



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Monthly
Date	Wednesday 8 th January 2014
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 8th January 2014.

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

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

13.223 Questions from the Public: A resident from Quarrington Hill asked a question in relation to the ownership of the war memorial in Quarrington Hill. Councillor K Pounder advised that approval would be needed from Quarrington Hill Community Centre management committee, and who would also have to obtain approval from Durham County Council. The need for resident and community group consultation in relation to any proposals was emphasised.

13.224 Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports: The Police report for December 2013 and the Neighbourhood Wardens report for November 2013 were considered by Parish Councillors. PC M Ogilvie summarised the report which showed a higher than normal level of crime and indicated that towards the end of December 2013 the number of incidents had tapered off. Additionally he emphasised that the community are very much the eyes and ears of the police and for residents to use the 101 none emergency number as needed in addition to the emergency 999 number.

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

PC M Ogilvie left the meeting.

13.225 Minutes of Last Monthly Meeting: Held on 4th December 2013.

Matters arising: The Parish Clerk advised that consultation was taking place with Quarrington Hill Parish Councillors in relation to remedial works in relation to the entrance sign at Quarrington Hill, that a letter had been sent to Durham County Council Parks and Recreation in relation to rubbish on the football pitch at Quarrington Hill, that the request for additional dog fouling signs had been lodged with Durham County Council, that the request for an overage agreement in respect of land near Basic Cottages had been made to Durham County Council, that the precept request for 2014/15 of £77,241 had been made to Durham County Council and that a letter in relation to Quarrington Hill allotments land transfer had been sent to Durham County Council and a holding response received on the 28th December 2013.

Resolved: That the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 4th December 2013 be approved and signed as a true record.

13.226 Land at South Quarrington Hill: The Parish Clerk summarised the circulated report and Parish Councillors discussed the contents. A spokesperson present for the Quarrington Hill Community Action Group advised that the group had recently met and indicated that if needed volunteers would be available to assist in the ongoing maintenance of the land.

Resolved: That the Parish Clerk seeks a response from Durham County Council as to if it wishes the Parish Council to accept custody and ownership of the land. That the Parish Clerk continues to

ascertain subject to Durham County Councils wishes in relation to the land the future management options and associated costs.

13.227 Coxhoe Village Hall Lease: Councillor S Dunn explained that the Parish Council holds the freehold of Coxhoe Village Hall and as holding trustee has the power to let the building. The details of a pre meeting attended by Councillor S Dunn and the Parish Clerk with Durham Community Action to discuss the detail of a lease to formalise the agreement with Coxhoe Village Hall were considered in some detail, together with the circulated draft lease agreement. Risks to the Parish Council and need for the Parish Council to retain the leasehold of the car park were also considered.

Resolved: That Councillor S Dunn and the Parish Clerk work with Durham Community Action to firm up the draft lease and facilitate it being considered by Coxhoe Village Hall Management Committee before being endorsed at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

13.228 Parish Clerks Report and Correspondence for Information: The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Clerks Report which reflected information on the future Parish Council meeting plan (items for future meetings) and other miscellaneous items including (audit work for community groups being carried out by the Parish Clerk, that a small amount of asbestos was still to be removed from Coxhoe allotments, that a site visit to agree locations for notice boards was diaried for the 15th January 2014 and that the next meeting of the Coxhoe Village Green Working Group was diaried for the 23rd January 2014). Correspondence for information considered included First aid training for carers (workshop details), your money, your area, your views event (successful bids), East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership (December 2013 bulletin and notification of board meeting on the 22nd January 2014), Buckingham Palace Garden Parties 2014 (nomination of Councillor P Dodsworth for consideration), Community health navigation (details of the service), Durham Community Action (December 2013 news) and healthwatch (contact details).

Resolved: That the report be noted.

County Councillor M Plews entered the meeting.

13.229 Durham County Councillors update: County Councillor M Plews advised that work in conjunction with residents of Basic Cottages to enable the residents to maintain an area of land directly adjacent to their properties was progressing well and asked if the Parish Council would take ownership of the land in question. County Councillor M Plews also advised of a response from Durham County Council in relation the Quarrington Hill allotments and the land transfer had now been sent indicating that the purchase price was open to negotiation, Parish Councillors discussed this in some detail. Brief updates on the merging of Durham County Council Mayor and Chairman roles, proposed housing transfer, development of Durham County Councils medium term financial plan, review of older peoples support and the evolving WW1 programme of events were also given by County Councillor M Plews.

Resolved: That the update be noted and that Councillor S Dunn and the Parish Clerk be authorised to negotiate up to a ceiling of £2,000 to include the purchase price and all costs, excluding the Parish Councils own legal fees. That the Parish Council agree to and authorise the Parish Clerk to liaise with County Councillor M Plews in relation to the Basic Cottages land transfer.

13.230 Community reports – Quarrington Hill Community Centre: No update.

13.231 Community reports – Quarrington Hill Village Partnership: No update.

13.232 Community reports – Coxhoe Community Partnership: No update.

13.233 Community reports – Coxhoe Village Hall: No update.

13.234 Community reports – Active Life Centre @ Coxhoe: Councillor S Dunn advised of pending events, ongoing work related to future financial health of the organisation, energy reduction plans and work needed to the gym.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

13.235 Planning Applications: Planning applications were considered from 3rd December 2013 to 6th January 2014 for 33, Malcolm Avenue, Quarrington Hill (demolition of community centre and flat) and 12, Basic Cottages, Coxhoe (improvements).

Resolved: That the applications be noted.



13.236 Finance:

13.236.1 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:

3 Mobile	Internet and Tele Dec 13 (784)	23.98
Mr D Vasey	Salary – Jan. 2014 (785)	
Mr G Fletcher	Audit Fee (786)	50.00
NWA	Water Q Hill allotments final 2013 bill (787)	85.05
CCP	Publisher software re Coxhoe Chronicle (788)	92.50
CD Engineering Services	Repair to Coxhoe Memorial Lighting (789)	82.50
Coxhoe History Group	S137 Donation (790)	200.00

13.236.2 Revenue and Capital Information 2013/14: Councillors considered the financial information presented for 2013/14, up to and including December 2013. The Parish Clerk highlighted the addition of a projected outturn column for 2013/14 which reflected an advance payment to FLIC.

Resolved: That the information be noted.

13.236.3 Request for financial support Real Care Ltd: Councillors considered a request from Real Care Ltd.

Resolved: That no financial support be offered as Real Care Ltd were an out of area organisation offering limited benefit for residents of the Parish.

13.236.4 Internal Audit Report – interim 2013/14: Councillors considered the report and the recommendation that cheque numbers on the schedule of accounts be reflected in the minutes.

Resolved: That the report which gives a high level of assurance be noted and the Parish Clerk asked to implement the recommendation.

13.237 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.

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

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed on 5th February 2014 as a true record of the meeting:



Cllr. P. Dodsworth (Chairman)

Cllr. S. Dunn (Vice-Chairman)