



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Monthly
Date	Wednesday 4 th September 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 4th September 2013.

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

13.156 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 Councillor B Hepplewhite, interests in EDRC AAP, Local Councils Committee, Quarrington Hill Community Centre, Quarrington Hill Village Partnership and CDALC items were declared by Councillor K Pounder.

13.157 Questions from the Public: A large number of residents from Quarrington Hill highlighted on-going concerns in relation to the land at South Quarrington Hill that is currently being offered for sale. Parking concerns were raised in the area of the cross roads in Quarrington Hill near the new housing development and PC M Ogilvie indicated that actions were in hand. Lack of dropped kerbs for disabled access in Quarrington Hill was raised. It was requested that the arrangements for the Quarrington Hill Village Partnership meetings be advertised in advance.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk pass on the contact details of the resident who raised the drop kerbs issue in Quarrington Hill to the County Councillors who undertook to look into the matter. That the Parish Council via Hill Talk, face book and through the Parish Councils web site make meeting arrangements of Quarrington Hill Village Partnership advised to them available.

13.158 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports: The Police report for August 2013 was presented by PC M Ogilvie and together with the Neighbourhood Wardens report for July 2013 was considered by Parish Councillors.

Resolved: That the Police and Neighbourhood Wardens reports be noted.

13.159 Minutes of Last Monthly Meeting: Held on 7th August 2013.

Matters arising: The Parish Clerk advised Parish Councillors that the Parish Council did have the statutory power to purchase land and that the Chairman and the Parish Clerk had continued to liaise with Durham County Council and Sanderson Weatherall in relation to the land for sale at South Quarrington Hill.

Resolved: That the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 7th August 2013 be approved and signed as a true record

13.160 Land for Sale Quarrington Hill: The Parish Clerk advised that in addition to the update provided under minutes of the last meeting that Durham County Council had submitted a bid to purchase the land and no timescales on a decision from Sanderson Weatherall were available. Additionally that a request had been received from the Quarrington Hill Community Action Group for the Parish Council to consider that if Durham County Council are successful in their bid to purchase the land at South Quarrington Hill, that the Parish Council accept custody of the land.

Resolved: That if Durham County Council is successful in their bid to purchase the land at South Quarrington Hill, the Parish Council would in principle accept ownership and custody if agreed by Durham County Council, subject to clarification of the costs involved. That the Parish Clerk as the situation becomes clearer assesses the on-going maintenance and associated costs linked to the land.

13.161 Highways and Transport Update: The Parish Clerk advised that following a site visit earlier in the day with Mr B Buckley and Mr D Battensby from Durham County Council that they felt their attendance at the next Parish Council meeting once certain matters had been looked into would be more productive. The issue of priority signs near Church Street, Quarrington Hill was again raised by a member of the public and the Parish Clerk advised that as reported at the last meeting Durham County Council had advised that there was no requirement to provide priority signs as two way traffic is possible. Councillor K Pounder indicated that a few weeks ago rubbers were put across the road to measure the volume of traffic and the speed near the Heather Lad and requested data from this exercise.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk invite Mr B Buckley from Durham County Council to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the situation further. That the Parish Clerk requests the data from the traffic and speed assessment exercise near the Heather Lad.

13.162 Parish Clerks Report and Correspondence for Information: The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Clerks Report which reflected information on Coxhoe Village Green (next working group meeting on the 25th September 2013 at 6pm in Coxhoe Village Hall, possibility of section 106 works in kind linked to on-going discussions with Helens and that the land transfer had completed the first stage declaring it surplus with the second phase to request at nil value expected to take up to 5 months), PP2 (meeting to discuss arranged for 25th September 2013 at 7pm in Coxhoe Village Hall), Village signage (Environmental Sub- Committee to consider a revised project at its meeting on the 23rd October 2013 at 7pm in Coxhoe Village Hall) and future plan. Correspondence for information considered included street lighting policy (consultation), EDRC AAP (bulletin), Smaller Local Councils Forum (agenda for meeting on 16th August 2013 and notes of previous meeting), EDRC AAP (agenda for meeting on 11th September 2013 and notes of previous meeting). Councillor K Pounder provided an update following the earlier CDALC meeting, including possible revenue support changes, increases in funding contributions to CDALC and nominations for president.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

13.163 Community Report – Quarrington Hill (incl. Village Partnership and Community Centre): Circulated report considered.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

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

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

13.166 Community Report – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe: Councillor W Lavelle and S Dunn advised of a charity night on the 14th September 2013 and indicated happy to display the AAP logo.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

13.167 Durham County Councillors Update: Nothing to report.

13.168 Coxhoe Post Office – consultation on new location and longer opening hours: Parish Councillors considered and discussed in detail the circulated paper outlining the proposed changes and consultation process, tabled face book comments from Claire Heathcote were also considered.

Resolved: 1. To write to the Post Office thanking them for their intention to retain a Post Office in Coxhoe a decision which the Parish Council fully supports. 2. To thank Londis for offering to be a potential venue for the new Post Office. 3. To respond to the Post Office that it considered Londis an inappropriate location due to its location for both pedestrian and vehicular access. 4. To ask the Post Office to suspend the consultation on a final venue to allow for other more central locations to also be considered with better access such as on the Front Street or the Co-Op. 5. To contact the highway authority to ask for their views and ask them to formally respond to the consultation. 6. To contact the police to ask them for their views and ask them to formally respond to the consultation. 7. To contact the Co-Op and ask them to explain their disinterest, and to ask them to consider expressing an interest as this was considered a more suitable location to Londis. 8. If the Co-Op express an interest as an alternative to advertise to residents the availability of an alternative, and canvass public opinion on the basis of the possible options. 9. That the Chair, Vice Chair and Parish Clerk action as necessary the appropriate correspondence and communication to advance the resolutions.

13.169 Planning Applications: Planning applications were considered from 7th August 2013 to 2nd September 2013, including 11 Applegarth, Coxhoe (single storey extension), 6, Leslie Villas, Coxhoe

(resubmission for rear extension), 15, Church Street, Coxhoe (change of use) and 64, Beechfield Rise, Coxhoe (application refused for rear extension).

Resolved: That the applications be noted and that the Parish Clerk request that in relation to 15, Church Street, Coxhoe that any planning approval indicate the need to provide adequate parking and for the pathway not to be obstructed.

13.170 Finance:

13.170.1 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:

Coxhoe Scout Group	Section 137	200.00
Thinford Nurseries	Hanging baskets and planters	3523.80
3 Mobile	Internet and tel. August 2013	23.98
Mr D Vasey	Salary – September 2013	
BDO	2012/13 External Audit Fee	480.00
RNJ	Survey Coxhoe Village Hall	720.00
Scottish Power	April to July 2013	114.29
T P Gardens	Grass cutting	490.00
Q Hill Comm. Ass.	PP2 Funding	200.00
Coxhoe Allotments	Construction work	1450.00

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

Resolved: That the information be noted.

13.170.3 Presentation of the Annual Return for 2012/13 and acceptance following External audit opinion: Parish Councillors considered the annual return.

Resolved: That the Annual Return for 2012/13 be accepted following External audit opinion.

13.170.4 Request for financial support – Hartlepool and District Hospice: Parish Councillors considered the request for support.

Resolved: That the request not be supported.

13.170.5 Request for financial support – Butterwick Hospice at Bishop Auckland: Parish Councillors considered the request for support.

Resolved: That the request not be supported.

Councillor B Hepplewhite left the room.

13.170.6 Request for financial support – Coxhoe Village Hall: Parish Councillors considered the tabled request for support.

Resolved: That the request from Coxhoe Village Hall for the release of £1,800 from the Coxhoe Village Hall PP2 access fund be approved, for refurbishment and decoration works.

Councillor B Hepplewhite re- entered the room.

13.171 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.

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

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed on 2nd October 2013 as a true record of the meeting:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Dunn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cllr. P. Dodsworth (Chairman)

Cllr. S. Dunn (Vice-Chairman)