

Draft Minutes of the January 2009 Meeting

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF QUINTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE SCHOOL HALL, QUINTON SCHOOL, LOWER QUINTON ON THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY 2009 AT 7.30P.M.

PRESENT: MR.M.WALSBY OBE., MR.R.HARRISON, MRS.J.MOORE, MRS. A.GILLMAN, MRS.G.PEARSON, MRS.S.ANGUS AND FOUR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The CHAIRMAN congratulated Mr.Ray Nicholls, a member of the public for his recent sporting award for his services to Quinton Football Club

1. Apologies for absence

MR.M.HOWSE, MR.A.CARTER, COUNCILLORS M.BRAIN AND I.SECCOMBE

Before proceeding with the meeting the CHAIRMAN welcomed Mr.Charles Barlow from the WRCC who spoke on his work in relation to affordable housing projects with Parish Councils. The CHAIRMAN thanked him for his attendance and said that his comments were very much appreciated. It was hoped that some land could be found in the Parish for further affordable housing.

2. Declarations of interests.

Members are asked to declare interests in items on the Agenda in accordance with the following provisions:

Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion, then providing the matter is considered in public session, they are entitled, with the consent of the Chairman, to make representations and answer questions if members of the public are granted the same entitlement. Members must leave the room before the ensuing debate and vote and must not attempt to improperly influence a decision about that matter
No declarations were made at this point.

3. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting (NOVEMBER 2008)

The Clerk had circulated the minutes of the previous meeting which were accepted as a true record of what had taken place. The CHAIRMAN signed the minutes book.

4. Any matters from the Public present at the meeting including any items on the agenda (Members of the public are limited to 3 minutes each.)

One member asked about the internet connection in the village hall, whether it was available for general usage. The CHAIRMAN said that some security issues had to be sorted out but that it would be available for use to users of the village hall in due course.

5. Matters Arising from the minutes of the previous meetings:

(a) Long Marston Camp - proposed ECO Town update

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the ongoing Judicial Review hearing in London (22/23/1/2009) which both District and County Councillors were attending along with Mr. M.HOWSE. He also spoke of the recent meeting of Parish Councils' representatives with District Council officers and representatives from St. Modwens at which it was made clear that Parish Councils wanted the former Army site to be used for Leisure purposes without any housing development as any need for new housing could be met locally within each Parish.

(b) Fordway Play Area update

The Clerk gave details of the progress to date. It was expected that the repairs to the play area would be completed in early February when the CHAIRMAN and other members of the Parish Council would carry out an inspection before the solicitors are asked to complete the transfer.

(c) Play Area at Playing Fields/Youth Shelter

Mrs. GILLMAN said that a recent inspection of the Youth Shelter showed that it had been tidied up by someone and was now in good order. The play equipment was also in good order although the spring duck was not yet back on the site.

(d) Flood Defence reports

The CHAIRMAN gave a report on behalf of Mr. CARTER. There had been flooding on 13th December and one house was badly affected. A grid at the entrance to a culvert got blocked and due to the efforts of Robert Higgins it was unblocked which prevented further flooding from occurring. Further work in this area will have to be carried out to improve the situation. Sandbags have been used and the sand supply ran out and has been replenished. Further supplies of sandbags have been ordered. The ditch at the side of the playing field will be cleared as the owner of the land at the side of the ditch has given permission for access.

(e) Pond Clearance

The project to clear and tidy the pond had been completed and was now a credit to the village. A grant of £1000 had been received from the Council towards the costs. Mr. HARRISON said he was still hopeful of receiving some contributions from villagers towards the costs.

(f) Waste Bins

In the absence of Mr. CARTER, the CHAIRMAN said that as far as he was aware no contact had been made by the District Council officer.

(g) Telephone Box adoption at Upper Quinton

The CHAIRMAN reported that the transfer of ownership to the Parish Council was progressing albeit rather slowly.

(h) Village Hall path/car park

Mrs. MOORE said that the project had been temporarily put on hold by the Village Hall Committee.

6 Draft Core Strategy Response from Parish Council

The following response will be forwarded to the District Council Planning Policy Department:

The Draft Core Strategy is a good document, well produced and which looks after the interests of Quinton residents in many respects, including the former Army site at Long Marston. Stratford District Council should be complimented on their work.

7 Open Spaces Assessment

This questionnaire was taken away by Mrs. J. MOORE and would be answered in consultation with Mr. R. HARRISON.

8. Any matters from the District Councillor or County Councillor.

As both Councillors were in London as previously mentioned in these minutes, there were no reports to hand from either Councillor.

9. To receive any new planning applications

(a) 08/02927/FUL - College Arms - convert existing storage to living accommodation

Resolved: No representations

(b) 08/03193/FUL - Quinton House Nursing Home - demolish outbuilding and rebuild as bedrooms etc.

The CHAIRMAN reported on his visit to meet with those neighbours who would be affected by this development at this site. He attended with Mr. M. HOWSE. He recommended that the following response be sent to the Planning Department in response to the proposals. It was resolved that the response should be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

'Not supported. Proposed construction seems too large and high for the expected number of residents and would have a seriously overbearing presence when viewed from neighbouring houses in Millfield Close. In addition it is considered that it would create an unacceptable level of light and noise pollution which would impact on these houses. Further discussion is recommended in order to reach an acceptable compromise, both with representatives from the Parish Council and the residents of Millfield Close, on the design and layout of the proposed building, as set out in the letter to Louise Koelman (S.D.C.) from Yvonne Paige of 7 Millfield Close. Such a compromise could include putting the staff quarters in the West Wing (Stage 2 of the proposed build) and reducing the height of the East Wing (Stage 1) to single storey. The Parish Council fully supports the assessment made by Yvonne Paige on behalf of the residents of Millfield Close.'

(c) 08/03207/FUL - Tudor Walls, Upper Quinton - two storey side/rear extension etc

Resolved: No representations.

10. To receive any results of planning applications

(a) 08/02848/FUL - Magdalen House, Lower Quinton, proposed single storey extension - GRANTED

(b) 08/02977/AGNOT - Lower Clopton Farm, Upper Quinton, proposed extension to farm building -
PLANNING APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

(c) 08/02929/LBC - College Arms - Conversion of storage to form accommodation – GRANTED

11. To receive any correspondence

a) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 consultation by District Council

The proposals by the SDC to bring the provisions of the Act into being and to involve Parish Councils in the 'policing' of the Act were discussed. Members thought that whilst they supported the principles it would be very difficult for the Parish Council to become involved in the training and issuing of fixed penalty notices. It was resolved that a suitable reply to this effect should be sent to SDC.

(b) Council Publication Policy - Consultation by DCLG

This consultation document was considered by the members and it was resolved that the Clerk should be delegated to send a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

(c) Warwickshire Climate Change talks

The offer of giving a presentation to the Parish Council was considered and it was resolved to invite the officer to the Annual Assembly.

(d) Workshop on Emergency Planning at SDC on 18th February 2009 from 7pm until 9pm

The CHAIRMAN would try to attend this meeting.

(e) Grit bin for Upper Quinton

Following representation from a resident in the area of Upper Quinton it was agreed that a grit bin should be supplied with delivery notification being made to the CHAIRMAN who would then arrange for its positioning in the area.

(f) Warwickshire Rural Housing Assn Annual Report was noted.

13. Accounts for Payment and Finance Matters.

The Clerk had circulated a budget estimate for 2009/10 which was considered by the members. It was resolved to set the precept for the forthcoming year at the same level as the previous year at £20000

The following Payments were authorised:

(a) Clerks Salary for December & January - £642.57p

(b) Clerk's expenses incurred £41.29p

(c) Complete Tree Service Tree work at Pond site £805

(d) MP Gardens Village Greens, Play Area maintenance - £2340.67p

(e) Mr.M.Walsby - Computer project - £28.38p

(f) Mr.A.Carter - sand for sandbags - £41.40p

(g) D.W.Clark (Drainage) Ltd - pond clearance - £3036

(h) G.L.Potter - Straw bales for pond clearance - £80

(i) A.Carter - sandbags - £120

14. Dates of meetings

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 9.00pm

2009 Meetings

19th March (PC Meet 6.45pm Annual Parish Assembly 8pm)

21st May

16th July

17th September

19th November