

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 9th NOVEMBER 2006 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

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

There were members 11 of the public present.

2006/211. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. D. Duffield and Mr. A. Billings.

2006/212. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON THE AGENDA

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

Planning Matters:

Mr. D. Jennings (Planning Blaby District Council, Leicestershire County Council)
Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning - Blaby District Council)
Mr. F.E. Duffield (Planning - Blaby District Council)
Planning application for 2 Laurel Drive – Mr. G. Gamble, Mrs. M. Baum and Mr. D. Ball

Village Hall:

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

Patient & Public Involvement Forums – Mr. D. Jennings Health Committee L.C.C. & relative works for the NH.S. Mrs. J. Jennings – Relative works for the NHS.

2006/213. PRESENTATION BY JON DAVIS – PATIENT & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT (PPI) FORUMS

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Jon Davis and asked him to give his presentation.

Mr. Davis circulated information regarding the PPI Forum to members and spoke about their aims:

The aim of the independent Patient and Public Involvement Forums, which are made up of local people is to enable patients and the public to influence the day-to-day operations of the health service, and address wider public health issues, from diabetes to MSRA infection, from smoking in public places to mental health.

The Forums look at real, local issues. For example the Forum of South Leicestershire is addressing the vexed issue of car parking facilities at the hospitals. The Forum is fighting for easier access to the car park and more drop off points.

The Forum volunteers need to hear people's experiences, to be able to reach the parts of health care that others do not reach, acting as a voice for patient's carers and the public.

To contact your local Forum or to find out how to get involved and become a member contact: Jon Davis on 0116 273 6506/6549 or e-mail j.davis@carersfederations.co.uk

The Chairman advised Mr. Davis that a good way of contacting the community in Countesthorpe was through the Herald newspaper.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Davis for attending the meeting and wished him every success.

2006/214. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 12th October 2006 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2006/215. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk read a letter of thanks from the Citizens Advice Bureau for the grant of £250 that was given to them at last months meeting under section 137.

2006/216. POLICE MATTERS

An invitation has been received from Leicestershire Police Authority to a consultation event which will be held at 6.00 pm. on Thursday 16 November 2006 at Police Headquarters, Enderby. If anyone wishes to attend they should contact the Clerk.

A further invitation has been received to the Chief Constable's Town, Parish and District Council Meeting at Police Headquarters, Enderby – Monday 11th December 2006 commencing at 7.30 pm. Mr. A. Collis –Smith stated that he wished to attend.

Mr. Ball read a letter of complaint from a resident of the Leysland estate re police response and their action thereafter. The contents of the letter were noted with great concern and it was recommended that a copy of this letter be sent to Blaby Police Station for there comments thereon.

2006/217. LETTER RECEIVED FROM COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL RE ISSUES OF CONCERN WITHIN THE PARISH

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated correspondence received in 2004 from the Crime Prevention Officer who had visited the Village Hall and made recommendations re security.

Mr. Ball reported that these recommendations had been carried out plus the addition of CCTV. Mr. Ball then referred to a letter received from the Community Safety Officer Mr. S. Parker who wished to bring to the attention of the Council concerns and issues raised by local residents re the car park at the Village Hall. He also included several recommendations.

A lengthy discussion ensued. It was resolved to send a letter to Mr. Leach, Mr. Parker's superior, requesting a meeting with himself and the Police Liaison working party to discuss this matter in full.

2006/218. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- International Tree Foundation – October 2006
- Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service – Plan 2007 to 2010
- Draft Regional Plan launched for Public Consultation
- Leicestershire County Council – Stepping Stones
- Blaby District Council – Annual Parish Seminar Folder
- Countryside Voice – Magazine
- Open Space – Magazine
- Blaby District Council & Scrutiny Annual Report 2005/06
- Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006 Delivery Report

Blaby District Council

- Press Release – Future of Blaby Farmers Market is assured
- Minutes of Blaby JAG – Affiliated notes
- Community Safety Partnership – Free Security Service for Vulnerable Residents in Blaby District Council
- Alcohol crackdown in Blaby

2006/219. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A meeting of the Planning working party took place prior to this evening's meeting. Mrs. J. Jennings was appointed Chairman of the said working party.

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

Planning Permission

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0605001 PY 20 th May 2006	Land to rear of 1 Austrey Lane	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0607981 PX 29 th August 2006	14 Tebbs Close	- ditto -

Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0512291 PX	Post Office 69 Station Road	Withdrawal of application	No observations
0605711 PX	Land at 10 Willoughby Road	Amended application	No observations
0609181 PX	28 Springwell Drive	Two storey front & side extension	Detrimental to the street scene
0609461 PY	8 Foston Road	Construction of vehicular access	No observations
0609451 PX	2 Laurel Drive	First floor & two storey front extension & pitched roof over existing flat roofed garage	No observations

When the planning application of 2 Laurel Drive was discussed Mr. D. Ball, Mr. G. Gamble and Mrs. M. Baum declared an interest as neighbours and left the meeting. They returned and participated in discussing the other applications.

2006/220. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED - There were none.

2006/221. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 6th November 2006:

Problems have arisen with the church lights at St. Andrews. The switch inside the church is being switched on and off, in error and a fault has now occurred. The builder who installed the unit is looking into the problem.

Leysland play area - Lighting to the play area was discussed but it was decided to take no further action at this point in time. It was recommended that advice be sought from Mr. Compton, Traffic Manager, Leicestershire County Council.

The working party met with representatives from Countesthorpe Athletic football club regarding the replacement of the old sports hut at Willoughby Road playing fields with a metal storage building. Permission was granted in principle but planning permission from Blaby District Council would need to be obtained in the first instance.

The following quotation has been received re Christmas tree lights from G.J. Mawby:

- Removal of old lights from one Turkey Oak tree situated by the village hall and replace with new lights.
- Arrange lights in one Yew tree situated in the Churchyard
- £200.00
-

It was resolved to accept this quotation.

2006/222. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The Chairman reported on the following:-

Concessionary bus fares for pensioners will come into force from Monday 13th November 2006, this will mean free bus travel throughout the county and city.

The 45 bus service is still an hourly service except on a Saturday when it is a 2 hourly service.

The Chairman read the following letter that he had received from Leicestershire County Council re Blaby Winchester Road – Cycleway slow markings:

I refer to comments made (at the Environment Scrutiny Meeting in August) about traffic crossing the cycleway to the farms on Winchester Road

Lines are in place to indicate the location of the cycleway for drivers crossing the cycleway. It is now proposed that small “Slow” markings be provided each side of the farm accesses on the cycleway to increase cyclist’s awareness of the presence of the farm access.

Letters have also been sent to the farms to ask if they would consider providing on their own land notices similar to those used at Guthlaxton College in similar circumstances. The notice reads “Caution – Cycle Path Immediately ahead”.

The contents were noted.

2006/223. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Mr. G. Gamble reported on the Village Hall Committee meeting that was held on Thursday 5th October:

It had been resolved to purchase a dishwasher for the Village Hall.

The projection screen had been fitted and favourable reports had been received.

A request for charity rates has been received from the Inner Wheel of Meridian who wish to hire the hall on Saturday 18th November from 9am. – 1pm. for a Christmas fayre, the proceeds will go to charity. It was resolved that charitable rates of a 50% off the fee would be charged.

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Blaby District Council – Rates	203.00
Powergen – electricity August to October	872.12
BOC – gas for bar	9.76
John Maynard - stocktaker	70.00
BT – Telephone	60.26

Countesthorpe Parish Council – VAT to quarter 30.9.06	46.44
Waverley TSB – wines/spirits	386.63
Scottish & Newcastle – beers	1445.70
Severn Trent Water	457.65
FB Ross – replace damaged cable in store room	89.30
ESPO – Cleaning materials/paint	185.88
ESPO – screens	848.35
Total Audio Visual Solution (installing screens)	439.45

Salaries for November 2006:

Bar Manager, Cleaner x 2	818.08
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary	365.12

Refund of Deposits

	£
B. Watts – Hire of sound system 27.10.06	50.00
Wheel of Blaby – 17.11.06	50.00
J. Adcock – Refund of deposit – 18.11.06	150.00
A. Moroney - 19.11.06	50.00
Mrs. Coulson – 24.11.06	150.00
Wigston Rotary Club – 25.11.06	150.00
Wigston Male Voice Choir (retention of bond 2.12.06)	100.00
A. Clarke – 8.12.06	150.00

2006/224. PARISH PLAN

There was nothing to report.

2006/225. YOUTH WORK

There was nothing to report.

2006/226. HIGHWAY PATROL – ANNUAL HIGHWAY SAFETY INSPECTION

A letter from Leicestershire County Council re Highway Patrol-Annual Highway Safety Inspection was circulated to member prior to the meeting.

The contents of this letter were noted.

2006/227. REQUEST FROM HERITAGE GROUP – PRESERVATION OF VILLAGE FILMS

The following letter from Dr. M. Thompson, Secretary of the Countesthorpe & Foston Heritage Group was circulated to members prior to the meeting:

For some time now the Heritage Group has had within its budget some £300, which is earmarked for the purpose of copying, and thus safeguarding the preservation of, the village films held by the Parish Council. Having taken advice it would seem that the best way of doing this is by making digital copies. This is deemed necessary as the originals

and other copy formats will, unlike digital versions, eventually deteriorate and perish and thereby be lost to future generations. I should be grateful therefore if you could bring the matter to the attention of the Council and seek formal permission for the films to be loaned to the Heritage Group for copying.

Although we shall return the films, together with copies, we would recommend that the original (i.e. celluloid) footage currently stored in the Parish Council Offices should be deposited in an appropriate facility such as that of the County Record Office or the British Film Library. In such a special atmospherically controlled, repository this will last much longer than if retained in the village, but would still be available as required.

The matter was discussed and it was decided that as no cost implications to the Council were involved the films could be copied but the Parish Council wished to keep all rights to the films. It was also resolved to have the films stored with the British Film Library.

The Council wished to thank the Heritage Group for this kind offer.

2006/228. REPORT RE PARISH COUNCIL SEMINAR 20TH SEPTEMBER 2006

A document relating to the Seminar has been received. This was noted.

2006/229. WINCHESTER ROAD, COUNTESTHORPE – PROPOSED VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN

The Clerk read a letter from the Department of Highways, County Hall relative to a proposed vehicle activated sign to be installed on Winchester Road. The sign message proposed is:

- A '30' Speed Limit Warning Sign + SLOW DOWN on the south bound approach.

The Council welcomed this proposal.

The Clerk read the following letter in response to requests made by the Parish Council to the Department of Highways which stated:

The Traffic Management team subsequently visited Leysland Avenue junction, as a request was made for a "Stop" sign to be erected, this sign requires approval from the Department of Transport, as there has only been one recorded personal accident in 2001 at the junction this does not meet the criteria. However instructions have been given for work to commence at the junction with respect to re-laying the existing markings and adding an additional triangle carriageway marking.

With respect to your request for 'Sharks Teeth' markings along Foston Road, Countesthorpe speed readings are being collected, once these readings have been collated a further investigation will be carried out and we will contact you in due course about the actions that can be taken.

2006/230. NEW SPATIAL STRATEGY

At last months meeting the Chairman offered to read the Draft East Midlands Regional Plan re review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands and report back to this months meeting. A précis of his report follows:

The report which covers sustainable development in the region over a 20 year span. This report has been produced by the non elected body - East Midlands Regional Assembly.

The City and Counties of Leicester, Nottingham and Derby are in a new growth area. Leicester and Leicestershire will be required to build 3780 dwellings every year for the next 20 years. Blaby District would be required to build 340 houses per year this is compared to 238 for the previous 20 years.

It was resolved that the following recommendation be made:

- Support Blaby District Council's recommendation that no more than 290 dwellings per year over 20 years could be built.
- Urgent consideration to the opening of railway stations at Blaby and Croft with park and ride facilities to ease congestion.

2006/231. TREES BROOK COURT

A letter was read to the Council from Blaby District Council regarding the Leylandii trees at Brook Court. The letter states that the trees will be pruned by no more than 8ft in the first stage of the pruning to avoid damage to the trees.

The Chairman explained that in the first instance planning permission was granted for Brook Court with the provision that a planting scheme, to give privacy to the houses in Shetland Way, be made. Unfortunately this provision only lasts for 10 years.

2006/232. LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF GLEBE DRIVE

The Chairman reported that he had received further correspondence from the Highway Solicitor at County Hall with regard to the ownership of Glebe Drive. Unfortunately it is still not clear who has responsibility for the Drive. It was suggested that the property owners who have an access onto it should write to the owners of Peatling House Farm and ask the question as to whether they still own it and if so what works are proposed to be carried out to enable them to use it in their private capacity.

Mr. K. Mason asked if sight of the title deeds to the properties on Glebe Drive, held by Blaby District Council, could be seen.

2006/233. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council Wages Account	7931.04
J. Adcock – Postages	29.37
Glebe Gardens – Winter bedding plants	172.12

Leicestershire County Council =- Tree surgery The Hawthorns	155.91
Oswin Builders – to replace 2 tiles Chapel of Rest	35.25
B. Telecom – Telephone	165.11
K Tee Motorcare – spark plugs/mirror	12.46
Sigma Kalen – Paint – playground equipment	23.45
Queensbury Shelters Ltd. – repair	258.51
ESPO – paint	69.74
EP Builders – post fix (bench)	24.46
Chapmans Garden Machinery – repairs/parts	33.09
Borney UK – Flag + parts for pole	137.62

2006/234. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Co-op Car Park, Main Street Yellow Lines – Blaby District are giving consideration to this work being carried out.

An application for grant aid has been received from the Turner Educational Foundation. This will be passed on to the Finance working party for consideration.

A letter has been received from the Royal Mail, Wigston Delivery Office, advising of changes to mail deliveries in the Countesthorpe area.

A letter has been received from Blaby District Council stating that under the Licensing Act 2003 a hearing for the Bulls Head Public House renewal of licence will take place on 21st November 2006.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2006