

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTSTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

Chairman & County Councillor D. Jennings

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

Messrs: D. Ball, T. Blood, F.E. Duffield, K. Mason, I. Paterson,
A. Collis-Smith

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

There were 13 members of the public present.

2006/168. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. D. Duffield, Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. A. Billings, Mr. A Clifford, and Mr. G. Gamble

2006/169. 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)

Mr. & Mrs. D. Jennings – personal and prejudicial – 101 Station Road

Village Hall:

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

Accounts for payment:

Mr. D. Ball

2006/170. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 10th August 2006 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2006/171. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk reported that a representative from the Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Forums would be attending the November Parish Council meeting to give a presentation. The Patient and Public Involvement Forums are independent groups made up of members of the public who have volunteered to help every patient and member of the public to get involved in identifying the strong and weak points within their local health services. The aim is for service users' opinions to be a key factor in identifying areas requiring improvement as well as areas of well provided services within the NHS.

2006/172. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Blaby District Council – Portfolio Statement 2006/07
- Leics. County Council – Branchline – Newsletter
- East Midlands Regional Management Board – Annual Report 2005/06 and Business Plan 2006/07
- Market Harborough D.C. – Housing land availability information paper 2005/06
- Village Voice
- CPRE Leicestershire News – Outlook

Blaby District Council Press Releases

- Careful consideration needed on new homes distribution
- Parish Seminar keeps everyone in the picture
- Play Strategy could give access to lottery funding
- Leisure Centre options move forward

2006/173. POLICE MATTERS

A Police Liaison meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 20th September at 7.30pm. to discuss the Reassurance Project.

On Thursday 21st September at 7.30 pm. a meeting has been arranged in the lounge of the Village Hall with residents of the Woodlands, to discuss the problems being encountered on the Spoilbank. All members of the Council are invited to attend.

2006/174. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. K. Mason reported on the following:-

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0604961 PX 30.05.06	74 Cosby Road	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0605681 HY 6.06.06	2 Church Street	- ditto -
0605501 PX 16.06.06	10 Linden Avenue	- ditto -
0605511 PY 19.06.06	25 Scarborough Close	- ditto -
Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision

0605741 PY 22.06.06	2 The Vineries	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0606001 PY 27.06.06	1 Benskyn Close	- ditto -
060541 PX 12.7.06	114 Gwendoline Drive	Refusal of Planning Permission

Mr. & Mrs. D. Jennings declared an interest in planning application 0604981 PX 101 Station Road and therefore left the meeting whilst this item was being discussed.

Mr. K. Mason was elected Chairman during the absence of Mr. D. Jennings.

After it was resolved that no observations were to be made Mr. & Mrs. D. Jennings returned to the meeting.

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0604981 PX	AMENDED 101 Station Road	Two storey side & single storey rear extension & pitched roof over existing two storey flat roofed extension	No observations
0607561 PX	Land at 4 Green Lane	Conversion & extensions to existing cowshed to form dwelling house	No observations
0607681 PX	3 Maple Avenue	Single storey side & rear extension & pitched roofs over existing flat roofs to rear	No observations
0607471 PX	20 Buckingham Road	Single storey side/rear extension	No observations
0607401 PX	Dine India 62 Main Street	Erection of replacement extraction flue	No observations
0607981 PX	14 Tebbs Close	Single storey rear extension & conversion of part of existing garage to habitable room	No observations

Planning Appeal to Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions against the Council's decision (B.D.C.) to refuse the planning application – 8 Laurel Drive – Single Storey extension to west elevation.

The Parish Council's observations remain the same.

Documents relating to the Consultation on Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework and Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework *Preferred Options* have been received. These were noted.

2006/175. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0608031 PX	16 Hazelbank Road	Reinstatement to a single dwelling (retrospective)	No observations
Leics. C.C. 22.8.06	Countesthorpe Community College, Winchester Road	Provision of temporary access Cosby Rd. (for duration of construction works to erect new dining room/foyer)	No observations

A retrospective planning application for the erection of 2.4m high weldmesh perimeter fencing has been received for Leysland High School, Winchester Road, from Leicestershire County Council.

A lengthy discussion ensued and the following comments and observations were raised:

The fence has been erected to prevent vandalism. The cost of repairing broken windows etc. has been very high.

It was felt that a unilateral decision had been taken without consultation.

The Parish Council have given grant aid towards the refurbishment of the multi surface sports courts – these could now not be accessed by the public.

There is now no access to the playing fields, once the gates are closed in the evening and at weekends.

It was proposed that the planning application should be refused. The Chairman asked members to vote on whether to object to the planning application.

Eight members voted for and two voted against. The motion was therefore carried.

It was agreed to ask the Clerk to arrange a meeting between the Headmaster of the College and Leysland High School, Mr. Dan Szymanski, Leicestershire County Council and the following members of the Council, Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Mr. K. Mason, Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mrs. C. James and Mr. I. Paterson to discuss this matter and other issues appertaining to the campus.

2006/176. NEW STRUCTURE PLAN

The Chairman read a document he had received with regard to proposals for a new structure plan which will replace the previous Leicester and Leicestershire 20 year plan.

The new plan for a further 20 years incorporates the ‘6 C’s’ Leicester/Leicestershire, Derby/Derbyshire and Nottingham/Nottinghamshire. Guidelines have been put forward for the quota of housing required in each area. These decisions are being made by the

East Midlands Regional Association, not an elected body. Blaby District Council is objecting to the proposal that 340 homes be built in the district every year for the next 20 years + an increase in the provision for industrial use. No major development is planned for Countesthorpe due to green belts and flood plains.

2006/177 MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 11th September 2006:

Hanging Baskets Concern was once again raised over the quality of the hanging baskets. After a discussion it was decided to take no further action at this stage but to monitor next year's baskets. It was recommended that the invoice for the baskets be paid to Plantscape. This was resolved.

Closed Churchyard Permission has been received from St. Andrew's PCC agreeing to the installation in the churchyard for the erecting of Christmas lights.

The lights used previously in the churchyard have been checked and a few extra bulbs will be required.

Winter Planting Permission is requested for the purchase of plants, from Glebe Gardens, for winter planting in the tubs around The Bank. It was resolved that up to £200 could be spent.

Inventory The Clerk reported that she had carried out an inventory of the equipment used by the grounds staff on Wednesday 6th September 2006 and everything was in order.

CEMETERY FOSTON ROAD

Scattering of Ashes A request has been received from the title holder of a grave to scatter ashes of a relative on top of it. Permission was granted.

Rosebed in memory of the late Dr. A.F. Hoffler

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Mrs. K. Hoffler the widow of the late Dr. Hoffler enclosing a cheque for £100 towards the replacement of roses in this flower bed. Members expressed their pleasure at this and the Chairman stated that he had sent a letter of thanks to Mrs. Hoffler.

2006/178 REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Parish & Local Councils (Blaby) Branch

Mrs. J. Weatherstone reported that she had attended a meeting of the above association on Wednesday 30th August. The following was discussed:

The sale of alcohol to under aged persons. If the retailer is found guilty and is licensed to sell lottery tickets this concession could be withdrawn

A seminar is being held at Blaby District Council of Wednesday September 20th at 6.30 pm. Members of the Parish Council are invited to attend.

The Rural Community Council has employed an Information and Funding Officer to advise local councils.

2006/179. GRANT AID – REALITY YOUTH PROJECT

Mr. K. Mason reported on a Finance working party which was held prior to the meeting.

Grant aid towards the work carried out by the Reality Youth Project amongst young people in Countesthorpe was discussed. This project was previously run by Agapé but a new charity was set up within the parish last year. No financial accounts have yet been produced but a copy will be forwarded to the Parish Council as soon as they are ready. Matt Brown is the reality youth worker and he has forwarded a report on the activities of the group.

It was resolved to give £2000 grant aid under section 137 towards this project. Mr. F.E. Duffield asked that his name be recorded as abstaining from this resolution.

2006/180. VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Blaby District Council – Rates	203.00
J.F. Spence – Welding of tubes on trolley	18.80
Tranter – Maintenance of fire alarm emergency lighting system	189.99
Severn Trent Water – Water	530.51
Secom – annual rental/monitoring service	539.34
BOC – Gas for bar August & September	19.52
Ray’s Supplies – peanuts/pop/lemons	48.55
Waverley TBS – Wines/spirits	509.39
Scottish & Newcastle – Beers	666.50
ESPO – cleaning materials/stationery/diaries	132.82
Blaby District Council – Premises licence to year ending 22.9.07	180.00

Salaries for July 2006:

Bar Manager, Cleaners x 2	669.30
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary	376.32

Refund of Deposits

J. Morrison – 16.9.06	150.00
BCA (Accordion) – 24.9.06	50.00
S. Atkins – 30.9.06	150.00

2006/181. PARISH PLAN

Web Site This is being very well used.

Notice Board The Clerk reported that she had obtained a capital grant towards the cost of the new notice board from Blaby District Council of £2,260. This news was well received by councillors.

2006/182. YOUTH WORK

There was nothing to report.

2006/183. LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF GLEBE DRIVE

The Chairman reported that investigations into the ownership of Glebe Drive are still on going. It has been ascertained that Blaby District Council put in a pavement some years ago.

A resident complained about litter along the drive and asked if this matter could be addressed.

2006/184. POSSIBILITY OF WITHDRAWAL OF BUS SERVICE 45

The Chairman was pleased to report that the 45 bus service will not be withdrawn. Representation made to Leicestershire County Council by residents and councillors requesting that this service be retained were accepted although the timetable will be reduced to one bus every 2 hours.

2006/185. MAIN STREET – EXCESSIVE NOISE AND DISTURBANCE TO NEIGHBOURS

The following petition was presented to the Council from residents of Main Street:

This is a petition supported by residents who all reside within approximately 50 metres of the Bulls Head, Main Street, Countesthorpe.

We are greatly concerned about the following issues, and want to know what you (the Council) and the Police (who will receive a copy of this) are prepared to do to stop this happening in the future, as it is now making life unbearable for the residents in this area.

- Parking on double yellow lines every evening.
- Noise – going on till 2 am. and even later on occasions (i.e. shouting on the street and very loud live music/bands playing).
- Urinating on private property
- Intimidation outside the Bulls Head, caused by drinkers, on the pavement.
- Board advertising outside the pub obstructing the pavement.
- Intrusive noise from the Bouncy Castle in Bulls Head garden for long periods at week-ends and holiday periods.
- Fouling pavements with sickness following excessive drinking.

All this takes place in what is supposed to be a Conservation area!

Mr. D. Ball read an e mail that he had received from a resident of Main Street which expressed similar complaints.

After a discussion it was resolved to arrange a meeting with Blaby District Council, the licensing authority, Police and members of the Parish Council. Copies of the petition and e mail will be forwarded to the Police and Blaby District Council (Environmental Health and Licensing Departments).

2006/186. ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY SURVEYORS SOCIETY 'CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE INSTALLATION, OPERATION & REMOVAL OF SEASONAL DECORATIONS' IN LEICESTERSHIRE

A copy of the code of practice was circulated to members prior to the meeting for their perusal. The contents of which were noted.

2006/187. CHAIRMAN'S EVENING

The Clerk reported that arrangements were in hand for the evening of 29th September 2006.

2006/188. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
J. Jeffcott – Extra keys cut for barriers Willoughby Road Playing Fields	9.38
Plantscape – hanging baskets	2773.00
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	7942.21
J. Adcock – postages	40.23
Alliaz Cornhill – extra premium	431.32
ESPO – Scales for postage/Thesaurus	56.48
Cromwell – Parts for shredder	14.31
Fitzpatrick Woolmer – New notice board	5998.38
Blaby District Council – grass cutting	216.05
D. Ball (Hawgrips) – daffodil bulbs	10.00
Glebe Gardens – round-up/vouchers Best Kept Front Garden	166.14
ABC Motors – petrol/oil	93.27
EDF Services Ltd. – Replacement barrier Willoughby Road Playing Fields	1140.53
Canon – rental of photocopier	225.14
J.F. Spence – new gate post at Dale Acre	176.25

2006/189. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk reported on the following:

Blaby District Parish Council Seminar – 20th September 2006. If any member wishes to attend please contact the Parish Office so that details can be forwarded to Blaby District Council.

The County Service – Sunday 22nd October. This will be held at All Saints Parish Church, Narborough at 3pm. The Chairman stated that he had personally received an invitation.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and asked if they would now leave the meeting as the next item due to its sensitivity was to be taken ‘in camera’

This was duly done.

Meeting closed @ 9.10 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2006