

Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Monthly
Date	Wednesday 3rd July 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 Wednesday 3rd July 2013.

Present: Councillor P Dodsworth (in the Chair), Councillors S Dunn, K Stokoe, W Lavelle, K Simpson, B Hepplewhite, K Pounder, T Rowe and T Gorman. **Other:** County Councillor M Williams. **Clerk:** Mr D Vasey. **Apologies:** Councillors C Thirlaway and T Plews.

13.122 Members Declarations of Interest: Interests in Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe were declared by Councillors S Dunn and W Lavelle, interests in Coxhoe Community Partnership were declared by Councillors B Hepplewhite and W Lavelle, interests in Coxhoe Village Hall were declared by Councillors P Dodsworth and B Hepplewhite, interests in Coxhoe Allotments Association were declared by Councillor S Dunn. Interests in EDRC AAP, Local Councils Committee, Quarrington Hill Community Centre, Quarrington Hill Village Partnership and CDALC items were declared by Councillor K Pounder

Agreement to move agenda item 12.7 request for financial support for Coxhoe Allotments Association to exempt information section of the agenda.

13.123 Questions from the Public: The position in relation to replacing the fence at Quarrington Hill allotments was raised and the Parish Clerk advised that the Parish Council intended to look at the issue latter in the year to tie in with the growing season and aspirations of the Parish Council to provide more allotments. The reference in Hill Talk to "moronic actions of drivers trying to drive along the footpath to avoid speed humps" was referred to in relation to traffic calming near the churchyard and on Belle Vue. The Chairman advised that irrespective of the choice of words in the article it was a valid issue to raise in Hill Talk. Linked to this a request for priority signs to be displayed was also made. The condition of the footpath in the area of the churchyard at Quarrington Hill was raised and a problem with drainage to the rear of the Aged Miners Homes at Quarrington Hill. Representative of Coxhoe Allotments Association provided details of their current financial position and changes taking place within the association.

Resolved: That County Councillor M Williams will take action in relation to drainage issues, priority signs and footpath repairs at Quarrington Hill.

13.124 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports: No report from the Police was available due to other pressures and Parish Councillors considered the Neighbourhood Wardens report covering the wider Durham area for May 2013.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk circulate the Police report once available and the Neighbourhood Wardens report be noted. That the Parish Clerk liaise with County Councilor M Williams re the possibility of more dog fouling signs with information on to report dog fouling instances.

13.125 Minutes of Last Monthly Meeting: Held on 5th June 2013.

Matters arising: The Parish Clerk advised that confirmation had been received that works will be completed by the end of August 2013, in relation to the access road to Basic Cottages and that a site visit had been arranged to Coxhoe Allotments involving Councillor C Thirlaway representing the Parish Council to complete a risk assessment and investigate the potential asbestos issue.

Resolved: That the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 5th June 2013 be approved and signed as a true record.

Po

13.126 Parish Clerks Report and Correspondence for Information: The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Clerks Report which reflected information on Coxhoe Village Green (progress linked to response from the developer, finalisation of the land transfer and certainty over when funding will be available), Coxhoe Village Hall Memorial Gardens lights (reason for not currently working being investigated), Coxhoe play park equipment (confirmation that works now completed), Parish Council Copier and office move (options re copier facilities), Parish Councillor training (internal training session carried out on the 12th June 2013) and covered the future plan of items to be considered at future meetings. Correspondence for information considered included Illegal money lending (national Trading Standards information sheet), Smaller Local Councils Forum (28th June 2013 agenda and minutes of previous meeting), AAP Bulletin (June 2013), Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe (events and activities), Limestone Landscapes (May 2013 newsletter) and EDRC AAP (26th June 2013 agenda and minutes of previous meeting).

Resolved: That the report be noted. That the Parish Clerk arranges a date for a session to which all Parish Councillors will be invited to consider PP2 in more detail. That the Parish Clerk produce a specification for the Parish Councils printing requirements for approval by Parish Councillors and details of an associated procurement process. That the Parish Clerk produces for distribution in September 2013 a Parish Councillor information pack. That the Parish Clerk be delegated the responsibility to liaise directly with the grass maintenance contractor to action additional works as necessary in Coxhoe Churchyard.

13.127 Community Report – Quarrington Hill (incl. Village Partnership and Community Centre): Nothing to report.

13.128 Community Report – Coxhoe Community Partnership: Nothing to report.

13.129 Community Report – Coxhoe Village Hall: Nothing to report.

13.130 Community Report – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe: Councillor S Dunn provided an update reflecting on the future business planning, need to attract funding for work to the gym area and the positive membership position. Together with advising that the possibility of taking on new apprentices was being advanced.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

13.131 Durham County Councillors Update: County Councillor M Willaims provided a brief update following Durham County Councils Standards Committee on the 25th June 2013 and circulated associated papers.

Resolved: That update be noted.

13.132 Highways and Transport update: The Parish Clerk tabled an update which was discussed by Parish Councillors and expressed dissatisfaction with the timeliness of the actions by Durham County Council to advance the issues and with the standard of communication with Durham County Council officers dealing with these matters.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk contact further Mr B Buckley from Durham County Council expressing the Parish Councils dissatisfaction and provide County Councillor M Williams with details of the outstanding issues. That the Parish Clerk and Councillor S Dunn investigate further the possible provision of long stay parking including sites immediately behind the main shopping street in Coxhoe.

13.133 Communications discussion (PP2 item improvement of communications generally): Parish Councillors discussed sections C51 and QH39 of PP2 linked to improvements in communications generally.

Resolved: That the Parish Councils web site and village newsletters remain the principal means of internal village communication and that Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk engage the local media when opportunities arise to promote Coxhoe and Quarrington Hill.

13.134 Planning Applications: Planning applications were considered from 30th May 2013 to 26th June 2013, including 64, Beechfield Rise, Coxhoe (extension), 6, Leslie Villas, Coxhoe (extension) and Simonside Farm, Ferryhill (Wind Turbine). Parish Councillors briefly received for information only at this stage limited information of the potential Barratts planning application for the area of land adjacent to the bypass road and the school.

Resolved: That the applications be noted.

13.135 Finance:

13.135.1 Accounts for Payment: Details of financial payments required for the month had been circulated 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	£
Total Business Group	Storage cupboard	192.00
Total Business Group	Copier paper	41.76
3 Mobile	Internet and tel. June 2013	23.98
Mr D Vasey	Salary – July 2013	
Man with a van	Office move	120.00
Coxhoe Athletic FC	S137 Donation	100.00
P C World	Licence and printer refills	106.42
Mr G Fletcher	2012/13 year end audit fees	400.00
T P Gardens	Grass cutting	630.00
FLIC	Newsletter reimbursement	238.20

13.135.2 Report and recommendations on revised 2013/14 budget from the Finance Sub Committee held on the 26th June 2013: Councillors considered the report and minutes.

Resolved: That the revised budget of £66,410 be approved as detailed at appendix 1, reflecting £4,250 re provision of sums re 2012/13 and a £22,680 reduction to the original 2013/14 budget. That the following be advanced with a view to possible future budget savings (1) alternative options for storage, installation and removal of Christmas lights (2) linking power supply for Coxhoe War Memorial to Coxhoe Village Hall and (3) cost of additional speed signs with view to them being fixed and not rotated.

13.135.3 Revenue and Capital Information 2013/14: Councillors considered the financial information presented for 2013/14.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

13.135.4 Internal Audit report 2012/13: Councillors considered the report covering the examination of internal controls.

Resolved: That Parish Councillors noted that the report concluded that internal controls within the Parish Council are very good and that the level of assurance given to members is high.

13.135.5 Request for financial support – Banner Group: Parish Councillors considered the request for support.

Resolved: That the request from the Banner Group be supported and a donation of £200 be made under S137 expenditure.

13.135.6 Request for financial support – St Andrews Methodist Church: Parish Councillors considered the request for support.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk advice members of St Andrews Methodist Church that the Parish Council are happy for members to use the Parish Council copier for a reasonable amount of copying.

13.136 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.

13.137 Exempt Information – Request for financial support – Coxhoe Allotments Association:

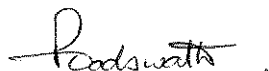
Councillor S Dunn left the room

Councillor S Dunn re-entered the room.

13.138 Exempt Information – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe – consideration of financial information:

The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.

Signed on 7th August 2013 as a true record of the meeting:



Cllr. P. Dodsworth (Chairman)

Cllr. S. Dunn (Vice-Chairman)