

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 8th FEBRUARY 2007 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
Messrs:	T. Blood, D. Ball, A. Clifford, F.E. Duffield, G. Gamble, K. Mason, I. Paterson, A. Collis-Smith
Mrs. J. Adcock	Clerk to the Council
Mrs. P. Mount	Deputy Clerk to the Council

There were six members of the public present.

2007/25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. A. Billings, Mrs. K. Yates, Mr. D. Duffield

2007/26. DISCLOSURES 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)

Village Hall:

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

Youth Work within the Village:

Mr. A. Clifford – Employed by Leics. C.C. in the Youth & Community Education Section

Reports of Working Parties, Representatives, District Councillors & County Councillor – Finance:

D. Jennings & I. Paterson as members of the Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust

2007/27. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 11th January 2007 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2007/28. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 25th January 2007 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2007/29. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Mrs. J. Weatherstone informed the meeting that the telecommunication mast company were still looking for a site within the district.

Mr. D. Jennings gave mention to the fence at Countesthorpe College – this item was still on going.

2007/30. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk circulated correspondence from the Leicestershire Constabulary regarding the implementation of a restructuring process within the force.

Information had been received from the local beat officer about ‘cold callers’ in the Edgeley Road area of Countesthorpe. The Clerk asked members to make as many people aware of this as possible.

2007/31. DISPERSAL ORDERS

Mr. D. Ball reported that at the present time the village did not seem to be having problems with groups of young people therefore there was no need to ask for a Dispersal Order. Nevertheless this item should remain on the agenda for future meetings.

Mr. F.E. Duffield reported that groups were congregating outside of the Health Centre in Main Street.

2007/32. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

National Association of Local Councils

- Consultation on Amendments to Model Code of Conduct
- Consultation Commons Act 2006 Protection of Common Land in England
- Review of the Quality Town & Parish Council Scheme

Blaby District Council

- Development of Huncote Leisure Centre
- Fri. 23.3.07 @ 7.30 pm. Promenade Concert
- 19th April Quiz Night
- Appointment of Parish/Town Councillor to Standards Committee of B.D.C.
- Report of JAG meeting
- Press Releases x 2

Leicestershire County Council

- School Travel Plan News
- Adoption of Leicestershire’s Statement of Community Involvement

Leicestershire & Rutland Playing Fields Association

- First Newsletter

ESPO

- Energy Matters

Council for the Protection of Rural England

- Outlook, Leicestershire News

Borough of Oadby & Wigston

- Allocations Development Plan Document

Local Government East Midlands

- Regional Seminar

Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Parish & Local Councils

- February Newsletter

2007/33. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

Proposed consultation with Parish & Town Councils on applications to carry out works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order or located within a Conservation Area. The correspondence was passed to Mrs. C. James the Tree Warden for her information.

Planning Appeal – The Paddock, Hospital Lane, Blaby - Mr. H. Button – Change of use of land for siting of two mobile homes and creation of vehicular access. The informal hearing will be held at Blaby District Council on 6th March 2007. It was resolved to reiterate previous observations.

Planning Permission

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0611161PX 11.12.06	2 Fair Isle Way	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0610911 LX 28.11.06	Barn Adj. 7 The Square	- ditto -
0610591 PX 24.11.06	23 Willoughby Road	- ditto -
0611301 PX 18.12.06	3 Skye Way	- ditto -
0610541 PX 21.11.06	114 Gwendoline Drive	- ditto -
0610651 PX 23.11.06	13 Borrowcup Close	- ditto -
0601821 PX 1.3.06	Newton House, Bambury Lane	Refusal of Planning Permission

Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0700201 PX	74 Cosby Road	Single storey rear extension	No observations
0700571 PX	39 Station Road	Single storey rear extension	No observations
0700491 PX	56 Holyrood Drive	Retention of pitched roof to front elevation	No observations

2007/34. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED -

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0700781 PX	31 Scalborough Close	First floor side extension	No observations
0700831 PX	17 Cherry Tree Close	Single storey side extension (including demolition of existing conservatory & garage)	No observations
0700811 PX	53 Winchester Road	First floor side extension & single storey rear extension & alterations/improvements to existing roofs	No observations

0501911 PX – Erection of one bungalow with new access (Revised Scheme) (Plot 1) Land rear of 75 Station Road –
Description of Application – Details of alterations to drainage system approved under reference 05/0199/1/PX for plot 1.

Mr. D. Jennings reported that he had received a telephone call from the resident at number 77 Station Road requesting him to convey the following as he was unable to attend tonight’s meeting due to a prior engagement:

The original planning permission re drainage should be adhered to – all drainage should be connected to the existing Station Road drains.

Observations;

After a discussion the following observations were made:

The revised planning application referred to plot 1 and there a 2 plots therefore should 2 applications not have been received?

Planning regulations should be adhered to.

Concern was raised re overdevelopment of land to the rear of Station Road; careful consideration should be given re drainage.

2007/35. LICENSING ACT 2003 – REVIEW APPLICATION – THE BULLS HEAD

A letter received on the 12th January 2007 from the Democratic Services Manager at Blaby District Council was circulated to members prior to the meeting regarding the Bulls Head.

The Chairman raised concerns about the tone of the letter. He had asked Blaby District if he should attend the hearing and was told that it was not necessary. It appeared that the statement produced by the Police was not given sufficient consideration. Near neighbours were not informed of the date that the review of the licence was being heard.

After a discussion it was resolved to write to the Chief Executive at Blaby District Council with a copy of the letter to Mrs. Johnston Head of Administration and Legal

Services expressing the Councils disappointment at the decisions taken and with the tone of the letter.

2007/36. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY MONTHLY MEETING

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 5th February 2007:

War Memorial The War Memorial had been inspected and there is room for further inscriptions to be added as per Mrs. Shultka's request. Before names are added it was recommended that a letter be placed in the Herald with the additional names asking for parishioners comments thereon.

Spoilbank A representative from Persimmon Homes agreed at the last site meeting on the Spoilbank to ascertain where the exact boundary is between the Spoilbank and the adjacent field and who the owner is before further action regarding a planting scheme/fencing can go ahead.

Willoughby Road Playing Fields - Football Club Licence The licence for the use of the playing fields by Countesthorpe Athletic Football Club was discussed and it was recommended not to increase the charge of £700 per season. The licence will be reviewed again in 2 years time.

It was resolved not to increase charges as this was a way of supporting youth activities in the village.

Brook Court Blaby District Council have lopped a further 8ft. off the boundary Leylandii trees between Brook Court and the rear of Shetland Way. This was noted.

Bus Shelter – Winchester Road opp. Leysland Avenue The Clerk reported that she had telephoned Blaby District Council to request that the graffiti on the bus shelter be removed as soon as possible.

The Paddock - The fence at the rear of the Paddock has been vandalised. The Clerk has made enquiries and the owner of the fence is 1 Main Street, therefore it is their responsibility to have the necessary repairs carried out.

Linden Junior School – Gwendoline Drive Once again complaints have been received about the parking outside of the school along Gwendoline Drive. The Police have been asked to monitor this area and take appropriate action.

Countesthorpe Library Complaints have been received about the colour of the switch control panels outside of the Library. It is felt that they are not in keeping with the look of the Village Hall/Library. A letter is to be sent asking if alterations can be made.

Cemetery – Foston Road Numerous requests have been received for trees to be planted in the cemetery and also for extra benches. It was resolved to put this item on next months agenda for discussion.

Bus Shelter A letter has been received from Leicestershire County Council re Partnership Funding for Rural Bus Shelters 2007/2008 programme. The Clerk was asked to complete this application for funding towards renewing the bus shelter near to the Church, Station Road.

Closed Churchyard - Vandals have removed some of the coping stones from the Church wall in Main Street. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements to have them replaced and the wall checked to see if any further remedial work needs to be carried out.

2007/36. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Traffic – Winchester Road

The Chairman reported that two accidents involving students from Leysland High School had occurred this month. Leicestershire Highways Department are in the process of revising/improving signing near to the school and will be installing a crossing in the new financial year.

The Headteacher informed the Chairman that he had held two special assemblies to remind all pupils of the need to behave appropriately and take responsibility for their own safety.

Traffic – Cosby Road

The Chairman referred to a letter received from the Department of Highways regarding a footpath along Cosby Road in which they state that Countesthorpe College are developing a School Travel Plan whereby it is hoped to control the practice of students walking to the Whetstone Co-op at lunchtime. Funding for footways are dependent on various assessment criteria and it is considered that capital investment could not be justified at this time for a new footpath as the benefits will be small in comparison to the cost. Similarly there are many requests throughout the county to introduce measures to control vehicle speeds and Cosby Road does not feature in the 2007/08 programme. However, an assessment on Cosby Road will be carried out.

Finance Working Party

The following requests for grant aid were discussed:-

St. Andrew's Church roof - it was proposed that a £1000 grant, under section 137 grant aid, be given. This was resolved.

Judo Club – A grant for a mini bus has been awarded to the group but they need to raise funds to insure the vehicle – a grant of £200 under section 137 was proposed. This money to be taken from the allocation made in the budget for Youth. This was resolved.

Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust – it was proposed that a grant under section 137 of £750 be given. This was resolved.

Turner Foundation - it was proposed that a grant under section 137 of £100 be given. This was resolved. It was recommended that a letter be sent to the Turner Foundation

suggesting that they advertise in the Herald so that people are aware that they can apply to them for grant aid.

2007/37. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. G. Gamble reported on a Village Hall Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2007:

A variation to the Entertainments Licence has been applied for to cover plays, films and sporting events. The application was delivered to Blaby District Council on Tuesday 30th January 2007. A notice of the application has been placed in the Herald and one in the window of the Village Hall. The cost of the variation is £190.

The lights in the rear car park are now obsolete. One of the lamps has been completely destroyed and others have cracked lenses which allow water to get into them thus shorting the system. A quotation for the replacement of the 10 lighting bollards has been received and accepted.

A dishwasher has been installed in the kitchen at a cost of £1075. The Trustees of the Village Hall have paid for this machine.

A new glass washer for the bar has been purchased at a cost of £1300.

Youth Group The Youth Workers have not been using the Village Hall as a Youth Café for several weeks. Therefore the question has arisen as to whether or not the Hall could be booked for other purposes if required?

Mr. A. Clifford reported that a decision to hold the Youth Café in the bungalow at the College, a less formal environment to the Village Hall, had been taken.

Funding toward a Youth Council had been obtained (£7500). This money would be used towards the purchase of lap top computers, preparing a constitution for a Youth Council and a presentation to recruit pupils. They would like to arrange for the Youth Council to meet in a formal atmosphere fortnightly, and would like to continue to use the Village Hall for this purpose.

A discussion ensued and it was agreed that the meetings could take place in the Village Hall but definite dates would be required so that the hall could be let when the Youth Council was not meeting. The cupboards in the kitchen would still be required.

Mr. I. Paterson stated that it would be nice if a Councillor was elected to the Youth Council. It was resolved to put this item on next months agenda.

2007/38. PARISH PLAN – REPORT THEREOF

A chart showing the use of the Parish Council Web Site 2006 was circulated to the Council prior to the meeting.

A copy of the following letter was received from Mr. R. Essex:

As the Countesthorpe Better Towns Team is no longer operating, nor has it done so since March 2004 we feel that the account should now be closed and the remaining balance (£550.75) be transferred to the account of Countesthorpe Parish Council.

Members expressed their pleasure with this news and it was resolved to put it towards the new notice boards that had been ordered.

Mr. I. Paterson suggested that the Council hold an ECO day and asked if any members were interested in promoting such an idea. It was proposed to put this item on next months agenda.

2007/39. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

This item was dealt with under Village Hall.

2007/40. BUS SERVICES WITHIN THE VILLAGE

Further complaints have been received about buses travelling along Hospital Lane instead of through the village.

A reply has been received from Arriva which states that ‘out of service’ buses use this route as the quickest way to reach their destination i.e. Whetstone, Lutterworth and Broughton Astley. However, they do state that if any passengers witness a service operating via Hospital Lane instead of going through Countesthorpe they should note the date and time and registration number of the bus in question so that a full investigation can be carried out. Any information can be forwarded to: Customer Care, Arriva Midlands, Freepost MID 25217 Wigston. LE18 4ZJ.

45 Bus Service

This bus has now been diverted to travel along Little Glen Road.

2007/41. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	7921.06
J. Adcock – postages	49.36
ABC Motors – petrol/oil (2 months)	153.22
Shaw & Sons Ltd. – Minute book	126.90
Glebe Gardens – Summer bedding plants (£529.60)	
Bow saw & clear lamps (£11.59)	541.19
British Telecom – Phone	178.82
Countesthorpe Parish Council – (Village Hall) VAT	114.08
GoiT – to supply 2 backup hard discs + to configure new drives	188.00
Council for the Protection of Rural England – annual subscription	27.00
Section 137 Grant Aid:	
St. Andrew’s Church (Roof)	1000.00
Judo Club	200.00
Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust	750.00
Turner Foundation	100.00

2007/42. MATTERS FOR THE CLERK

Herald Quiz

This will be held at the Cricket Club on 2nd March 2007. The following volunteered to represent the Parish Council: - Mr. A. Clifford, Mrs. C. James and Mr. D. Jennings. (Mrs. J. Jennings as reserve).

The Clerk read the following letter from the Chief Executive's Department, Leicestershire County Council:-

THE LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (PEATLING ROAD, COUNTESTHORPE) (EXTENSION OF 30 mph SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 200

Public Notice is to be given during the week ending 9th February 2007 of the County Councils intention to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 the effect of which will be to introduce the above-mentioned Order.

I enclose herewith a copy of the proposed Order with a map showing the roads therein, together with a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order. I should be pleased if you would make the documents available for Public Inspection at your Office from Friday 9th February 2007 until Friday 2nd March 2007, thereafter returning them to me with a notice of any objections that you may have received.

The contents were noted.

Meeting closed @ 9 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2007