



Delivering Quality Services to
Coxhoe & Quarrington Hill

Coxhoe Parish Council

Meeting	Full Council
Date	Wednesday 7 th October 2015
Time	6.30pm
Venue	Coxhoe Village Hall

Minutes of the proceedings of the Coxhoe Parish Council meeting held at 6.30pm in Coxhoe Village Hall on Wednesday 7th October 2015.

Attendance: Councillors; S Dunn, T Rowe, T Plews, C Thirlaway, B Hepplewhite, K Pounder, W Lavelle, C Hogarth, E Thompson and K Simpson.

Apologies: P Doddsworth, Durham County Councillor's M Plews, M Williams and J Blakey.

Absent: 0.

Other: The Clerk Mr G Price, B Jones and Dr Bhati (Coxhoe Medical Practice). 5 Parishioner.

97. Declarations of Interests:

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

Cllr. C Hogarth declared an interest in all matters relating to Quarrington Hill Allotments and the Kingswood Community Group.

Cllr. E Thompson declared an interest in all matters relating to Kingswood Community Partnership.

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

Cllr. W Lavelle declared an interest in all matters relating to FLIC and Coxhoe Community Partnership.

Cllr. B Hepplewhite declared an interest in all matters relating to Coxhoe Village Hall (CVH) and Coxhoe Community Partnership.

Cllr K Pounder declared an interest in all matters relating to Quarrington Hill Community Centre and Quarrington Hill Village Partnership.

Cllr T Rowe declared an interest in all matters relating to Coxhoe Medical Practice.

98. Coxhoe Medical Practice – Dr. Bhati and Barbara Jones.

Due to the number of planning applications recently approved, under consideration and potential future developments concerns were raised regarding the capabilities of the Medical Practice to cope with the population growth. Dr. Bhati and B Jones advised that despite objections made on previous planning proposals they had concerns regarding the medical's practice's ability to keep pace with the growing community estimate at a 9% increase to the practice. Additional rooms were added several years ago but there was no further opportunity to extend the premises. Members of the council and parishioners also expressed concerns regarding the medical practice location sited on a junction where a steep gradient and limited parking renders the location difficult to access and dangerous for many to attend during inclement weather. The possible resiting of the practice at a more suitable location was discussed and possible restrictions to the practice register to alleviate numbers joining. However, the issue of finding a new site was a further problem as developers were taking up vital space leaving limited spaces for such.

It was **resolved** that by working in partnership the concerns of all could be lodged with DCC Planning, local DCC members, MP for Coxhoe and the Health Authority with a letter compiled to address all concerns. The council would seek to hold a joint meeting with all concerned to develop a campaign in the village to seek a long term solution.

Police and Neighbourhood Wardens Reports.

A report was circulated from the local police that gave a summary of activity during the period 28th August to 7th October 2015. It was **agreed** that the report be received.

A parishioner advised of a serious incident that recently took place in Bowburn.

The Wardens report was circulated prior by email to members for information.

99. Representations from residents of the parish. None.

100. Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd September 2015. It was **resolved** that the minutes provided an accurate record on the meeting and were duly signed by the chair.

101. Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 7th September 2015. It was **resolved** that the minutes provided an accurate record on the meeting and were duly signed by the chair.

Clerks report on matters raised the previous month. Report was circulated in advance.

Minute 52. Cornforth Lane Road Closure and Green Crescent update. The Clerk advised that no further information was received from DCC Highways on this matter due to recess and holidays. The Chair advised that some objections were received and that the council's concern regarding the height of the road bumps may be construed as an objection. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to inform DCC Highways that no objections were forthcoming from the parish council on the proposals.

Minute 70. Hearing Loop for PC meeting room. It was **resolved** that the Clerk and Cllr B Hepplewhite would investigate the Hearing Loop System used in Ferryhill Church prior to any order being made. The matter was outstanding and needed to be progressed.

Minute 77. DCC – Transfer of land in Coxhoe. Copies of site plans were circulated concerning a variety of land plots in Coxhoe that had been identified for possible transfer to the parish council. This included land concerning the old railway land which could form part of a new walking/cycling route. The Clerk was requested to liaise with neighbouring parishes on a joint venture to reinstate this route as a cycle/walkway. It was **resolved** to continue working with DCC on these potential transfers. The Clerk had sent an initial enquiry to parishes involved. The Chair advised of a meeting with DCC officers concerning the transfer of several areas of land. Most of these would progress and some had Compulsory Purchase Orders over them that could raise future ownership, therefore the parish council would need to insure against such matter in the event transfer. Furthermore, the initial response from Cassop-cum Quarrington parish regarding the joint venture to reinstate the old railway line was favoured.

Minute 78. DCC's Transfer of Quarrington Hill Allotment Site. This change of use has now been considered by DCC Planning and planning permission will not be required.

Minute 83. Lighting between the Newsagents and Community Centre at Quarrington Hill. It was resolved from the Clerk to seek option to provide additional lighting in this area.

Minute 86. Stray Aid. A copy of the reply from Stray Aid was circulated for members.

102. Clerk's report on matter to progress. Report was circulated.

Grant of £500 from 'It's Your Neighbourhood' to plant floral display on Village Green.

During October/November the council will need to oversee the planting of the Tulip Bulbs on the Village Green. It is proposed to use wherever possible volunteers and young people to participate in this project.

Locating the 4 purchased Dog Bins. The council will need to submit an outline of the proposed sites to planning for their consideration at charge of £50.00. And knowing that the Coxhoe Partnership are progressing the grant for Finger Posts this will be included to reduce costs.

Quality Award (Foundation Level). A draft submission was submitted for feedback to CDALC and amendments were noted and to be progressed.

103. Durham County Councillors report. No report was received.

104. Report of the Children and Young Peoples Service Coordinator. The brief report was circulated and the Chair advised that Amanda had been busy doing the rounds meeting groups/people and commencing work on a variety of projects. Members requested that a further report on the older teenagers be circulated to members. It was **resolved** that the report be noted.

105. Deferred items from previous meeting.

a) **Parish Council Application form for Small Grant up to £500.** It was **resolved** that this application form be introduced.

b) **Parish Council Application form for Small Grant over £500.** It was **resolved** that this application form be introduced.

Furthermore it was **agreed** that the Clerk provide a general letter to send to applicants advising of such upon receipt of a request for financial support.

c) **Grants available for War Memorials.** Information on the availability of grants was circulated. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would liaise with the Coxhoe History Club regarding their interest to improve the memorial and submit applications for funding.

The request from the Village Partnership for funds to implement wrought Iron work around the existing unit was considered and it was **resolved** to fund this work to a value of £250.

d) **Request for funding from the Red Lion FC.** Members **resolved** to provide £200 on this occasion.

e) **Request for funding from Butterwick House.** It was **resolved** that this request be declined.

f) **Request for funding from PC Craig Johnston.** Members advised that this project no longer required financial support.

g) **Quarrington Hill Allotments.** Members received copy of the report that had arisen from a meeting with allotment holders and Cllr K Pounder. This report highlighted a number of issues concerning the Clerk's inspection of the site and subsequent letters sent to tenants on issues in the allotments. The chair stated his support of the clerk and advised that the clerk should have been invited to any meeting which took place. The Chairman gave thanks to the member for his involvement and report. It was **resolved** that the Clerk write to all Allotment Holders to offer a meeting with all tenants.

h) **Coxhoe Village Hall Carpark.** The Chair provided copies of correspondence covering this matter that suggested the Coop had a revised plan and had put forward a business case seeking Head Office approval. Members expressed concerns that the position had not moved and the situation in the carpark was becoming intolerable for users of the Village Hall. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to;

I. Liaise with the Village Hall on erecting a sign in the carpark.

II. Investigate Ferryhill Town Council's Disk Parking scheme.

III. Approach Gatenby on the use of section of land (where is this Triangle of Land) to use.

106. Community reports.

I. Quarrington Hill Village Partnership. Members advised that half term activities will take place.

II. Quarrington Hill Community Centre. Members advised that building works were now fully completed.

III. Quarrington Hill Front Street Regeneration Scheme. Members advised that progress was postponed and there was a need to call a meeting with the group and artists to confirm the position of floral display and plinth for the sculpture.

IV. Coxhoe Community Partnership. A report was circulated concerning the options for a new notice board and information on the Fingerpost signs. It was **resolved** to go with option 1 (Use the £1,000 council budget along with the spare £1,300 of the Partnership Awards for All Application to purchase a Parish Noticeboard to replace the existing unit.

V. Coxhoe Village Hall. The revised draft lease was circulated for member's information. This has yet to be agreed by the Trustees of the Village Hall and will be considered by them in due course.

VI. Active Life Centre Coxhoe. No report was provided.

VII. Youth Strategy. This matter was covered in the Children & Young Peoples Service Coordinator's report.

VIII. Kingswood. A report on the progress of the group was circulated for information as well as an update on the progress being made by the Durham Ask team.

IX. Village Atlas. A report was circulated from Tony Davos that advised that the initial application was decline due to limiting funds. However, a revised application will be made which again requires support from the parish council up to a value of £4,000 in 2016. It was **resolved** to continue the council's support in this venture.

107. Member's reports from meetings attended. Members advised of the recent meeting of Tarmac/Lafarge Group. Information would be circulated later.

108. PP2. No report provided.

109. Coxhoe War Memorial. This item was discussed under the Grants for War Memorials.

110. Correspondence for Information and Action.

- a) **Invitation to the CDALC AGM.** Agenda and papers were distributed to members.
- b) **Paradise Farm Footbridge (Footpath No 1 – Coxhoe Parish).** Members receive and noted the information concerning the temporary closure.
- c) **Members received the autumn 2015 edition of the LCR Magazine.**
- d) **Members received the information concerning the County Council's Home to School consultation on Transport Policy.** The Clerk advised this matter was sent to the website administrator for posting in the website and Facebook page as information for parishioners.
- e) **Neighbourhood Protection reports.** The Clerk had circulated these previously by email.
- f) **Endorsement of Bite the Ballot's cause.** Members received copy of the information from this organisation. The short presentation by members of this organisation was noted. It was **resolved** that the council would support the work of 'Bite the Ballot' and agenda at the next meeting for funding consideration.

111. Policies for Members consideration and Adoption.

Public participation. It was **resolved** that this policy be adopted.

112. Finance.

- a) **The schedule of payments for September were distributed for member's approval.** It was **resolved** that the accounts presented to members be accepted this included vouchers 400965 to 400977, receipts, Direct Debits and account transfers.

Payee	Category	Debits	Credits
Transfer to Current Account	Transfer		600.00
J Parkers	Village Green Bulbs	600.00	
G Price	Salary	1,516.12	
	Webmail	83.86	
	Postage	1.73	
	Stationery	4.73	
	Car Parking	2.10	
	Three Telephony	36.14	
A Hitchens	Salary	1,027.44	
HMRC	September PAYE	664.57	
S Dunn	Office Equipment	39.99	
Northumbrian Water	Quarrington Hill Allotments	98.60	
Altogether Greener	Grounds Maintenance and Painting	1,085.60	
Total Business Group	Office Stationery	147.29	
CDALC	Members Training	81.00	
Scottish Power	Memorial Lighting	31.05	
Kingswood Com. Partnership	Start-up Grant	100.00	
Quarrington Hill Com. Assoc.	Grant (RE-ISSUE)	2,000.00	2,000.00
Cooperative Bank	Bank Charges	90.00	
Mastercopy	Photocopier Usage	146.46	

Transfer to Current Account	Transfer		7,000.00
		Totals	7,756.68
		Current Account Balance	2,624.37
		Higher Interest Account Balance	55,907.16

- b) Change of Bankers update.** The Clerk advised that the application to Unity Trust to open an account was ready to send.
- c) Calling of Finance Committee Meetings.** It was **resolved** that the meeting would be held on the 28th October 2015 at 5pm in Coxhoe Village Hall.
- d) To consider the request for financial support from Coxhoe Village Partnership and Coxhoe Village Hall.** It was resolved that £250 would be provided to provide railings around the War Memorial.
- e) To consider the request for financial support from Bowburn & Parkhill Community Partnership to fund legal advice on challenging the decision to permit building of 190 dwelling at Parkhill.** The clerk was requested to source further information and to investigate what power the council had to fund such a request.

Cllr T Rowe left the meeting.

113. Planning matters.

i. Planning Applications for Consideration.

DM/15/02728/FPA. Mr. I Walker, 4 Doulton Court, Coxhoe DH6 4GA for erection of boundary wall to rear of existing dwelling (retrospective). No objections or concerns were raised.

DM/15/02889/FPA. Mr. & Mrs. P Redmond, 4 The Paddock, Coxhoe DH6 4SF for the erection of two storey pitched roof extension to side of existing dwelling (resubmission). No objections or concerns were raised.

ii. Application previously consider and now approved.

DM/14/02263/FPA. Mr. P Bates, 24 The Avenue, Coxhoe DH6 4AD for erection of single storey extension to rear and porch to front of existing dwelling.

iii. Applications previously considered and refused.

DM/14/00051/FPA. Mr. J Bielby of Stray Aid, East Pasture Farm, Cornforth Lane, Coxhoe DH6 4EL. Single storey agricultural style building 16.5 metres by 50 metres to house stray dogs for an established dog rescue Centre and two offices and fencing (amended plans and description).

iv. DCC decision to permit the building of 190 dwelling at Parkhill.

The Chair circulated information to members on this matter that illustrated DCC had offered no opposition to this development. The Green Belt for Durham group had voiced their concerns which as a result was pushing development out of Durham where the emphasis is to build in Sherburn; Bowburn, Parkhill and Coxhoe where motorway junction 61 is viewed for development due to North/South transport links. A review of the Durham County Plan is out for consultation and members should take the opportunity to comment when available.

114. Neighbourhood development plan.

The Chair advised that developing the parish Neighbourhood Plan should be achievable though it will have to be managed to ensure efforts are not wasted. Members and the Clerk will attend Neighbourhood Planning meetings to keep abreast of issues and developments. The Clerk would pursue a cost for having an external organisation undertake the Housing Needs Assessment and availability of funding from Locality. It was agreed to hold a public meeting on this issue and to invite all-comers via our website and Facebook.

115. Exclusion of the Press and Public. No matters.

116. Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of the council would be on the 4th November 2015 starting at 7pm in Coxhoe Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed on 4th November 2015 as a true record of the meeting.

Cllr. S Dunn (Chair)

Cllr. C Hogarth (Vice-Chair)