



Delivering Quality Services to  
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

## Coxhoe Parish Council

<b>Meeting</b>	Monthly
<b>Date</b>	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2013
<b>Time</b>	7.00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

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

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

**13.188 Questions from the Public:** A resident from Quarrington Hill expressed their ongoing dissatisfaction in relation to the school crossing patrol issue at Cassop Primary School raised at the last meeting. The Parish Clerk advised that Mr B Buckley from Durham County Council had provided the information as requested at the last meeting and a full response had been provided. A resident from Coxhoe raised the importance of residents attending the "It's Up to You" event to support the applications from groups in both Coxhoe and Quarrington Hill. Residents from Quarrington Hill asked when the allotments in the village would receive new fencing, the Parish Clerk advised that the timing was linked to the land transfer which had not yet been completed, therefore no timescales were available. The recent speed survey at the Heather Lad was raised and the Parish Clerk advised that no survey results were available from Durham County Council as the survey was privately commissioned.

**Resolved:** That the Parish Clerk requests a speed survey on behalf of the Parish Council in the area of the Heather Lad.

Councillor T Plews entered the room.

**13.189 Dog fouling:** The Neighbourhood Wardens from Durham County Council explained the extended area the Parish Council is within that the team cover and given the large area the more their work can be intelligence lead the more effective the service can be. Linked to this the Neighbourhood Wardens advised that the level of reporting within the Parish Council area is low and would appear not to be reflective of the current dog fouling problems being raised by Parish Councillors.

**Resolved:** That the Neighbourhood Wardens complete a letter drop in Quarrington Hill and act more in the future on the issues raised at PACT meetings.

Durham County Council Neighbourhood Warden representatives left the room.

**13.190 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports:** The Police report for October 2013 and the Neighbourhood Wardens report for September 2013 were considered by Parish Councillors. It was noted that a motor bike incident in Quarrington Hill was recorded in the police report and that there was a fraud prosecution under way in relation to a former member of Coxhoe Allotments Association.

**Resolved:** That the Police and Neighbourhood Wardens reports be noted. That the Parish Clerk check if any further repayments had been received by the Coxhoe Allotments Association.

**13.191 Minutes of Last Monthly Meeting:** Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013.

**Matters arising:** The Parish Clerk advised that a response from the MP for the City of Durham Roberta Blackman-Woods in relation to potential heating funding for community buildings had been circulated and that a date had not been received in relation to the highways site visit at Quarrington Hill. The ongoing transport issues associated with secondary schools that children attend from the Parish Council area was disused and proposed work to consider waiting restrictions on the main street in Coxhoe.

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 be approved and signed as a true record. That the local County Councillors request a meeting to discuss school transport open to residents and attended by the MP for the City of Durham Roberta Blackman-Woods and representatives of Durham County Council. That a budget of £1,500 be approved to commence the process of considering and potentially implementing parking waiting restrictions on the main street in Coxhoe.

**13.192 Parish Clerks Report and Correspondence for Information:** The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Clerks Report which reflected information on Coxhoe Village Green (the update advised that bulb planting had commenced, that the Neighbourhood budget funding has been released and Councillors considered the land asset transfer following the Parish Clerks update on the process, potential barriers and negotiated offer of £3,000), future plan (reflecting items for the December 2013 and January 2014 Parish Council meetings), post office relocation (including post consultation response from the post office), salt bins (new provision and that Durham County Council are unable to assist) and Coxhoe development (developers proposals and Durham County Council Engineers requirements with respect to road changes and access were considered). Correspondence for information considered included lunchtime school crossing patrol consultation (closing date 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013), Sustainable communities act (relevance to Town and Parish Councils), residential care homes consultation (closing date 19<sup>th</sup> January 2014), Local Councils Working Group (agenda for meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 and notes of previous meeting), County Durham Plan Consultation (further details of process that ends on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013), funding opportunities (details considered), EDRC AAP Board Meeting (draft minutes of meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013), Durham community news (latest publication) and NALC (2012/13 annual report).

**Resolved:** That the report be noted. That a budget of £3,000 plus a provision for legal fees to purchase the village green in Coxhoe be approved. That the Parish Clerk request a meeting with Durham County Council Engineers to discuss further the Coxhoe development and potential road changes and access.

County Councillor J Blakey left the room.

**13.193 Community reports – Quarrington Hill Community Centre:** Councillor K Pounder advised of the success of the fireworks display

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.

**13.194 Community reports – Quarrington Hill Village Partnership:** Nothing to report and it was requested that dates of future meetings be made widely available in advance of future meetings.

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.

**13.195 Community reports – Coxhoe Community Partnership:** Councillor B Hepplewhite advised of the deadlines for the next edition of the Coxhoe Chronicle.

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.

**13.196 Community reports – Coxhoe Village Hall:** Councillor B Hepplewhite advised of the high level of bookings and associated pending events.

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.

**13.197 Community reports – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe:** Councillor S Dunn advised of pending events including an event on News Year Eve, membership linked to offers going well and that the new apprentices in post and that last year's apprentices have secured further opportunities.

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.



**13.198 Durham County Councillors update:** County Councillors present advised of choices faced as they tackle the savings to be achieved by the County Council and that options being looked into to secure investment in the council housing still retained by the County Council.

**Resolved:** That the update be noted.

**13.199 Planning Applications:** Planning applications were considered from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 including 6 Leslie Villas, Coxhoe (approved application), 15 Church Street, Coxhoe (approved application), Thornvale, Station Road West, Coxhoe (application approved), 63, Landsdowne Road, Coxhoe (extension application) and 31, The Avenue, Coxhoe (withdrawn application).

**Resolved:** That the applications be noted.

**13.200 Neighbourhood plan working group – CDALC initiative:** The Parish Clerk advised that Parish Councillors had considered this area from an awareness view point at previous meetings and at the recent Parish Councillor training session. The Parish Clerk indicated where other Parish and Town Councils were at in relation to this issues and that CDALC had established a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group consisting of like-minded Parish and Town Councils and that terms of reference had been agreed. These reflected completing plans for communities, promoting good practice and liaising with other organisations. Parish Councillors considered suggestions to revisit once the County Durham Plan is complete, or to consider further in more detail at a future meeting.

**Resolved:** That the Parish Clerk advance further and provide a more detailed options briefing at a Parish Council meeting early in 2014.

**13.201 Environment and regeneration scheme – Quarrington Hill:** Councillor K Pounder presented a tabled report outlining details of proposed environment schemes in Quarrington Hill. It was requested that there be more openness and consultation as the schemes develop.

**Resolved:** That the Parish Council approaches Durham County Council requesting a nil value asset transfer or a peppercorn lease for area 1 on the tabled map. That the Parish Council approaches Durham County Council to agree the process for acquiring the areas within the red lines on the tabled map and then request a nil value asset transfer. That the Parish Council approaches Durham County Council requesting a nil value asset transfer or a peppercorn lease for area 2 on the tabled map. That the Parish Council leads the associated funding applications.

**13.202 Finance:**

**13.202.1 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:

CDALC	Publication	40.91
3 Mobile	Internet and tel. OCT. 2013	23.98
Mr D Vasey	Salary – Nov. 2013	
T P Gardens	Grass cutting	340.00
HMRC	Quarter 2	872.24
CIT	Copier QTR 3 rental	135.42
Scottish Power	Electricity	25.96
PC World	Printer ink	69.33

**13.202.2 Revenue and Capital Information 2013/14:** Councillors considered the financial information presented for 2013/14, up to and including October 2013. Councillor S Dunn asked for councillors to advice the Parish Clerk of any items that they would like to be considered by the Finance sub-committee when it meets on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2013 consider the 2014/15 budget.

**Resolved:** That the information be noted.

**13.203 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.

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

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

**Signed on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013 as a true record of the meeting:**

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

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