

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

Vice-Chairman & County Councillor Mr. D. Jennings

Mesdames: J. Jennings  
Messrs: D. Ball, D. Duffield, F.E. Duffield, K. Mason, I. Paterson

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

There were 20 members of the public present.

2006/62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mrs. J. Weatherstone, Mrs. M. Baum, Mrs. C. James, Mrs. K. Yates, Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. G. Gamble, Mr. T. Blood, Mr. A. Billings, Mr. M. Smith and Mr. A. Clifford

2006/63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON THE AGENDA

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

Planning Matters:

Mr. F.E. Duffield (Planning Blaby District Council)

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

Village Hall:

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

2006/64. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2006 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2006/65. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Mr. I. Paterson gave mention to the following:-

Accounts for payment - J. Jeffcott – paint for notice board ler28.64 should read - J. Jeffcott – paint for notice boards 28.64

2006/59. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK should read 2006/59. LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

## 2006/66. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

- Countryside Voice
- Village Voice
- Police Authority Newsletter
- Stepping Stones
- Summary of the Consultation on East Mids. Rural Development Framework
- Minutes of Parish Council Open Spaces Consultative Meeting
- M1 Widening Junctions 21-30 Public Exhibitions & Consultations
- L.C.C. Consultation on proposals to develop day services for disabled people
- L.C.C. Consultation on Leicestershire Statement of Community Involvement
- International Tree Foundation – newsletter
- Leics. Leicester & Rutland Structure Plane – Written Statement

## Blaby District Council Press Releases

- North Whetstone
- Revised policy underlines commitment to tackling anti social behaviour
- Statements outline priorities for coming year
- Film & music project helps to reduce anti-social behaviour
- New scheme will increase access to private rented accommodation

## 2006/67. POLICE MATTERS

It was reported that WPC Physick has been moved to other duties and will no longer be Countesthorpe's local police officer. At the present time the village does not have a dedicated officer. Concern was raised over this matter and the Clerk was asked to write to the Police Authority, Leicestershire County Council and Blaby District Council (Councillor B. Law, portfolio holder) expressing the concerns of the Council.

Mr. D. Ball stated that the village would still have police cover even though it did not have a local officer.

The Clerk reported that a Crime Exhibition (Security) will be held at the Walkers Stadium on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2006 between 10 am. and 4pm. if anyone wished to attend.

## 2006/68. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. I. Paterson reported on the following:

Blaby District Council Planning Department asked for suggestions regarding the naming of the School house in Main Street. The Planning working party suggested Manor Court but a further letter received from Blaby District confirmed that Scholars Court had been chosen.

Blaby District Council – Notification of decision in respect of proposed work to tree at 36 Maple Avenue: Crown reduction of one horse chestnut tree.

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0600531 PX 25.01.06	39 Willoughby Road	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0601341 PY 16.2.06	30 Spinney Avenue	- ditto -
0601281 PX 9.2.06	35 Winchester Road	- ditto -
0601381 PX 16.2.06	5 Orchard Lane	- ditto -
2004/026801 31.3.04	Countesthorpe Community College Sports Pitch	REFUSAL a) the location is not considered suitable for the development because of the adverse impact it would have on the amenities of local residents; and (b) a School Travel Plan, to seek to reduce the number of car journeys to the College, has not yet been prepared for the Community College.

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

AMENDED Plan 0512291 PX - Countesthorpe Post Office, 69 Station Road

New flat roof over existing single storey side ext., single storey rear ext. staircase & railings & mobile sorting office/storage building at rear.

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
AMENDED 0512291 PX	Countesthorpe Post Office, Station Rd.	New flat roof over existing single storey side ext., single storey rear ext. staircase & railings & mobile sorting office/storage building at rear	No further observations
0601821 PX	Newton House, Bambury Lane	Erection of detached building comprising of garages & farm office on ground floor & bed-sit with farm office over for agricultural worker	Overdevelopment of site
0601881 PX	10 The Chestnuts	Single storey front & side extension	Due to the overdevelopment of this site a site visit is requested.

0602051 VX	Land adj. 11 Willoughby Road	Proposed erection of one bungalow with garage (Renewal)	No observations
0602201 PX	18 Linden Avenue	Two storey side & rear extension & conversion of garage to habitable room	No observations
0602211 PX	29 Winchester Road	Single storey rear extension	No observations
0602271 PY	2 The Vineries	Single storey rear extension to form conservatory	No observations
0602281 PX	41 Waterloo Crescent	Two storey rear extension	No observations
0602441 PX	22 Scotland Way	Two storey & first floor front extension	No observations
0602571 PX	Outbuildings adj. to The Water Tower, The Drive	Alterations & extensions to convert into single dwelling, with double garage (Revised Scheme)	No observations
0603021 PX	20 Marston Crescent	First floor side/rear extension single storey side extension & rear conservatory	No observations
0602941 PX	15 Walnut Way	Two storey front & side extension & single storey front & rear extensions	No observations
0603201 PX	19 Westfield Avenue	Two storey rear extension & single storey side & rear extension.	No observations

A copy of the Local Development Framework Draft Core Strategy (Preferred Options) April 2006 has been deposited in the Parish Office. Comments thereon must be submitted by 25<sup>th</sup> May 2006.

#### 2006/69. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Mr. F.E. Duffield reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2006:

Vandals at Leysland Park have destroyed part of the fence surrounding the play equipment. Photographs of the damage were circulated to members. Great concern was raised that the damage caused must have taken a considerable time yet the police, who were called by neighbours, were unable to apprehend the perpetrators. The cost of repairing the fence will be considerable. These repairs must be treated as an urgent issue.

The Clerk was instructed to obtain two quotations:

- 1) For the repair of the fence
- 2) To replace the wooden fence with metal fencing

When the quotations have been received the Maintenance of Council Properties working party have been delegated to decide whether to repair the wooden fence or replace it with a metal one if the cost is not prohibitive. If a metal fence is too expensive then this matter will be considered for inclusion in next year's budget.

Consideration was given to the provision of a 700 litre water butt to be sited behind the garage. It was resolved to purchase the water butt. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of a water pump which will be required to pump water from the butt to the bowser.

A quotation for a mature tree for the Spinney has been received but it was considered to expensive.

A letter received from Blaby District Council with regard to the leylandi trees to the rear of Brook Court was discussed. It was resolved to write to Blaby District Council asking them to keep the Parish Council informed on what action is being taken, copies to be sent to Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mrs. J. Weatherstone and Mr. D. Jennings.

The Clerk reported that she had received a quotation for the supply of electricity for the provision of Christmas tree lights in the closed churchyard. The working party was asked to look at this quotation.

## 2006/70. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

### Finance working party

Mr. K. Mason reported that a meeting of the working party had taken place prior to the Parish Council meeting and the following was recommended:

#### Grant Aid

A request has been received from Countesthorpe Community College for its Summer Play scheme 2005. They recorded a deficit of £200. Previously it was agreed to pay half of any deficit up to £100. It was resolved to grant £100 under section 137. A request for financial assistance for the 2006 Play scheme was also received. The working party decided that they could not comment on the 2006 Play scheme until they had received a breakdown of costs. They also asked that any future requests from the College be made as soon after the event as possible.

Applications for grant aid from the WRVS, Guide Dogs, Victim Support and the Campaign to Protect Rural England was also considered but as these were national charities the committee recommended that no grant aid be given. This was resolved.

### Best Kept Front Garden Competition

Mr. D. Ball read the following letter from Glebe Gardens:

“Thank you for the information regarding Best Commercial Property Basket and Tubs. We would feel uncomfortable about entering as we feel that we could possibly have a slight unfair advantage!

I would be delighted to sponsor this event in some way, possibly in the form of prizes? I would also be more than happy to get involved in anyway, either be it judging or giving advice to potential contestants!

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future and here's to a fabulous community competition!"

Mr. Ball stated that he had been in touch with Mr. Hanraads to thank him for his kind offer and would be in touch when final plans for the competition had been made.

### Glebe Drive

The ownership of Glebe Drive has been queried. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Mr. Stoko who is a member of the Allotment Society in Countesthorpe to ascertain who the land agent for the allotments is and they would possibly be in a position to inform the Council who the owners are.

### Policy and Resources working party

The Clerk was asked to arrange a working party meeting to discuss the Performance and Personal Development Review of Council staff.

2006/71. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE – There was nothing to report.

### 2006/72. PARISH PLAN

A meeting with Mrs. Gould to discuss the way forward with the Parish Plan had had to be cancelled due to ill health. A further meeting will be arranged.

A copy of the action plan was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The following points were highlighted:

Page 3 Further demands for holiday play scheme has not been abandoned.

Page 5 Senior Citizens – an A to Z guide has been produced with information of events and activities for senior citizens.

Page 5 The booklet is with the printers. Village map and notice board – the second proof of the map has been returned to the printers. The next proof which will be a coloured version should arrive shortly.

Post box for Rosebank Road. The Clerk reported that she had again written to the post office requesting a post box but has received no reply to date.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the action plan.

The website is proving popular with 209 hits last month.

An events calendar is being produced for general information.

#### 2006/73. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

The Youth Café will open on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April. This project will be carefully monitored.

#### 2006/74. DISUSED RAILWAY – COUNTESTHORPE TO HOSPITAL LANE – update

A group of residents passed comments on the proposed walk way along the discussed railway line during public participation. The general consensus was that they did not want such a walk way as it would encourage anti social behaviour.

As this matter has been raised on and off over the last 10 years and there are still no firm proposals and no further information has been received from Blaby District Council no discussion took place.

#### 2006/75. TOILETS CENTRAL STREET – update

No information has been received from Blaby District Council.

#### 2006/76. REPORT OF INTERNAL AUDIT

The auditor asked for the following to be considered:- The paying off of the small loan on the cemetery.

The Clerk also asked for the Councils insurance policies to be inspected and felt that the two matters could be considered at the next finance working party meeting.

This was resolved.

#### 2006/77. DEFRA – CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS The report was noted.

#### 2006/78. LITTER AROUND THE VILLAGE

A letter has been received from the Mercury Shop in response to a letter sent from the Council about litter along Station Road/Cosby Road leading to the college and high school. One suggestion was to try and get people together to discuss ways forward. This would include pupils, teachers, shop owners and the Council. This was considered to be a very good idea and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting. The Clerk was also asked to contact the manager of the Mercury shop to see if he would agree to the Council sending his letter to the Police and Blaby District Council as the comments therein were considered very valuable.

#### 2006/79. BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL OWNED CAR PARKS IN COUNTESTHORPE

Blaby District Council has established Traffic Regulation Orders on its car parks within parishes. They are eager to improve security and wish to monitor the levels of crime. If

incidents occur please report them to the Parish Council or directly to Paking@blaby.gov.uk

#### 2006/80. PROPOSED BUS STOP IMPROVEMENT – BUS ROUTE 85

A letter has been received from Leicestershire County Council re Star Trak installation:

Arriva have now installed the onboard equipment on the buses and works to install real-time information display signs at bus stops are expected to commence mid April 2006.

#### 2006/81. PARTNERSHIP FUNDING FOR RURAL BUS SHELTERS – LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

A letter has been received inviting Parish Councils to submit a bid for County Council funding towards the cost of a new bus shelter. After a discussion it was felt that no new bus shelters were required. It was therefore resolved not to put in a bid this year.

#### 2006/82. TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

Mr. I. Paterson raised concerns that the agenda has grown without consultation with the Council. He felt that outside bodies should not decide what should or should not be put on the agenda. Not all planning applications that are brought before the meeting can be placed on the agenda as some come after the agendas publication.

A discussion ensued and it was resolved to leave the Clerk to publish the agenda in accordance with good practice for Parish Councils.

#### 2006/83. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts have been passed for payment:-

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	7969.70
Edge Design Ltd.	211.50
J. Adcock – postages	47.69
Chapman’s Garden Machinery – parts for hedge cutter	35.67
Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management – annual subscriptions	55.00
K. Tee Motorcentre – Reinforced Marshal Tyre + balancing	38.00
goIT – to configure a replacement BT ADSL broadband router	47.00
Powergen – electricity to church clock	30.79
Canon – photocopying/hire of	261.10
ABC Motors Ltd. – petrol/oil	68.35
R.E. Bowers & Freeman – plaque	104.58
ESPO – Fluorescent tube for garage	5.64
Leicestershire Playing Fields Ass. – annual subscription	15.00
Blaby District Council – Internal Audit	525.00
Blaby District Council – Rates for cemetery	46.61
Severn Trent Water – water rates for cemetery	80.41
Campaign for the Protection of Rural England – annual subscription	26.00
B. Telecom – Internet services	158.62
Information Commissioner - Data Protection renewal	35.00

2006/84. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Information from Borough of Oadby & Wigston re Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 Adoption Statement.

Nottingham East Midlands Airport – Draft master plan.

New Library opening hours for Countesthorpe:

Monday		14.00 – 17.30
Tuesday	closed all day	
Wednesday	10.00 – 12.30	
Thursday		14.00 – 19.00
Friday		14.00 – 17.30
Saturday	09.30 – 13.00	14.00 – 17.00

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

Dated ..... 2006