

# Quorn community facilities and amenities.

## Churches

The preservation of **St Bartholomew's Church** with the surrounding graveyards is particularly important to parishioners. The Church actively supports groups within the community and maintains friendly relationships with the Baptist Church. The Church Rooms are well used for events and regular 'Messy Church' sessions for families and toddlers, as well as coffee mornings for parishioners. Regular lectures hosted by the popular Local History Society are held in the Church itself. A regular magazine 'Quorn News' keeps everyone interested well-informed.

A comprehensive description of the Grade I listed building and the Farnham family memorial Chapel in the church is available at the link:

[https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/listed\\_buildings/church\\_of\\_st\\_bartholomew\\_and\\_farnham\\_chapel\\_church\\_lane\\_quorn](https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/listed_buildings/church_of_st_bartholomew_and_farnham_chapel_church_lane_quorn)

The Wedding Path from Station Road up to the Church is an interesting feature that should be retained.

## Quorn Baptist Church on Meeting Street

The Church is part of the Baptist Union but its congregation is made up of Christians from a variety of church backgrounds. An after-school club for primary age children is held once a month. A full history of the development of the church since 1760 is available at the link: [www.quornbaptistchurch.org/history](http://www.quornbaptistchurch.org/history).

## Old School buildings

For some years the Parish Council has been attempting to increase space for the public to meet and enjoy the renewal of the **Old National School** building on School Lane. Funds have been sourced to make good the roof on one wing of the building which is intended to accommodate the Community Library, a Local History Museum, Civic Offices and a tea room. Whilst completion of this building will release a small meeting room in the Village Hall, further resources are required to restore all or part of the building for public use.

## Clubs, Societies organisations and Groups

The number of clubs and societies varies according to village interests. Events such as the May Day Festival and Duck Race, Loros Open Gardens and Quorn in Bloom as well as the Bacon Roll competition attract both villagers and visitors. Remembrance Sunday engages the Scouts, Guides and British Legion and also attracts Americans to the War Memorial in Stafford Orchard Park. A large number of volunteers are engaged in planning and delivering these events that are integral to village life. In addition to events regular meetings of 20+ clubs and societies take place as listed in Appendix B. These include the larger sports clubs, such as football, cricket and bowls clubs who have their own premises and the smaller groups meet in the Village Hall, Church Rooms and pubs. Lack of parking and facilities for the disabled are concerns mentioned about some venues that are used, for example Allen House

premises for Scouts and Guides. The provision of space for all activities is limited. In particular this affects the Scouts and Guide groups – see Appendix J.

## Quorn Community Library

Quorn Community Library opened in February 2017 in temporary premises in Rawlins Academy pending completion of its intended permanent new home in the refurbished Old School in the centre of the village. Volunteers staff and manage the library under a grant agreement between Quorn Parish Council and Leicestershire County Council.

A public consultation in 2015 showed overwhelming support that Quorn should continue to have a village library. Some 10% of the population are members, indeed new membership has doubled since opening compared to the previous year.

The library is especially valued by young families - a popular Wriggly Readers session for pre-school children runs on Tuesday afternoons. The national Summer Reading Challenge entertained over 100 children from the village school and neighbouring Woodhouse Eaves primary school.

The library is also popular with retired people, and offers a warm welcome to those who may live alone, with a good selection of audio books and large print titles.

The newly formed Quorn Local History Society appreciates the wealth of local history resources available. A wide range of information leaflets is on offer to all.

Once in the Old School the management team has plans for a further programme of activities to attract all ages, be it a coding club for primary children, a silver surfers club for older users, or author talks for others.

**Sporting facilities** are key assets of the community that must be preserved but they should meet the needs of all age groups in the community. Proposals for new development are to be considered in the context of the population age profile.

An analysis of the current issues relating to provision of sports facilities is at Appendix I.

There is no obvious contingency plan to ensure that if there were a need to relocate facilities, or maybe combine several sports on one site, there would be somewhere available to locate to. Some attractive countryside in Quorn is not available to the residents to enjoy because it is private land and fenced off. For example, Rawlins Academy playing fields, once accessible to all, are now fenced off. The Grammar School playing fields are “out of bounds”, and so is Proctor’s Park.

## Youth Provision in Quorn

There were 64 responses (13%) to a youth questionnaire that focussed on the 11 -18 age group of young people resident in Quorn.

The Youth Questionnaire revealed a desire for more facilities to focus the interest of young people on work and play in Quorn and surrounding villages rather than in Loughborough or Leicester. This is associated with a perception that the village is a ‘safe’ area and largely crime and drug free. Suggestions were made by respondents that will be taken forward for the benefit of the parish through further consultation.

Young people value sporting facilities and share the desire of adults to have a local swimming pool and tennis courts<sup>1</sup>. They are fitness aware and appreciate the playing field and the outdoor gym equipment in Stafford Orchard.

They would like more shelters in places like Stafford Orchard and Caves field.

The schools have clubs and societies that respond to the needs of those who attend but young people should also benefit from their life outside of the school environment. They are computer literate and media aware and communicate readily within their friendship groups. It is of interest to them to have more opportunities to be more involved in village life.

Both the excellent response to the Logo competition for the Primary School and the NP Youth Questionnaire illustrate that young people in Quorn are both interested and capable of contributing to planning for the future of the village community.

A need for a youth club with an integrated café has arisen through consultation as well as more chances for young children to join the scouts or guides – organisations that are already strongly supported and have an extensive waiting list.<sup>2</sup> A purpose built premises for these organisations would enable a larger proportion of the younger community to experience the opportunity to develop community values and personal life skills. It would also offer a suitable meeting place for daytime and evening events because scout and guide meetings occur between the hours of 4.00 pm and 7-00 pm.

Whilst 90% of residents who attended the consultation event agreed with this policy concerns were expressed about the scale of wider public demand for places in the two village state schools. Access to Rawlins Academy (roll 1680) creates a major traffic management problem for the village. The primary school plans for 525 pupils and is seeking expansion of built facilities on site.

## **PRE-SCHOOL FACILITIES**

In the course of consultation in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan it has become clear that there are several opportunities for parents to engage with their children in educational pursuits. The Bowling Club hosts a Baby Signing Class, the community library holds regular 'Wriggly Readers' classes, a pre-school playgroup meets in the Church Rooms and there is a Mini-Kickers Football Club. St. Bartholomew's Church and the Baptist Church respectively hold regular 'Messy Church' and After School Clubs.

Three nursery schools cater for some 80% of pre-school children. Parents also take advantage of opportunities for nursery education in surrounding villages and Loughborough.

### **Lime Tree Day Nursery**

Established by childcare professionals at the heart of the village, Lime Tree Day Nursery provides 70 places for children aged from 6 weeks to 5 years. Inspectors found the provision to be OUTSTANDING in 2017. The proprietors have a waiting list but are able to advise parents of vacancies in their nurseries that are all in easy travel distance of Quorn.

---

<sup>1</sup> Quorn Neighbourhood Plan Community Questionnaire 2017

<sup>2</sup> Second Quorn Scouts and Guides Appendix J

<http://www.limetreedaynursery.co.uk/>

**Quorn Grange Day Nursery** on Wood Lane, registered in 2013, has capacity for 30 children. The nursery received a 'GOOD in all areas' report by Inspectors in 2017. Current development plans by the General Federation of Trades Unions Educational Trust for the hotel and grounds may result in a loss of places or an increase depending on the commercial case.

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY456580>

**Quorn Pre-school nursery** based at the Church Rooms

Quorn Pre School has been open for business for over 25 years and has looked after many children from the village in this time. Although the Pre School has changed owners over the years, the nursery's ethos still remains the same, and preparing little ones for school is their main aim.

<http://www.quorn-preschool-nursery.co.uk/>

### **Child minders**

A number of registered child minders based in domestic premises are available in the Parish. Access to these services is typically by word of mouth, the internet or facebook.

Statutory education is available in the parish from 4+ to 18. Demand for statutory school places is controlled by the government policy for parental choice. The chart below illustrates that the primary school is mainly affected by new housing but it has had a significant impact on the secondary sector where Quorn residents occupy only 15% of available places. The effect of the growth in demand due to the popularity of Rawlin's Academy has impacted on the village. Young people from outside the parish use the Stafford Orchard Park and Caves Field for recreation; public transport, and shops and services. Sporting facilities previously accessible to the public are now fenced off because they are needed by the Academy for student use.

<b>School Type</b>	<b>Current Roll</b>	<b>Planned places for 2018</b>	<b>Planned capacity 2022</b>	<b>Quorn residents</b>
Pre-school	130	100	unknown	Estimated 80%
Primary	499	465	525	85% at 2011
Secondary	1529	1680	1680	15% at 2018

### **St. Bartholomew's Primary School**

<http://www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk/>

This thriving Church of England voluntary controlled primary school is in the heart of the parish. It provides a high quality and rich curriculum to meet the needs of all its learners, inside and beyond the classroom. The school is modern, purpose built and has extensive and varied grounds for the children to explore. It provides care and education before and beyond the school day and is well supported by

informed and challenging governors. Funds are supplemented generously by FOSBA- Friends of St. Bart's Association. Ofsted rated the school as GOOD in 2012 and the SIAS report in March 2013 rated school as OUTSTANDING.

Their aim is to continue to keep abreast of the latest research based thinking in education and use this to support the children to fulfil their potential, despite funding constraints and an ever changing national agenda. The school continues to work closely with other local schools on joint projects and collaboration and is committed to explore all options surrounding Multi Academy Trust status, where it will be of direct benefit to the children.

Classrooms will be fully used by 2018-19 and despite limited space the school plans to continue to be a venue for wrap around care for working parents.

A challenge for the school is to continue to provide the range of learning activities for the children within the constraints of the current building and in particular the sports hall which is used for assemblies, lunches and PE. The school would ideally like a second sports hall, which could be used by the community out of hours and could be utilised by children during the day.

## **Rawlins Academy**

[www.rawlinsacademy.org.uk](http://www.rawlinsacademy.org.uk)

Rawlins Academy currently has 240 pupils in each of Key Stages 3 and 4 year groups (Year 7-11). All year groups are oversubscribed with a waiting list in place. The intake for Year 7 in 2018 will be 240, with over 300 having selected the academy as their first choice. The Post 16 cohort is approximately 330. Moving forward, the Academy aims to be in a position to always offer our 240 Year 11s a place in our Post 16 cohort should they wish to stay and also achieve the grades required. This means that from September 2018 the Academy plans to expand the intake to 240 in every year group, to the maximum capacity of 1680.

In order to accommodate the steady influx of pupils at Rawlins Academy the community has lost a considerable number of facilities that were previously available. The swimming pool and tennis courts have been closed to the public; evening classes have been substantially reduced; space that was available for community use is now available only at paid premium rates; the library has notice to leave a temporary facility by August 2019. This reduction in community assets has been noticed by residents in the Parish and referred to in their responses to the Community Questionnaire where a swimming pool and a gym are the most wanted facilities.

Management of increased numbers around the school site and in the village has to be carefully handled. A growing number of students use the footpath between Woodthorpe and Woodhouse. The Woodhouse section floods and is exceptionally muddy. There is evidence of rough sleepers in this area so safeguarding is an issue for the regular cyclists and runners using this track. Challenges are presented by some parents who drop off students on the High Street and cause congestion when they park when waiting to collect them

## **Gryphon School**

The Gryphon School based at Quorn Hall is an all-age independent special school for boys and girls aged from 6 to 17 with a range of autism and moderate learning difficulties. Pupils may come from

anywhere in Leicestershire plus other local authorities if space is available. These pupils do not use the amenities of the village. Since the previous uses of the premises have been an outdoor pursuits centre for Leicestershire schools, then an international residential school for visiting parties of secondary students all who had easy access to the village shops. Until the Gryphon school took over in 2013 a day time play scheme for Charnwood primary age pupils has been lost.

### **Woodside Lodge Outdoor Education School**

Woodside Lodge Outdoor Learning Centre is an independent school catering specifically for children with an autism spectrum disorder, aged from 4-19. The aim is to provide a safe, secure and therapeutic environment, where children can find enjoyment and happiness whilst accessing their own individual timetables. These children travel in and do not use village facilities.

### **Alternative school options for parents**

Outflow of the children of Quorn residents, which does not match the pupil inflow, may be to either state schools or independent schools. The number of places in fee paying schools has grown in recent years with the expansion of the Loughborough Endowed Schools. Some children attend Leicester Grammar School and some attend the RC Ratcliffe College Boarding and Day School. A small number of pupils attend Uppingham School as boarders.

A competition to design a logo for the Neighbourhood Plan involved 30 Year 5 pupils from St. Bartholomew's School. The entries that were displayed at a public consultation event in August 2017, showed clear evidence that the 10+ age group is aware of the amenities they enjoy and wish to see protected. These include a strong value for the Great Central Railway and the preservation of green spaces that surround the village.

### **Adult and community Education**

Respondents to the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire drew attention to the reduction in adult education classes at Rawlins Academy. Residents of the parish must travel to other areas such as Loughborough and Leicester to access adult learning. The Neighbourhood Plan recognises the importance of adult education and wishes to support increased access for residents of the Plan area.

**Quorn Medical Centre** is at the heart of the village and services an NHS Catchment Area including the villages of Woodhouse; Woodhouse Eaves; Mountsorrel; Rothley and Swithland<sup>3</sup>. It was built in 1986 and extended in 1992 to accommodate patient growth with 8691 patients registered in February 2018. The Medical Centre is clearly affected by the population growth due to new housing developments in Quorn and the wider NHS area. The aging population of the parish means that there is continuous pressure on the facility.

A recent plan to add a third storey to the centre failed but despite the evident constraints the practice has achieved 'Outstanding' status in the most recent Quality Care Commission Review (Appendix H). The ideal arrangement would bring all medical services together under one roof. This would include the pharmacy and optician.

---

<sup>3</sup> NHS Catchment Area Map at <http://www.quornmedicalcentre.co.uk/new-patients.aspx>

Quorn Medical Centre has a Patient Participation Group (PPG), giving patients the opportunity to have their say regarding the offered services. The PPG meets six times a year. Minutes of the meetings are on the Practice website. There is also a Virtual patient participation group forum for those patients who wish to make suggestions but do not wish to attend meetings. This is of great value to patients with limited mobility.

The Medical Centre organises 'Health Walks' that provide an opportunity for exercise and enjoyment of the environs of the village.

Major efforts have been made to use modern technology to the fullest advantage. Appointments can be made and prescriptions serviced on-line. It is also possible to arrange a telephone call to speak with a GP.

**Boots Pharmacy** is situated within easy reach of visitors to the Medical Centre. It is a busy shop set within a parade of shops on Station Road. A prescription notification and collection service operates efficiently but in very cramped conditions that would benefit from extension.

## Communication

A well supported Quorn Local History Society meets on a regular basis as a source of living history and as well as understanding of the past. In addition, Quorn Village Online Museum [www.quornmuseum.com](http://www.quornmuseum.com) has created and preserved a vast repository of Quorn history that includes genealogical records, data relating to the industries and businesses that have built the Quorn of today. It is a visible record of the social capital inherent in the complex network of relationships that exists within the village today. This is freely available online to any interested parties. The heritage of Stafford Orchard and The Slabs is recorded on attractive notice boards, and an informative historical map, created for the millennium, stands in the middle at Quorn Cross.

Editors of 'The Quorndon' magazine as at Spring of 2018 have produced 86 quarterly issues since 1995. These are a physical record of twenty three years of village life as recorded by villagers themselves. It is an archive that reflects village life with articles, photographs and advertisements. Steps should be taken to ensure that an editorial committee is in place to continue the excellent work to date. This unbroken record is an important community asset.

The website [www.quorndon.com](http://www.quorndon.com) is well used by villagers with the volume of traffic directed to the Community Events and Parish Council records. It could be improved with a more efficient record of businesses within the Parish.

A number of independent sites chronicle day to day events and relationships in the village, for example, [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) and many Facebook pages including Quorn Village Event Group, Spotted: Quorn, Quorn Community Library, Quorndon Village Life, The Quorndon, Quorn Neighbourhood Watch, Quorn Village On-line Museum, Quorn Remembers, in quorn.com Facebook page; Quorn Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page; 2ndQuorn Monday Scout Troop, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quorn Tuesday Scouts.

All these valuable communication channels are initiated and operated by volunteers.

## **Village allotments**

The only generally available allotments situated on Flesh Hovel Lane on the NE edge of the parish, are fully occupied and are managed by the Highthorne Allotment Society. Previous surveys by the Parish Council have shown that there is a demand for more rented allotments.