

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTSTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2005 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

Chairman                      Mr. A. Collis-Smith

Vice-Chairman                Mr. D. Jennings

Mesdames:                    M. Baum, J. Jennings, J. Weatherstone

Messrs:                        D. Ball, A. Billings, T. Blood, D. Duffield, F.E. Duffield,  
K. Mason, G. Gamble, M. Gillespie, I. Paterson

Mrs. J. Adcock, Clerk to the Council  
Mrs. P. Mount, Deputy Clerk to the Council

Mrs. A. Pullen, County Councillor

There were 7 members of the public present.

Mrs. A. Pullen will be standing down as the representative for Countesthorpe in the forthcoming County Council elections. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chairman presented Mrs. A. Pullen, County Councillor, with a bouquet of flowers and expressed the thanks of the Parish for all the work she had undertaken in the last 20.

Mrs. Pullen thanked the Chairman and expressed her sadness at leaving.

2005/59. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. M. Smith, Mrs. C. James and Mr. A. Clifford.

2005/60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON THE AGENDA

Listed below are Councillors who wished to declare an interest in the following:-

Planning Matters:-

Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning Blaby District Council)

Mr. D. Jennings (Planning Blaby District Council and Leicestershire County Council)

Maintenance of Council Properties Working Party

Mr. K. Mason

Village Hall

Mr. D. Jennings – Chairman of Committee for Registration of Civil Weddings (L.C.C.)

2005/61. MINUTES OF A MEETING held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2005 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2005/62. MATTERS ARISING - There were none.

## 2005/63. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

Village Voice

Training Days – Stepping Stones

DEFRA – Information on Quality Councils

NALC – Correspondence Employment Updates\March Update

Blaby District Council – Press releases

Leicestershire County Council – Waste Development Framework

Publication of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands

## 2005/64. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk read the following letters:

- Inspector Martin LPU Commander, Blaby Local Policing Unit stated that as from the 4<sup>th</sup> April he would be taking command of the local police station.
- Dispersal Orders – This has been extended until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005.

After a general discussion it was resolved to ask Inspector Martin to attend next months Parish Council meeting to discuss problems within Countesthorpe.

## 2005/65. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. I. Paterson reported on the following:

Land rear of 75 Station Road – Blaby District Council Planning Department has forwarded a letter with their comments regarding their approval of this planning application.

Leicestershire County Council - Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 – Questionnaires were circulated to members.

Plan number 0500871 PY – 1 The Chestnuts. Planning permission has been granted subject to: the existing fence shall be reduced in height to include a 1.0 metre high section (maximum) to the front of this property and along the boundary of Gwendoline Drive and in part with The Chestnuts in addition to the provision of a 2.0 by 2.0 metre pedestrian visibility splay on the site's northern boundary at the junction of the property's access with the highway boundary as indicated on the approved plans.

The fence has been reduced in height but it is considered that the height is over the 1.0 metres specified. It was therefore resolved to ask the Enforcement Officer to visit the site and make observations thereon.

Notice of decisions on planning applications Town and Country Planning Act 1990 from Blaby District Council:

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0413881 PX 22.12.04	Superlook Ltd., Regent Road	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0408621 PX 3.8.04	Land Rear of 75 Station Road	- ditto -
0500871 PY 31.1.05	1 The Chestnuts	- ditto -
0501061 PX 1.2.05	26 Maurice Drive	- ditto -
0500761 AY 27.1.05	Co-op Store 8 Main Street	REFUSAL OF CONSENT TO DISPLAY AN ADVERTISEMENT

The following planning applications have been received and the following instructions were given to the Clerk thereon:

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0502431 PX	1 Springwell Close	Single storey front & rear exts. & pitched roof to existing flat roofed garage	No observations
0502131 PY	Countesthorpe Methodist Church, Wigston Street	Creation of car park & associated ground works	No observations
0501061 PX	26 Maurice Drive	AMENDMENTS Two storey side & rear single storey front & rear extensions	No observations
0502341 PX	18 Pinewood Close	Single storey side extension	No observations
0502151 PY	1 Leicester Road	Change of use from motor vehicle showroom (Sui Generis) to shop (Use Class A1)	No observations
0502491 PX	12 The Hawthorns	Revised Scheme Two storey side & rear extension	No observations
0502751 PX	19 Broadfield Way	Single storey rear extension	No observations

2005/66. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Mr. D. Ball reported on the working party meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

Church Clock – A censor for the church clock is required so that it is illuminated when the floodlights to the church switch off. It was resolved to ask P. Oswin to make arrangements to carry out this work.

Topple Testing – An article was placed in the Herald with regard to having the headstones in the cemetery checked for safety. This work will be carried out in due course.

Cemetery – Foston Road – Some confusion has arisen with regard to graveside furniture it has therefore been recommended by the working party that the following paragraph be added to Cemetery Rules and Regulations:

‘Applications for graveside furniture will be considered by the Parish Council 6 months after date of interment’.

This was resolved.

The Clerk reported that she had received a request to have the name on title deeds of burial of rights changed. The deeds cannot be changed but they do state that “Do hereby grant unto the Grantee and his/her successors in the title the exclusive right of burial in the grave space in Countesthorpe Cemetery”. The committee felt that this information should suffice.

The Square Gardens – Problems have arisen with youths playing football in the gardens. Hedges, trees, daffodils and the vine on the barn wall have all been broken down. It was therefore resolved to have a ‘NO BALL GAMES’ sign made and erected on concrete posts.

St. Andrew’s Churchyard – Two seats are to be put back in the closed churchyard. These seats are to be fixed in place.

Willoughby Road Playing Fields – It was resolved to ‘weed, feed and seed’ the football pitches this year. A suitable date is to be arranged with the football club when this work can be carried out. It was recommended that the new hedging be purchased in September/October after taking advice from Coles Nursery.

Grit Bins – Leysland Avenue/Gwendoline Drive – The Clerk stated that she had placed a notice in the Herald asking the opinion of parishioners as to whether or not the grit bins should be removed. This will be discussed by the working party at their next meeting but to date, only one person was in favour of keeping the bins.

Hanging Baskets –

Mr. K. Mason declared an interest in this item and did not take part in any discussions.

A new estimate has been received for 3 posts + fitting for hanging baskets to be sited at the front of the Village Hall/Library. The posts will cost £525 and the fitting £245, total cost £770 + vat. It was resolved to carry out this work.

## 2005/67. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

### Finance Working Party

A copy of the \Internal Audit Report was passed to the Chairman for his perusal.

The Clerk reported that two requests had been received for grant aid:

- Greenfield School
- Macmillan Nurses

These would be discussed at the next meeting of the working party.

### District Councillor

Commbus Community Transport – There are now two buses providing a service to the community. Leaflets regarding the service are available in the Village Hall but for more information telephone 0116 2866116.

## 2005/68. VILLAGE HALL UPDATES

Mr. G. Gamble reported on a Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2005:

Rear Car Park –A representative from ‘Grasscrete’ visited the Village Hall to give advice and a quotation for resurfacing the entrance area of the car park. The Grasscrete blocks would be filled with course grit instead of grass.

Three options were offered and after a discussion it was resolved to recommend the third option to the Parish Council. The third option is for traffic up to 30 tonnes GVW, which is required for vehicles such as the brewery lorry and coaches. The cost would be £11,261.05 plus vat. There is £9500 left in the Building Fund and the remainder could be taken from the Village Hall Current Account.

Mr. Gamble proposed, seconded by Mr. K. Mason that this work should be carried out. This would be funded out of the Building Fund and the Village Hall Current Account. When put to the vote this was unanimously resolved.

The Clerk was asked to look into the possibility of grant aid towards this project.

A request for automatic opening doors to the entrance hall of the Village Hall has been requested. Enquiries of other premises/organizations in the village have been made and as with the Village Hall wheel chair access is only rarely needed. It was felt that a low level door bell would assist with any problems which may arise. It was resolved to have the door bell lowered to enable wheelchair users to operate it.

## 2005/69. PARISH PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT/DISCUSSION/WAY AHEAD

A copy of the Parish Plan and Action Plan was handed to each member.

Mr. Gillespie reported that two working party meetings had been held to discuss the way ahead. It was felt that the first priority should be good communications. A web site/ booklet /improved notice boards were being looked at. Any feedback would be welcome.

It was also felt that a Public meeting should be held to explain how the Parish Council worked – what it could and could not do and how it liaised with other authorities.

Village Plan Expenditure

<b>Receipts</b>		<b>Payments</b>	
Grant Countryside Agency	2500.00	General Payments	4695.93
Second part of grant (to be received)	1862.85	Payments for 2003/04	<u>24.55</u> 4720.48-
Interest (Hinckley & Rugby)	<u>21.93</u>	Minus Receipts	<u>4384.78</u>
	<u>4384.78</u>	Amount paid by C'thorpe Parish Council	335.70

2005/70. OFFICE COMMUNICATION – UPDATE

Mr. Gillespie recommended that the office computers should have broadband installed. This would speed up the downloading of documents.

This was resolved.

2005/71. YOUTH WORK IN THE VILLAGE

The Clerk read a letter from Blaby District Council with regard to planning a new time table for the Youth Bus.

2005/72. BUS SHELTER ADJACENT TO 105 STATION ROAD

The Clerk read the following letter from Blaby District Council dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2005:

Leicestershire County Council have approved a licence for a cantilever shelter on the pavement in front of the current location. I will now obtain quotations for the work.

The Council's Legal Section has no record of who owns the land that the shelter currently sits on. However, we believe it may belong to Severn Trent Water and I will be writing to them in the first instance regarding removal of the shelter and boundary reinstatement.

A local resident reported that the fence behind the bus shelter had been vandalised. The Clerk reported that she had contacted Severn Trent Water about this.

Partnership Funding for Rural Bus Shelters 2005/2006 Programme: The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Leicestershire County Council asking if we wished to participate in the scheme this year. No comments were made.

2005/73. PARISH COUNCIL FOOTPATH WALK

Mr. I. Paterson reported that the Parish Walk would now take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June to coincide with the Foston Flower Festival. Walkers should meet in The Square Garden at 2 pm.

The Clerk was asked to put a notice in the Herald advertising the walk

2005/74. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages Account	6925.68
J. Adcock – postages	33.75
Espo – Paint + cartridge for computer	108.98
Edge Designs Ltd. – Technical Support renewal 27.4.05 to 26.4.06	211.50
Leicestershire County Council – Trade refuse	48.78
Blaby District Council – Rates cemetery 1.4.05 to 31.3.06	43.21
Queensbury – replacement bus shelter Axe & Square	2056.25
EP Builders Merchants – timber and posts	22.09
ABC Motors – Petrol and oil	54.00
Severn Trent Water – water cemetery 1.4.05 – 31.3.06	77.10
Canon – rental and copying charges	267.77
Countesthorpe Cricket Club – Grant Aid Section 137	750.00
Confederation of Burial Authorities – Annual Subscription	40.00
Open Space Society – Annual Subscription	30.00
Leicestershire & Rutland Playing Fields Association - Annual Subscription	15.00
Leics. & Rutland Ass. Of Parish & Local Councils - Annual Subscription	507.00
Rural Community Council - Annual Subscription	25.00

2005/75. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE

The Chairman’s evening will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2005.

The Clerk advised that a further Code of Conduct Training meeting had been arranged at Blaby District on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2005 at 7pm. Anyone wishing to attend should notify the Clerk.

Meeting closed @ 9.30 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

Dated ..... 2005