either ratify the funding requirement of £76,000 and a resulting precept of £69,213 and LCTSS grant of £6,787, or reduce the funding requirement and the 2013/14 budget by £1,271.

Resolved: Parish Councillors agreed a precept of £67,942 which combined with LCTSS grant of £6,787 reduces the funding requirement and the 2013/14 budget by £1,271.

13.47.6 Internal audit report 2012/13: The report was received and the conclusion that the internal controls examined in relation to the scope of the report within the Parish Council are very good and the level of assurance to Members is considered to be high.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

13.48 Resolution to Exclude 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.

13.49 Exempt Information – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe:

13.50 Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 27th February 2013, 7pm at Coxhoe Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed on 27th February 2013 as a true record of the meeting:

Cllr. P. Dodsworth (Chairman)

Cllr. S. Dunn (Vice-Chairman)

