

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2007 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

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

There were 14 members of the public present.

2007/91. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE There were none

2007/92. DISCLOSURES 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)

Mrs. J. Weatherstone (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.)

Youth Work within the Village:

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

2007/93. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr. K. Mason proposed, seconded by Mr. M. Smith that Mr. D. Jennings be Chairman for the ensuing year. This was unanimously resolved.

2007/94. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. D. Jennings proposed, seconded by Mr. T. Blood that Mr. M. Smith be Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. This was unanimously resolved.

## 2007/95. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

Four resignations from Parish Councillors had been received prior to the elections. No applications had been received for these vacancies therefore no election for Parish Councillors had taken place.

The Clerk explained that the Council had the power to co-opt representatives to the Parish Council within a 35 day period from the election (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2007). If the Parish Council fails to fill the vacancies by this date the District Council may exercise its power to order a fresh election to fill the remaining vacancies, this of course would mean additional costs chargeable to the Parish Council.

Subsequently six parishioners had applied to the Clerk to be co-opted onto the Council.

The Chairman asked each of the following candidates to address the Council:

Mrs. Jo Chamberlain  
Mrs. Gwen Farrands  
Mrs. Betty Forecast  
Mr. Peter Holdridge  
Mr. G. Hudson  
Mr. B. Smith

Members of the Council then voted for four of the candidates. The following were duly elected to the Council:

Mrs. Gwen Farrands  
Mrs. Betty Forecast  
Mr. Peter Holdridge  
Mr. Barry Smith

Declarations of Acceptance of Office from all members of the Parish Council were duly signed and returned to the Clerk.

## 2007/96. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES: -

It was resolved that the following were duly elected to be the Parish Council's representatives.

- a) Council for the Protection of Rural England – Mr. I. Paterson
- b) Countesthorpe Twinning Association – It was resolved to ask Mr. A. Billings if he would be prepared to represent the Council
- c) Blaby Branch of the Local Association of Parish Councils – Mrs. J. Weatherstone and Mr. A. Collis-Smith
- d) Countesthorpe Information Centre-Management Committee – Mr. D. Jennings

- e) Countesthorpe College/Sports refurbishment scheme/Community Council – Mr. K. Mason
- f) Police Liaison – Mrs. Y. Bennett, Mrs. J. Weatherstone, Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mr. D. Ball

### WORKING PARTIES

Planning – Mrs. J. Jennings, Mr. K. Mason, Mrs. M. Baum, Mr. A. Clifford, Rev. M. Gillespie, Mrs. G. Farrands

Maintenance of Council Properties – Mr. D. Ball, Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mr. T. Blood, Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Mr. K. Mason.

Best Kept Village/Front Garden Competition - Mrs. C. James, Mrs. J. Weatherstone, Mr. D. Ball, Mrs. M. Baum, Mr. T. Blood, Mr. A. Clifford. Mrs. G. Farrands.

Finance - Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. I. Paterson, Mr. K. Mason and Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. P. Holdridge, Mr. A. Collis-Smith

#### Parish Plan

Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. K. Mason, Mr. I. Paterson, Mr. M. Smith

Policy & Resources The Chairman of all working parties + the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

The Chairman's Reception - The Chairman, Mr. I. Paterson, Mrs. C. James, Mr. D. Ball and Mr. F.E. Duffield

Tree Warden – Mrs. C. James

Footpath Warden – Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Mr. B. Smith

Street Lighting Warden – Mr. D. Jennings

### COMMITTEES:

Village Hall Management Committee – Mr. K. Mason, Mr. I. Paterson, Mr. F.E. Duffield, Mr. T. Blood, Mr. D. Ball, Mrs. M. Baum.

DISCIPLINARY – Chairman + Five members of the Parish Council

APPEALS – Vice-Chairman + Five members of the Parish Council

The Chairman is ex-officio on all Working Parties and Committees.

#### 2007/97. TO ARRANGE DATES, TIMES & VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Mr. D. Jennings proposed seconded by Mrs. C. James that meetings should be held on the second Thursday of the month and start at 7.30pm. Mr. I. Paterson made an amendment seconded by Mr. K. Mason that the meeting should start at 8 pm. When put to the vote the proposal was carried. It was resolved that the Parish Council meetings should be held on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm. in the Village Hall.

2007/98. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2007 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

#### 2007/99. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk read the following letter from LOROS:

“Thank you for forwarding the donation of £250 on behalf of Countesthorpe Parish Council. It is very generous of the members of the Council to support LOROS in this way.

LOROS is rightly proud of the facilities that it is able to offer to the patients and their families and if you or any of your members would like to have a tour of the hospice please do contact me and I will make the necessary arrangements. To maintain the privacy of the patients the tour does not include the wards.

#### 2007/100. TO ADOPT THE MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Papers relating to the adoption of the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) were circulated to members prior to the meeting for their consideration.

The Clerk made the following recommendations:

To adopt the code of conduct unamended with one exception. Consideration of paragraph 12 (2) this is not mandatory for Parishes. This gives members with a prejudicial interest the same rights as members of the public to speak to a meeting on the issue and then leave before the main discussion and vote.

It is essential to pass a resolution adopting the Model Code of Conduct including paragraph 12 (2). It is not enough to adopt the Code ‘as applicable to parish councils’.

It was unanimously resolved to accept the Code of Conduct including paragraph 12 (2).

#### 2007/101. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Leicestershire Playing Fields Association – newsletter
- Leicestershire Matters
- Open Space Society – re comments
- Oadby & Wigston Allocations Development Place Document Sustainability Appraisal scoping Consultation
- Draft East Midlands Regional Plan Public Examination

### 2007/102. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk reported on the following:

There are no active ASB cases in Countesthorpe.

WPC Morris, the new village officer will not be on duty until mid June as she is away on a course.

Numerous telephone calls have been made to the Police to try and arrange a liaison meeting. To date it has not been possible to arrange a meeting.

2007/103. DISPERSAL ORDERS – It is considered that no action needs to be taken at the present time.

### 2007/104. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

#### Planning Permission

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0701801 PX 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2007	28 Fir Tree Avenue	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0701321 PY 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2007	3 The Bank	- ditto -
2006/0314/01 7.4.07	Soars Lodge Farm, Foston	Leicestershire County Council Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission

#### Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0701431 PX	51 Willoughby Road	Two storey side extension with balcony to rear elevation, first floor & two storey rear, single storey rear extension & detached double garage to front of dwelling (revised scheme)	No observations
0703441 PX	38 Reedpool Close	Side extension to existing front dormer window (retrospective)	No observations

0703271 PX	Maple House, Main Street	Single storey side extension, erection of detached pergola in rear garden & erection of side wall & gate	No observations
0703411 HY	Former Public Conveniences, Central Street	Total demolition of former public conveniences	No observations
0703471 PX	Former Public Conveniences, Central Street	Erection of two storey building for retail (class A1) and/or financial & professional services (class A2) and/or offices (Class B1) (to replace existing public convenience building)	Building materials, design etc. should be compatible as building is within a conservation area. Concern with regard to whether there are sufficient car parking facilities. Traffic implications. Opening hours need to be considered as it is in a residential area.

2007/105. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0703581 PX	36 Rosebank Road	Part two storey, part single storey front side extension	No observations
0703461 PX	3 Maple Avenue	Single storey side & rear extension & pitched roofs over existing flat roofs to rear (Revised Scheme)	No observations

The Chairman gave mention to the planning appeal – Mr. H. Button, The Paddock, Hospital Lane, Blaby for 2 mobile homes, 2 touring caravans, 2 parking spaces and creation of vehicular access. The appeal has been allowed for a temporary period of 3 years subject to named persons remaining on the site.

2007/106. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY MONTHLY MEETING

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007 where the following was discussed:

Spinney Footpath A quotation to scrape off the debris from the surface of the footpath in the Spinney and top up with Bredon Gravel. The new surface would then be levelled and compacted to finish flush with the existing edgings. The cost to carry out this work would be £528.75.

It was resolved to accept this quotation.

Some of the trees in the Spinney need to have the ivy that is growing up them removed. It was recommended that this work be carried out in August, after the nesting season.

Dale Acre The slide in the park has been vandalised. The necessary repair work will be carried out by the Council's groundsmen.

The notice board in the park has been accidentally damaged by an employee of Blaby District Council whilst grass cutting. Blaby District has agreed to replace the notice board.

Village Hall The barrier and support posts have been damaged by persons unknown. It was recommended that repair work be carried out as soon as possible.

St. Andrews Church Wall The church wall needs to be repointed - the cost to carry out this work would be £1286.63. As no money has been allocated in the budget this year it was proposed that this should be looked at next year. It was also suggested that an application for grant aid should be made to Blaby District Council. This was resolved.

A list of the responsibilities and duties of the Parish Council in the closed churchyard at St. Andrew's Church has been drawn up. This will be passed on the Parochial Church Council for their information.

#### 2007/107. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chairman reported that he had represented the Parish Council at the Anna Pullen Memorial Day at The Dicken in Whetstone.

A plaque in memory of Anna Pullen, Countesthorpe's County Councillor for many years, was shown to the Council. It will be erected in the lounge next to the clock which Anna presented to the Village Hall in 1996.

#### Glebe Drive

The Chairman read the following letter he had received from Blaby District Council relating to Glebe Drive:

"I have looked through the paperwork that you forwarded to me in relation to the above and have spoken to John Prendergast at the County Council.

The case of Guliksen and Pembrokeshire County Council ruled that all roads and footways etc. built by the District Councils under their Hosing Act powers are deemed to be adopted by the County Council.

The District Council has right of access along Glebe Drive and is not the owner and therefore has not built the road. John Prendergast agrees that Glebe Drive is not a private street and does not fall within the criteria of the above Case”.

The Chairman sent the following reply to Blaby District Council –

“Thank you for your letter of 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007. In my time as a Blaby District Councillor, Blaby District Council did build the pavement and do still maintain it. I am prepared to testify to this in court, as are many other people. Surely this qualifies under the criteria.

Your revised comments would be appreciated”.

To date no further communications have been received.

#### Closure of Gwendoline Drive

Concerns have been raised about the volume of traffic which now has to pass Greenfield Primary School because of the closure of part of Gwendoline Drive. Parking issues have been a problem in this area for many years particularly at school closing times. As more traffic is using this road the problem has become worse.

It was resolved to contact the Police about this matter to see what help and advice they can give and possibly suggest that traffic cones be placed along one side of the road

#### 2007/108. VILLAGE HALL – UPDATE

Mr. K. Mason reported on the retirement of the Bar Manager and wished to express the Management Committees appreciation for the excellent work that he has done over the year.

Interviews for a new Bar Manager have taken place and a new appointment has been made.

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

Blaby District Council – Rates	234.85
R.E. Bowers & Freeman Ltd. – Plaque	135.13
Tamms – 2 telephones	80.77
Signs & Labels – No Smoking signs	32.46
Armchair Doctor – Repair of 3 chairs	105.75
T.N. Gardiner – Replace dimmer switch in main hall	40.00
J. Maynard – stock-taker	70.00
Ray’s Supplies – Crisps/nuts/straws	39.83
Leicester Mercury – Advert for Bar Manager	368.95
ESPO – Cleaning materials	66.03

New Countesthorpe Herald – Advert x 6 months	48.60
Valmo – Electrical Supplies Ltd. – Dimmer switch	40.06
Powergen – Electricity	960.43
BOC – Gas for bar April/May	20.39
ADT – Maintenance for CCTV 12.5.07 – 11.5.08	165.76
Scottish & Newcastle UK – Beers	1112.07
B. Telecom – Bar	70.97

Salaries for 2007

Bar Manager/cleaner x 2  
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary

Refund of Deposits

Mrs. Doherty – 19.5.07	150.00
Enderby Twinning Association – 25.5.07	200.00
Inner Wheel – 8.6.07	50.00
D. Swarbrick – 8.6.07	150.00

Mr. M. Smith stated that he had a personnel interest in the account paid to the New Countesthorpe Herald.

2007/109. SMOKEFREE POLICY AS FROM 1<sup>st</sup> JULY 2007 – TO PROTECT ALL EMPLOYEES, SERVICE USERS, CUSTOMERS AND VISITORS TO THE VILLAGE HALL

A draft of a Smokefree Policy was circulated to members prior to the meeting for their consideration. It was unanimously resolved to accept this policy.

2007/110. PARISH PLAN – REPORT THEREOF

The Rev. M. Gillespie asked if a meeting could be arranged to review the Parish Plan.

A meeting will be arranged for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 9.30 in the Parish Office.

2007/111. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. A. Clifford reported that the Youth Council has been on a course to formulate the set up of a Council. They have met in the Village Hall on several occasions and were developing a strategy.

A holiday activity programme for July and August was being discussed.

2007/112. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	7973.41
J. Adcock – postages	28.26
Powergen – Church Clock	38.58
Information Commissioner – Data Protection Register	35.00
Allianz Cornhill – Annual insurance premium	4316.99
EP Builders Merchants – post set	24.46
ESPO – Bench for cemetery £304.33	
Wood finish for notice boards £18.21	322.54
British Telecom – Office phone	161.82
ABC Motors – Petrol/oil	194.98

2007/113. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY – There were none

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman

Dated ..... 2007