

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF QUINTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, LOWER QUINTON ON THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY  
2010 AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** MR.M.WALSBY OBE (CHAIRMAN), MR. M.HOWSE (VICE CHAIRMAN), MRS. S.ANGUS, MRS. A.GILLMAN, MRS. J.MOORE, MR. R. HARRISON, MR. D. PEREGRINE, MR. A.CARTER AND ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC.

1. Apologies for absence  
County Councillor I. Seccombe, District Councillor M.Brain
2. Declarations of interests.  
Members are asked to declare interests in items on the Agenda in accordance with the following provisions:  
(a) Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001  
*Members are reminded that the code of conduct provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion they should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter.*  
Mr. R. HARRISON declared an interest in item 8(c)
3. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting (DECEMBER 2009)  
The Clerk had circulated the minutes of the previous meeting which were accepted as a true record by those present. 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.)  
Miss Rebecca Morris - First Responder Scheme  
Miss Morris and her colleague outlined the scheme to members which would seek volunteers within the parish to act as 'medical assistance' to patients before the arrival of the ambulance service. It does not replace the ambulance service but provides a first aid response which, in rural areas, has proved invaluable as ambulances can take some time to attend. It is run under the supervision of the ambulance service. She was seeking assistance from the Parish Council towards setting up the scheme and helping to fund the equipment that is required. Members were in favour of supporting such a scheme and made suggestions to Miss Morris on how she could take the project forward.  
Mr Ray Nicholls pointed out that the pathway at the back of the hall is badly lit, and requested that this be dealt with. Mrs. Moore agreed to take the matter up with the Village Hall committee.
5. Matters Arising from the minutes of the previous meetings:  
(a) Long Marston Camp - updates on Eco Town and Masterplan proposals  
Mr. HOWSE said a decision on the Eco Town was still awaited. The District Council had passed the plans in full, by a narrow margin, for the Masterplan although he had heard the BARD group were consulting legal representatives with a view to launching an appeal. Members expressed their concerns at the way in which the District Council planning committee had come to their decision. Mr. HOWSE also reported that the GOWM would not be calling in the application.  
(b) Fordway Play Area update

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Parish Council now owned the play area and the monies (£45000) was in the Parish Council accounts. The metal guards placed around the site had now been removed and the play equipment could be used. He said that there would be some grounds maintenance required at the site and he would contact the contractors for an updated quote for the work involved. Discussion took place amongst members regarding the best place to put the money in view of the poor interest rates currently available. The Clerk would investigate and report back to the members.

(c) Play Area at Playing Fields

Mrs. GILLMAN reported on the current state of the play equipment. It needed a refurbishment and she told members that grants were available from several sources. Mr. HOWSE and Mrs. GILLMAN would liaise with regard to improvements etc., that are needed. The CHAIRMAN reported that the spring duck was due to be replaced shortly and the new swing seats have been obtained and would be put in place. He would study the playground inspection reports to see what needed to be done to bring the site up to standard. The CHAIRMAN gave details to members of two quotes he had obtained for a new metal seat for the playing fields. Members felt that a seat could possibly be obtained locally at a cheaper price. Mr. CARTER offered to obtain quotes.

(d) Flood Defence reports

Mr. CARTER reported that the new grid had been installed in the ditch and that there had been no recent problems with flooding. He had been in touch with Jeff Morris from WCC regarding the Aylestone Close ditch but was having difficulty in getting any response to date. Mrs. ANGUS asked about the ditch near the church. She felt that it presented a danger and needed a grille fitted. Mr. CARTER would look at the site.

(e) Youth Club progress

Mr. HOWSE spoke of the frustrations that had been encountered with delays to employing new youth workers. Two had applied in November 2009 and arrangements for CRB checking were made. In the time that took, one applicant had got other employment. Another volunteer has since come forward and it was now hoped to progress the matter.

(f) Parish Plan

Mr. PEREGRINE updated members on the progress to date which involved him in applying for the forms for funding. He was shortly going to work on the initial questionnaire.

(g) Parish Emergency Plan

The CHAIRMAN reported that a small group had been formed consisting of himself, Mr. HOWSE, Mr. PEREGRINE and Mr. K. TURNER. Mr. HOWSE had agreed to lead the group and work had started on the draft of the plan, based on that provided by Mr. M. Potter from WCC Emergency Planning Unit.

(h) Village Hall Report

Mrs. MOORE gave a lengthy and thorough report on the activities of the Village Hall Committee. Bookings for the hall were very healthy and some new courses arranged. A check had been made with other halls to see how booking fees compared and Quinton was found to be comparable. The CCTV was installed and working, although not to the standard required, so further work is necessary. Some improvements to the heating system were being considered.

6. Parish Council Chairman items:

(a) Bus route gritting

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the recent problems caused by the heavy snowfalls. Goose Lane and Taylors Lane had not been gritted and buses had not run along that route as a result. The County Council refused to grit that section of the highway as it was contrary to their policy. Mr. PEREGRINE said he was disgusted at the attitude of the WCC in this matter as people were unable to get to the doctors in Goose Lane. He made suggestions on how to tackle the problem in future. He said that Quinton Parish Council should insist that these two roads are included in the gritting schedule when it is reviewed. If this failed then alternative arrangements should be made by the Parish Council to have the road gritted. He gave details of companies that would be contracting this work in the future. Members felt that action would have to be taken when such events occurred in the future.

(b) bus stops adjacent to Medical Centre

The CHAIRMAN spoke of concerns that had been raised over the positioning of the bus stop outside the Medical Centre. There was a danger of persons alighting falling into the ditch. He suggested it should be moved. Councillor BRAIN is aware of this problem.

7. Any matters from the District Councillor or County Councillor.  
In his absence Councillor Brain had sent a short report in which he asked members what projects the Global Gathering monies should support this coming year, should the dead and damaged trees at the front of the Fordway be replaced and the availability of the Play Builder fund.
8. To receive any new planning applications
  - (a) 09/02090/FUL - The White Cottage, Upper Quinton - conservatory - no comments
  - (b) 09/02491/FUL - 22 The Fordway - proposed extension to the side/rear - no comments
  - (c) 09/2427/FUL - 4 Lower Quinton - provision of Calor gas tank in front garden - no comments
9. To receive any results of planning applications
  - (a) 09/02090/FUL - Barn Antiques - GRANTED
  - (b) 09/00835/FUL - Long Marston Storage Depot - Masterplan application - GRANTED subject to being called in by GOWM etc.
  - (c) 09/02090/FUL - The White Cottage, Upper Quinton - conservatory - GRANTED
10. To receive any correspondence
  - (a) Decorum magazine from Monitoring Officer was circulated
  - (b) Play area reports were taken by the CHAIRMAN
  - (c) Request for Meon News Grant  
The treasurer of the Meon News had sent in a request for a grant towards the running costs of the Meon News. Members unanimously agreed to the figure of £400 in the budget be given over to the magazine.
  - (d) Warwickshire Best Kept Village Competition 2010  
Mrs. ANGUS would submit entries for the various categories for Quinton Parish Council.
11. Accounts for Payment and Finance Matters.
  - (a) Clerks Salary for December 2009 and January 2010 - £\*\*\*

- (b) Clerk's expenses incurred £88.61p
- (c) Course for Chairman and Vice Chairman 12/12/2009 - £25
- (d) Meon News Grant - £400
- (e) Village Hall hire December 3rd - £25
- (f) Society of Local Council Clerks subscription 2010 (Share) - £53
- (g) MP Garden Services - £650.31p
- (h) G.D.Phillips – Groundworks and playground equipment repairs £120
- (i) D.W.Clark (Drainage) - £1000.50p
- (j) A.L.Carter - £69

12. To set the Annual Precept for 2010/2011  
The Clerk had circulated a budget forecast and had recommended a precept of £20000. However in view of the projects concerning the refurbishment of the playing fields and the possible costs of gritting roads, members felt that it should be increased to £23000. On the proposal of Mr. HARRISON, seconded by Mr. CARTER, a precept of £23000 was unanimously agreed.
13. Closure  
The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 9.25pm  
Dates of meetings  
March 18th (Parish Council 6.45pm Annual Assembly 8pm)  
May 20th (AGM)  
July 22nd  
September 16th  
November 18th  
There will be a need for a short meeting in early May following the Parish Council elections