

**Minutes of Quainton Parish Council Meeting
Held at Quainton Village Hall, Station Road, Quainton
On Thursday 9th December 2021**

Attendees: Councillors John Knox, Parish Clerk (by John Knox), Lee Whitlock, Nicolette Smith, Sue Weldon and 6 members of public

1 Apologies for Absence

Michelle Robinson Boyce, Nick Butler Cllr Iain MacPherson, PCSO Denise Grayburn

2 Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

None

3 Approve Minutes from 9th November Meeting

The draft minutes previously circulated were approved and signed as a true copy by the Chairman.

4 Public Forum

- 151 Station Road - Resident concern about height of ground level of Houses being built behind 151 Stn Rd

Cllr Lee Whitlock explained: Residents can email the planning officer. Addendum to existing plan gives developers permission for land to be raised 4ft 2inch. The heightened earth of new houses, causes concern to privacy of existing homes, many bungalows, their downstairs windows will look into the bungalows' rooms, taking away privacy. Bucks Railway Centre gave Barwood permission to use a ditch. Ditch is now blocked under tarmac at end of road, Railway Centre say it is developer's responsibility to unblock.

Parish Council had objected to the plans due to flood risks.

- 135 Station Road -Concern that a new planning application was being planned. The PC cannot consider objecting until an application is made. We objected to the previous rejected planning application.
- Bus Services – A resident informed the Council about the many problems with the bus service having been asked by Ward Cllr. Phil Gomm to act as a designated person to this issue. Through Facebook and a separate email the resident had been receiving complaints from people in village, plus visits to the residents house at irregular hours. The resident tried to liaise with Cllr Gomm, but had no response from him and is getting increasingly frustrated by the lack of response from him or anyone at the Unitary Council, so they came to talk to QPC.
- There is a plethora of complaints. Resident highlighted witnessing the School Bus 3:30pm school bus Red Line reversing bus on The Green into Torbay without anyone guarding for health & safety of children on the bus or people on The Green and out around the bus. Also number of children on The Green causing aggravation and bust up amongst youngsters, this is particularly a difficult situation for children with SEN.

4 Public Forum Cont'd.

Proposal: for the bus to go around Townsend again to collect children, it would half the children at each stop. It will only add 3 minutes to the journey, the reversing takes almost as long. The 16 service bus no longer accesses Station road disadvantaging (inter alia) a lady with MS has to pay £100 a month for taxis as she cannot walk as far as The Green, a blind lady has similar problems and school children for Aylesbury are also affected.

Proposal: for the buses to turn around at Bucks Railway Centre so bus can go through Station Road.

Iain McPherson and John Knox spoke to TfB to suggest buses turning at Railway Centre as discussed in QPC meeting in September. They decided it was not possible as turning circle too small and no guaranteed access to car park from Railway Centre.

Resident however has a permission from Bucks Railway Centre to confirm that the buses can reverse on car park, both school bus and public service bus.

Resident has contacted Mr Taj Kahn of Red Rose to come up with solutions. Possibly change from hourly time table to one bus every hour and half to allow for more time for drivers to make their way around road closures.

Station Road Bridge - Cllr John Knox says the bridge is unlikely to be fixed soon and the problem will be unlikely to be sorted for several years yet. Network Rail attitude is that is only one of 30,000 bridges. At an HS2 meeting last Tuesday it was mentioned that the bridge is to be demolished. This is news to us as it is still to be retained to enable access to businesses south of the bridge.

HS2 and Traffic Calming issues were to be discussed later in the agenda.

5 Matters Outstanding

Clerks Position

Position remains unfilled but continuing to advertise in Q, QPC Q News, web page and SLCC (silver), Cllr John Knox will cover the position until a permanent candidate is found.

Councillor Position

Position remains unfilled continuing to advertise in QN and QPC webpage.

The Quainton Beacon – Planning Application Case – ballots received so far show 2 against, 30 in favour of applying.

6 To receive County Councillor Briefings

Councillor Iain Macpherson sent apologies.

7 Planning Applications

Summary

21/04250/HS2	Package 10	Waddesdon to Calvert	Expiry tbc
21/04529/COUAR	Barn Conversion	High Hedges off Station Rd	Expiry 22/12
21/04551/APP, 21/04552/ALB,	New windows, render, roof tiles, internal changes	The Forge 1 Lower St	Expiry 23/12
21/04624/ALP	Secondary glazing and internal doors	The Forge 1 Lower St	Expires 29/12
17/4041/APP (tbc)	Station Rd Chicane & Bus stop	Station Rd	tbc

New Applications - Summary of QPC position with following proposals:

21/04250/HS2 - Package 10 - Waddesdon to Calvert - Exp. tbc

- alignment of new road objected, preferred original spur road to be reinstated as only junction to existing Station Rd
- Quanton Rd to be straight ahead
- Design of bridges tbc
- Various other smaller points

21/04529/COUAR - Barn Conversion, High Hedges off Station Rd - Exp. 22/12

- applied under rural development act, barn conversion,
- objections based on no agricultural need

21/04551/APP, 21/04552/ALB - New windows, render, roof tiles, internal changes, The Forge 1 Lower St - Exp. 23/12

- no objections

21/04624/ALP - Secondary glazing and internal doors, The Forge 1 Lower St - Exp. 29/12

- no objections

17/4041/APP (tbc) - Station Rd Chicane & Bus stop Station Rd - Exp. tbc

PC to object. There is no need for a chicane nor a delineated bus stop further along Station Road Both would adversely affect parking

Resolved C/2021/31

Existing Planning – New Issues

159 Station Road – Reserved Matters include further extension at rear., QPC would have objection - Cllr John Knox to raise issue with planning officer.

The Croft 15 Church Street - 40 comments and objections. QVS sent a mailing around and no officers report and no progress to move this along. Member of public discussed with John Knox.

Station Rd Crossroads- dangerous - Cllr Lee Whitlock experienced near miss, Cllr John Knox witnessed two near accidents whilst talking to EKFB staff, Cllr Sue Weldon mentions someone else had two near misses.

North End Road - mud on building site - digging up clay. Sweeper has been today, Thursday 9 December. PC has no knowledge about any flood risk or whether this was assessed and part of the development planning application.

151 Station Road - sweeper not going around often enough

8 Clerks Report & Correspondence

Christmas Tree on the Green - School & Lands Charity objection to tree being placed, claiming PC insurance would not cover, etc. Village needs to be able to use The Green for community events. What can we do to stop these issues arising? Better arrangements with S&LC or possibility of PC taking over The Green. It is Common Land, held by School & Lands Charity, PC may have to buy it and pay a sum to take ownership of the land. Cllr Sue Weldon to look into this, Cllr John Knox to provide information to Cllr Sue Weldon.

Cost of Christmas Tree - Cllr Nicolette Smith mentioned that the cost of Christmas tree seems rather excessive for the amount of time the tree is up only to then be destroyed. It is also not very environmentally friendly. Cllr Nicolette Smith to discuss with Fireworks Committee and Claire of CHOW project about possible options for a Christmas Tree Growing programme so we can have a 'home grown' Christmas tree in due course.

9 Review Finance report and Approve Expenditure

Approved payments as circulated

<u>Item Expenditure</u>	Indicates Payment not yet raised>>>	*	£
<i>Ref</i>	<i>Description</i>		
OLB 521	Winwood Almshouses Trust		175.00
OLB 522	Chesmetalwork	*	1,400.00
OLB 523	Phil Hayward	*	800.00
OLB 524	Nick Butler (Paint materials)	*	159.28
OLB 525	SLCC	*	246.00
OLB 526	Buckinghamshire	*	449.52
OLB 527	TEEC	*	151.19
OLB 528	J Knox (Norton 360 Licence)	*	64.99
OLB 529	Marsh Commercial	*	83.64
OLB 530	Quanton Fireworks Committee		200.00
OLB 521A	Reg Porter		305.60
DD	Castle Water		
DD	EON Dec		
Agrees to total payments above			
Yes			
Total			4,035.22

Resolved C/2021/32

Finance - Dec report EON £50.49 to be added. Contributed to Christmas Tree.

Precept - At the meeting of 9th November 2021 it was discussed that a target budget was to be £27k for 2022/23 with a 2% increase for inflation, submission needs to be agreed and is due 31st Jan 2022.

Cllr Nicolette Smith objects to this, considering inflation is set to be higher than 2% and costs of energy are increasing, and employment costs will be going up once we have a new Clerk, costs of grass cutting and other maintenance if also likely to increase due to new contracts being needed and general cost of living going up across the country.

It was agreed at the meeting of 9th November 2021, that a sub-committee was formed with Cllr Nick Butler, Cllr Michelle Robinson-Boyce, this was not minuted in meeting minutes from 9th November. Two Cllrs who were not able to attend November meeting were not aware of this arrangement. The sub-committee did not manage to meet however, and it was agreed at this meeting of the 9th December 2021 that the precept budget will be circulated by Cllr John Knox via email for review by all Cllrs and to be discussed and agreed at the January 2022 meeting.

Castle Water - billing still in dispute and no further invoices/bills will be paid until resolved

10 Recreational report

Councillor Nick Butler sent apologies

Chairman's initials

Date

11 Broadband

Phase 2 Broadband Upgrade to Service - Roll out not due until April 2023. It is likely that villagers that don't already have the required broadband speed will have to use an alternative method of receiving broadband that does not rely on street cabling e.g. Rapid Rural Broadband

12 Reports on HS2, Roads Pavements and Streetlights

SIDS – Agreed to buy two Gen Smart solar powered SID's, and existing SID to have solar power fitted. The cost would be covered by the HS2 Road Safety Fund. Three poles supplied by HS2/Fusion and stored by Cllr Knox are to be hinged and later installed by HS2/EKFB. Extra costs estimated at £750 will be covered by reserves.
Resolved C/2021/33

Gritting - a question was posted on Facebook Group Quainton Village Life - Cllr Iain McPherson reported on this with full schedule of gritters and banksmen will be used to ensure reversing onto bridges, so gritting can happen there was well. More gritting will not be done. EKFB may grit Station Road to A41. Drainage on this stretch should be sufficiently improved to stop road surface from freezing up.

13 HS2, Roads, Pavements and Streetlights Cont'd

HS2

- A41 – Station Road Disruption - Road now open
- HS2 Drop-in Session A41 - village Question and Answer session with HS2 was held on 30 November 2021 at the Memorial Hall. This Drop-in session was held by EKFB only, not by HS2 and Bucks CC . EKFB had 6 meetings arranged at Calvert and 15 at Steeple Claydon and were shocked by number of people turning up. The meeting at Quainton was by all perceived to be a total farce, there were 60 residents in attendance. There was talk of re-arranging a meeting. Cllr John Knox firmly put across that he cannot arrange that, certainly not before Christmas.

Some issues need further discussion:

Follow up meeting with Bucks

Following the unsatisfactory meeting on November 30th. John Knox met online with Iain MacPherson and Peter Martin – Bucks Deputy Cabinet member for HS2, the Planning Officer handling the Station Rd plans Patrick Kelly of HS2 and Simon Matthews of EKFB. In Kelly – Greg Smith MP's aide was also present.

Simon M gave a history of the changes which at one point included an turning area for refuse vehicles requested by BC. This was never needed because of the 151 development

John Knox had an engagement team meeting with Quainton, Wendover & Calvert, Patrick Kelley(?) Community Engagement, Iain MacPherson via teams meeting on Wednesday morning, only 1 person from highways was present, Simon Matthews shared changes made over time. Hammerhead at the bottom of bridge, mention of bridge being dismantled, this needs clarification.

There was discussion about creating a turning circle for refuse lorries, which seems wasteful, since there will be a new housing estate behind 151 Station Road where they can turn.

The case was again made to reinstate the spur road as the only junction to avoiding speeding from the angled junction as was the retention of the straight ahead Quainton Rd junction.

The existing planned junction to the Railway Centre was also criticised for the difficulty of low loaders entering it

Cllr Knox strongly criticised the proposals previously made by Bucks.

The deadline for the plan's approval is December 29th

CPOs need to be better explained in relation to the residents ownership of subsoil under the road Residents need reassurance that front gardens aren't dug up.

Ian Kelly would ask Greg Smith MP to speak to the minister of HS2.

QPC wants to be involved in landscaping. We want them to speak to us. Claire's Orchard & Wildlife Project has been involved and asked to get contact details for landscaping and installing hedges, trees, etc.

QVS asking to see proposed plans overlaid over existing plans. Asking to arrange meeting with HS2 and Bucks.

Cllr Sue Weldon agreed we need to get a meeting in place, Cllr John Knox thinks we can't get it done.

Date and times of next meeting Thursday 13th January 2022 – 8 PM