



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

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| Meeting | Full Council |
| Date | Wednesday 3 rd June 2015 |
| Time | 6.30pm |
| Venue | Coxhoe Village Hall |

Minutes of the proceedings of the Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held at 7.00pm in Coxhoe Village Hall, on Wednesday 3rd June 2015.

Attendance: Councillors; S Dunn, B Hepplewhite, T Rowe, C Hogarth, A Plews and K Simpson

Apologies: K Pounder, W Lavelle. **Absent:** T Gorman, P Dodds and C Thirlaw.

Other: The Clerk Mr G Price, Durham County Councillor's J Blakey and M Williams. 3 parishioners.

26. Declarations of Interests:

Cllr. K Simpson declared an interest in all matters relating to Coxhoe Primary School.

Cllr. T Plews declared an interest in Coxhoe Allotments.

Cllr. C Hogarth declared an interest in all matters relating to Quarrington Hill Allotments, Local Councils Committee and the Small Councils Forum.

Cllr. S Dunn declared an interest in all matters relating to Future Leisure in Coxhoe (FLIC) and Coxhoe Primary School.

27. Hellens Group Ltd, Limes Development.

Apologies were received from them as they were unable to attend the meeting. The clerk was requested to contact them regarding any changes made to their submitted planning application and to invite to next meeting.

28. Representations from residents of the parish.

Parishioners expressed concern at the condition of roads and footpaths that were in a poor condition. Road flooding at the former Kicking Cuddy was also apparent in the last few years. DCC members would put these concerns forward to Highways. The Chair also asked that residents put forward these concerns directly to DCC Highways.

Parishioners enquired about the progress concerning Sanderson Street and Cooperative Terrace as the road lines had recently been repainted. The chair summarized that present position and the survey work undertaken by the parish. Despite the parish council's efforts on this matter the situation remain the same with residents raising complaints regarding parking around this area and suggesting the introduction of permit parking only.

It was resolved for the clerk to advise DCC Highways of the continuing problem and to invite the appointed officer dealing with this matter to our next meeting.

It was further noted that School buses were using this route for the comprehensive pupils adding to the problem with parents delivering children along this road to access the pickup point. It was **resolved** for the clerk to write to the schools suggesting that children are picked up on Coxhoe High Street to release congestion and traffic along this area.

DCC Cllr M Williams advised that speed humps were to be placed at Browns Close to slow traffic speed.

Members also expressed concern at a Caravan that had been parked on the Front Street by Coronation Terrace for some time which looked as if it was unused and a Horse Box vehicle also constantly parked in the same area. The Clerk would report these matters to DCC Highways.

29. Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports

PC M Ogilvy was unable to provide a report due to his work load and involvement in dealing with the arrival of a large party of Travelers. The Clerk was requested to send letter of thanks to the police and DCC for their past efforts in dealing with the previous year's arrival of Travelers and for the cooperation of DCC cleansing team for the cleanup and addition site security.

The Wardens report can be obtained via the email link that has been previously circulated.

30. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 6th May 2015.

It was **resolved** that the minutes provided a true record and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

Cllr B Hepplewhite joined the meeting.

31. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th May 2015.

The clerk was advised of several amendments to be made and with these recorded it was **resolved** that the minutes provided a true record and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

Members inquire is any progress was made under the Delivering Differently campaign launched by DCC as this could be used for the Quarrington Hill Allotments and or Kingswood. In considering this campaign it was **resolved** to give the Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair delegated authority to submit a proposal for Kingswood and Quarrington Hill allotments due to the timescale involved.

32. Clerk's Report on matters raised from the previous meeting.

The Clerk advised that no issues were outstanding from the previous meeting.

33. Durham County Councillors report.

A report from DCC Cllr M Plews was circulated in her absence.

The chair advised of the help sought from DCC Cllr's in his email of the 21st May 2015. This covered a variety of points such as;

Green Spaces between Coxhoe and Parkhill where DCC have these identified for development and such developments would entail Coxhoe joining up with Parkhill in the future that would distinguish the village boundaries.

Green Crescent as no progress has been made.

Cornforth Lane where problems of through traffic persist.

Bogma Hall Farm Development where the most recent postings on the planning portal from John McGargill establishes that there is a stalemate on the roundabout/access issue. Whilst a roundabout would make it safer exiting on to the A177 the village of Coxhoe needs school places far more than it needs a roundabout. The school is full and has just turned 10 four year olds away! Mr. McGargill also believes that there should be a vehicular entrance onto Ashbourne Drive for a second emergency access. Residents are vehemently opposed to this vehicular entrance and accepted Barratt's assurances that this wouldn't happen. It is worth noting that Ashbourne Drive only has one exit for 288 houses and Petterson Dale only 1 access 300 houses on the 3 estates! What is welcome in Barrett's new plan is an access road up to the Church Commissioners land that would allow access on to that development. Residents of Station Road would prefer access from that development to come through the Barrett's development on to the A177 rather than on to the busy B6291 if these are approved. Mr. McGargill places a lot of reliance on the A177 being a bypass for Coxhoe, in reality all Durham to Sedgefield traffic uses the B6291 and not the 'bypass'! If the Barrett's development proceeds please ensure that the school grows with the community and that Ashbourne Drive is not used as a thoroughfare. In discussing this matter it was **resolved** that the clerk write to DCC Planning welcoming access to the proposed development via the A177.

Phase 3 of the Limes where the parish council requests that any Section 106 funds are shared equally between Coxhoe Primary School, Coxhoe Village Hall and the Active Life Centre.

Front Street parking and Sanderson Street parking. Again these matters appear to have stalled with little progress being made.

Bollards and Barriers in Coxhoe Front Street. A request has been made to DCC to re-paint these units in Black as they look tired and discoloured.

Quarrington Hill Floral display. A request is made to DCC to install a floral display adjacent to the site of the central sculpture.

Coxhoe Village green. Land adjacent the Village Care Centre where DCC was intending to sell this land to Coxhoe Village Care so space for car parking could be continued. It was suggested that this land could be transferred to the parish council and thereafter the parish could lease it to Village Care. This matter would be raised at the next Durham Ask meeting.

34. Community Reports.

- I. Quarrington Hill Village Partnership.** The Chair asked if members' appeals were still outstanding. Members advised that they were still awaiting a date for their appeal with this group. No report was received from the group.
- II. Quarrington Hill Community Centre.** No report was received. The clerk was requested to write seeking a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts prior to any grant support being given. It was **resolved** that the next meeting be held there to give residents from Quarrington Hill a better opportunity to attend a meeting of the parish council.
- III. Quarrington Hill Front Street Regeneration Scheme.** It was **resolved** to accept the report.
- IV. Coxhoe Community Partnership.** No report received.
- V. Coxhoe Village Hall.**
Members advised of the progress from the meeting with DRCC who are preparing a lease for the building. Interviews would take place soon for the centre manager and caretaker. It was **resolved** to accept the report.
- VI. Active Life Centre Coxhoe.** Members advised that the Annual Accounts were now approved reporting a surplus of £1,312.00. It was **resolved** to accept the report.
- VII. Young People – Youth Strategy.**
Members advised that a meeting was required to prepare a job description prior to advertising the post. A meeting will be arranged for this matter. From the consultation held with young people in Quarrington Hill they stated that they did not want the play area to the rear of Quarrington Hill Community Centre redeveloped. It was **resolved** to accept the report. A meeting is due to take place on the 13th May with Youth Worker and Young People.
- VIII. Quarrington Hill Front Street Regeneration Group.** Members advised that 1 application for funds was successful and 1 was rejected. A further application was pending. Members advised that there was sufficient in place to undertake the central village sculpture and an application into Awards 4 All would be done later once approval of land owned by Durham City Homes was resolved. It was **resolved** that the project could start with the central sculpture feature.
As for the landscape feature on the adjacent land (QH) the Chair had requested DCC to undertake this in good favour and the clerk would seek cost from our grounds maintenance contractor.
- IX. PP2.** Members advised that the colour supplement in recent Chronicle was well received by the community.
- X. Durham Ask.** A draft business plan was received for the council to complete concerning Kingswood. It was **resolved** that a public meeting would be arranged in Quarrington Hill to develop interest. Thereafter the plan would be formalised. A date for this meeting would be sought from the Quarrington Hill Community Centre and members would also contact the Forestry Commission for any guidance on this matter.
- XI. Village Atlas.** Any information on this matter would be forwarded to Tony Davos at DCC running this project.

35. Correspondence for Information and Action.

- a)** Members **resolved** not to proceed with the quotation received from to renew the outer Clock plastic covers.
- b)** Members received the reply from Durham City Homes concerning the parish request for them to consider homes for the elderly.

36.Cornforth Lane Road Closure and Green Crescent update. Copy of information received from DCC Highways was received by members.

37.Parking Restrictions along Sanderson Street and Cooperative Terrace. The road markings had been repainted but this action had not alleviated parking problems.

38.Planning matters.

38.1 Planning Applications for Consideration.

A. **DM/15/01537/FPA.** For Mr. J Gatenby for the land at Church Street, Coxhoe DH6 4HE for development of 8 dwelling, 1 flat, 1 retail unit and 14 parking spaces.

It was **resolved** that the council make objection to this proposal on the grounds of;

- i. This site is of significant importance to the village of Coxhoe as it occupies a key location central to the Front Street of Coxhoe where an existing building stands of some historical age in the heart of the village and within the village shopping area.
 - ii. The proposal appears to maximise the land available with the maximum number of dwellings rather than to provide a fitting development in the heart of the village.
 - iii. The proposed use of this land to provide 9 dwellings plus a retail unit in this busy part of the village will only add to the road congestion and result in traffic crossing a busy footpath in the busy shopping area. The proposed building of a street of terraced houses in the centre of the village/shopping area will be out of context with other buildings in the front street. That said, the proposed frontages of the dwellings offer little comparison against the former old church/school building built of local limestone that has a historic and heritage value for the community.
 - i. Also, this development does not meet the housing needs of the community i.e. the Parish Plan identified the need for dwellings for the elderly to cater for its aging population. A well designed building could provide a good number of flats in this space ideally situated for the elderly in the centre of the village with access to local facilities. This form of development should be considered along with appropriate design and streetscape of the new buildings to blend with the existing front street therefore maintaining its streetscape and heritage.
- B. **DM/15/01291/FPA.** For Mr. J Seymour, Fields off Cornforth Lane, Coxhoe DH6 4ER for new cattle and general shed. No objections were raised.
- C. **DM/15/01446/FPA.** Miss B Ayton, 111 Browning Hill DH6 4SA for the provision of modular ramp to front of building. No objection was raised.
- D. **DM/15/01489/FPA.** For Mr. C H Worrall, 3 Leslie Villas, Coxhoe DH6 4AE for the erection of two storey pitched roof extension to rear of existing dwelling. No objections were raised.

38.1 Planning Applications previously considered and now approved by DCC.

DM/14/02852/FPA. For Gus Robinson Developments, site of former Pottery at Front Street Coxhoe for the erection of 30 No. dwellings including demolitions of existing dwelling on site + pumping station was now approved.

39.Finance.

- a) **Coxhoe Village Hall request for £4,000.** It was **resolved** to provide this sum.
- b) **Coxhoe Village Hall Youth Activities.** This request was withdrawn.
- c) **Coxhoe Allotment Association.** It was **resolved** to provide £400 to support them in undertaking fencing works.
- d) **Schedule of payments for May 2015 distributed for member's approval.** It was **resolved** that the accounts presented to members be accepted this included vouchers 400924 to 400938, receipts and transfers

| Payee | Category | Withdrawal | Deposit |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Total Business Computers Ltd | Stationery | 153.66 | |
| Coxhoe Community Partnership | Section 137 | 200.00 | |
| Quarrington Hill Banner Group | Section 137 | 200.00 | |

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| Flic | Annual Donation | 4,000.00 | |
| Investing In Children | Youth Research Project | 1,048.08 | |
| G Price | Salary and Office Expenses | 1,489.38 | |
| G Fletcher | Audit (Internal) | 300.00 | |
| Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd | Software and Licence | 370.80 | |
| HMRC | May PAYE | 575.39 | |
| Tennyson Insurance Ltd | Insurance Village Hall | 289.80 | |
| Altogether Greener | Grounds Maintenance | 503.60 | |
| Total Business Computers Ltd | Stationery | 70.72 | |
| Cloudbuy PLC | Webmail renewal | 29.86 | |
| Glasdon UK Limited | Dog Bins (4 of). | 873.26 | |
| Coxhoe Village Hall | Annual Donation | 4,000.00 | |
| Higher Interest Account | Transfer | | 7,000.00 |
| Higher Interest Account | Transfer | | 8,000.00 |
| | | 14,104.55 | 15,000.00 |

40. Clerk's Report.

Dog Bins. The Clerk advised of information received concerning the siting of additional 4 Dog Bins at the junction to Featherstone Estate, within Browning Hill and at the bottom of David Terrace in Quarrington Hill. **A further site/location was still required.** The clerk would visit these sites and determine suitable position and liaise with DCC for their approval at these locations.

Repainting of Village signs and seating. The clerk advised that he was presently seeking quotation for this work.

Quality Award Status. The clerk advised that most of the information was completed with some items to be placed in the website. Training records for staff and members needs to be collated and all members have been sent a 'Training Record' sheet to complete and return. The clerk has also requested information from CDALC Of previous training undertaken by members.

Insurance. The clerk advised that he would seek costs from our current insurer to add the new printer otherwise the company would charge an additional £22.50/quarter to our charge. The clerk would seek to have this added to our insurance policy for less than this. It was **resolved** for the clerk to make such arrangements.

41. Exclusion of the Press and Public.

42. Date and time of next meeting.

Members **resolved** to move the meeting forward to the **30th June 2015 at 6.30pm at Quarrington Hill Community Centre.**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed on 30th June 2015 as a true record of the meeting.

Cllr. S Dunn (Chair)

Cllr. C Hogarth (Vice-Chair)