

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 11th AUGUST 2005 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

Chairman	Mr. A. Collis-Smith
Vice-Chairman & County Councillor	Mr. D. Jennings
Mesdames:	M. Baum, J. Jennings, J. Weatherstone
Messrs:	D. Ball, T. Blood, D. Duffield, F.E. Duffield, M. Gillespie, K. Mason, M. Smith
Mrs. J. Adcock	Clerk to the Council
Mrs. P. Mount	Deputy Clerk to the Council

There were 4 members of the public present.

2005/132. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. I. Paterson, Mrs. C. James, Mr. A. Billings, Mr. A. Clifford, Mrs. K. Yates, Mr. G. Gamble.

2005/133. 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. F.E. Duffield (Planning Blaby District Council)

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

Village Hall

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

Accounts for Payment

Mr. K. Mason – Non pecuniary interest

2005/134. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 14th July 2005 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2005/135. MATTERS ARISING

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated to all members notes of a meeting she had attended with Mrs. K. Johnston, Monitoring Officer, Blaby District Council.

One item raised was Matters Arising on the agenda. Mrs. Johnston recommended that Parish Councils do not have this item on the agenda as it is good practice and consistent with the tenure of legislation that the Public are always aware of items that are on the agenda. It is also imperative for Councillors that they are aware at all times of items for discussion in order that they can declare their interests if necessary.

After a lengthy discussion it was resolved the keep Matters Arising on the agenda. The Council also wished it to be noted that they were quite aware that no decisions could be taken under this item.

2005/136. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

- Best Value Performance Plan 2005-06 Blaby District Council
- Leicestershire County Council – Annual Plan (Best Value Performance Plan)
- Blaby District Council – Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005/08

Blaby District Council – Press Releases

- Fun Day to Launch BMX Plans @ Huncote Leisure Centre
- Improved playground facilities in Braunstone Town

2005/137. POLICE MATTERS

PC Phisic from Blaby Police Station was in attendance.

The Clerk read the following letter, which was in response to concerns of parishioners about the speed of traffic along Scalborough Close, from the Senior Traffic Management Officer, Leicestershire Constabulary, dated 9th August 2005

Scalborough Close, Countesthorpe

I refer to our letter dated 29th June 2005 concerning the above.

The data monitoring equipment has been deployed at the site between 1st and 3rd August 2005. Following analysis of the results 726 vehicles passed through the site. The average speed was 28 mph and the maximum speed recorded was 37 mph. From a police perspective it was noted that there was good compliance with the speed limit.

May I thank you for bringing your road safety concerns to my attention.

Blaby Local Policing Unit are holding a public and police meeting on Tuesday 16th August 2005 in the Main Hall at Greenfields Primary School Gwendoline Drive whereby the public may discuss policing issues with their local Police Commander.

Mr. D. Duffield stated that very large fire works were being ‘let off’ at about 6pm. this evening on Dale Acre Park and queried whether or not this was legal.
 PC Phisic stated that fireworks ‘let off’ after 7.30 pm. and or within 50 yards from the public highway constitute a public nuisance and should be reported.

PC Phisic mentioned that a security fence had been erected around Leysland High School and this had solved a lot of the problems that were being experienced in the area.

The Clerk reported the following:

- Complaints had been received from parishioners in the Woodlands about youths congregating on the Spoilbank in the evenings drinking etc. and causing a nuisance.
- The groundsmen reported seeing silver paper deposited around a parked car in Willoughby Road playing fields.

PC Phisic stated that she would look into these reports.

2005/138. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. K. Mason reported on the following:

The following reports have been received:

- Borough of Oadby & Wigston – Oadby & Wigston Local Development Framework
- Harborough District Council – Statement of Community Involvement
- Blaby District Council – Local Development Framework Sustainability Appraisal scoping report – Consultation

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

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0505541 PY 24.5.05	5 Orkney Way	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0506051 PX 7.6.05	3 Paddock Close	- ditto -
0505111 PX 13.5.05	99 Station Road	- ditto -
0505231 PX 18.5.05	26 Scarborough Way	Planning permission REFUSED

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

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0507981 PY	76 Gwendoline Drive	Single storey rear extension to form conservatory	No observations
0507351 PX	2 Springwell Drive	Single storey front extension with pitched roof & conversion of garage into habitable room	No observations
0507381 PY	8 Holyrood Drive	Single story rear extension to form conservatory	No observations

2005/139. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Mr. D. Ball reported on the working party meeting held on 8th August 2005 whereby the following was discussed:-

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 – New No Dog Fouling signs are required at Dale Acre, Spoilbank, The Spinney, Willoughby Road Playing Fields and Leysland Open Space. It was resolved to order these.

Cemetery – All the paths are in need of spraying. The Clerk reported that this work had been carried out this week by the groundsmen.

Office accommodation – It is recommended that a new key pad lock for the office door be fitted. This will cost £53 + fitting. This was resolved.

A letter from a resident in Main Street was received requesting bollards outside his house to prevent parking on the pavement. This letter was forwarded to Leicestershire County Council Highways Department for their attention as they had previously installed bollards outside of the Co-op store.

The Highways Department carried out this work without any reference to the Council.

It was resolved that a letter be sent to the County Council thanking them for their swift action in this matter but in future, it would be appreciated if the Council could be consulted before work is carried out.

2005/140. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Finance Working Party – Mr. K. Mason reported that the working party had met before the Parish Council meeting to discuss grant aid (section 137) for the following:

- Vista – responsive local services for visually impaired people. This group hire a room at the Village Hall at a reduced rate and the Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust pay the hiring fee. It was resolved therefore not to offer grant aid.
- Leicestershire Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111 – It was recommended that grant aid of £50 be awarded. This was unanimously resolved.

Mr. D. Ball reported that the Best Kept Front Gardens had been judged.

Mr. D. Jennings stated that badges were available to any service men or women who had served in the Second World War. Anyone interested should contact Mrs. J. Neesham at Blaby District Council.

2005/141. VILLAGE HALL UPDATES

New Licensing Laws

The Clerk reported that she and Mr. G. Gamble had visited Blaby District Council on two occasions with regard to completing the licensing form. On the second occasion the Licensing assistant went through the form page by page and stated that everything was in order. After the forms had been submitted Blaby District telephoned to say that a column had not been filled in and the Public Entertainment Licence did not allow for plays, films or sporting activities where the public are charged an entrance fee for admittance. The Clerk was asked to visit Blaby District Offices to make the necessary changes to the form. This was duly done.

A letter has since been received acknowledging receipt of the license application.

Rear Car Park

The contractors who laid the car park will make one return visit to top up the gravel when it has settled. The groundsmen are to be asked to sweep the area.

Mrs. J. Weatherstone asked if white lines could be put on the kerb stones to indicate parking spaces. It was resolved to ask the Council's groundsmen to carry out this work.

Building Fund

The Clerk reported that she had closed this account and deposited the money in the Village Hall Account.

Refrigerator/Dishwasher

The Village Hall Management Committee had decided to purchase a large upright larder refrigerator for the kitchen. The purchase of a dishwasher would be discussed again in 6 months time. Mrs. Findley stated that members would be welcome to look at the dishwasher in the Methodist Church rooms. It is in use on a Wednesday from 12 noon when the Luncheon Club meet.

2005/142. PARISH PLAN /OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS (PARISH PLAN)

The Rev. M. Gillespie reported that the office staff had been on an Excel course.

The computer backup system is now in place.

The Rev. M. Gillespie recommended that Office communications could now come off the agenda. This was resolved.

An open meeting will be held on 22nd August to discuss what is required on the web-site. A domain has been organised.

The Clerk reported that she had arranged a special Parish Council meeting for 19th October with officers from the Planning Department and Environmental Health Department of Blaby District Council as requested.

Mr. A. Collis-Smith was formally asked to Chair this meeting.

It was resolved that before a Public meeting to discuss provisions for the Youth in the village is arranged meetings need to be set up with group leaders to ascertain what is being done and what is feasible.

2005/143. YOUTH WORK

The Clerk was asked to contact Mr. A. Clifford to see if he has been able to clarify his position as Councillor and Youth Worker employed by Leicestershire County Council, with regard to what he can say and what he cannot say at Council meetings.

2005/144. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	7332.28
J. Adcock – Postages	43.67
Blaby District Council – Internal Audit Services	180.00
Brian Manton – to cut back Willow Tree in cemetery	48.00
J.F. Spence & Son – to supply 3 hanging basket poles – Village Hall	1192.62
S.L.C.C. – to supply Clerks Manual + updates	47.00
Glebe Gardens – 5 Hanging Baskets – Village Hall	123.75
British Telephone – to quarter ending 24.7.05	180.78

E.P. Builders Merchants – No mix post set	11.46
Powergen – electricity Church Clock	45.94
goIt – Health check on 2 office computers (30.6.05)	94.00
ABC Motors – petrol/oil	176.98
Crime Stoppers – Grant Aid (section 137)	50.00

2005/145. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE

The Clerk asked members who had not returned their Register of Members Interest to do so as soon as possible please as they had to be returned to the Monitoring Officer at Blaby District Council.

The second Blaby District Council Seminar will be held on Tuesday 27th September 2005. Any member wishing to attend should contact the Clerk.

A letter has been received from Leicestershire County Council Highways updating their highway maintenance and improvement programmes for 2005/06. Items relevant to Countesthorpe are:

- Leicester Road/Hospital Lane – Alterations to junction design to reduce crashes identified through analysis of accident records. Consultation August/November 2005, construction January/February 2006.
- Footway reconstruction – Broomleys October 2005 – Holyrood Drive November 2005 – Ladbroke Grove December 2006 – Wheatlands Drive December 2005 – Winchester Road January 2006.

2005/146. CHAIRMAN’S EVENING

This has been arranged for 9th September 2005, to meet at 7.15pm. for a 7.30pm. start.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2005