

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTSTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 13th MARCH 2008 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

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

There were 5 members of the public present.

2008/47. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. A. Clifford and Mrs. C. James.

2008/48. DECLARATION 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)
Member of Countesthorpe Cricket Club
Mr. F.E. Duffield (Planning – Blaby District Council)
Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning – Blaby District Council)
Mr. M. Smith Member of Countesthorpe Cricket Club

Village Hall:

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

Finance:

Mr. M. Smith – Chairman of Governors Greenfield School (Grant Application) Member of
Countesthorpe Cricket Club
Mr. D. Jennings – Member of Countesthorpe Cricket Club

2008/49. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 14th February 2008 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record subject to the following:

Minute number 2008/27 - Minutes of a meeting held on 31st January was incorrectly numbered and should read 2008/27a.

Minute number 2008/41 Pension Scheme should have included the following:

To accept the Medical Advisers, Heales Medical Ltd., recommended by Leicestershire County Council and to name the specified person David Morgan, Head of Legal Services, Leicestershire County Council to deal with the internal disputes procedure. This was resolved.

2008/50. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

There were none.

2008/51. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk reported that she had received complaints from the Taekwan do Group and the Judo Group who meet at the Village Hall on a Monday and Thursday evening that they were experiencing serious problems with young people in the car park. Parents and children were being intimidated. Parking spaces were being obstructed by youths playing football. When asked to stop they experienced verbal abuse. At a Friday evening fund raising event the Police had to be called to remove the youths from congregating in the foyer.

The Clerk had contacted Tammy Ballard, Youth Worker, to see if she could help in this matter. The following reply was received;

“I am sorry to hear that you have been experiencing some issues with Young People.

As you are aware we already have a team out on a Thursday where we try to engage with Young People and hope that we can provide in the future something that can accommodate the needs of these Young People. However I am not sure that they are the same Young People that you have been experiencing difficulties with. I will look into the staffing resources and capacity of the team to examine what is possible to support you. I will forward this email onto Sam Robinson who is part of Blaby District with a remit on reducing anti social behaviour – however Sam is off at the moment and I am not sure when she is expected to return.

I will keep in contact with you as soon as I have any confirmation of what the team is able to provide in the way of support”.

After a discussion it was resolved to send a letter to the person with overall responsibility for Youth Work within the area and a letter to Blaby District Council to ascertain who is dealing with the work of Sam Robinson in her absence.

2008/52. DISPERSAL ORDERS

No action needs to be taken at present.

2008/53. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Blaby District Council – Blaby Town Centre Master plan – Presentation
- Open Space Magazine
- Oadby & Wigston Borough Council & Blaby – Arts Newsletter
- Minutes of Standard Committee Blaby District Council 3.3.08
- Leics. & Rutland Ass. Local Councils – Councillor Training Course
- NALC – Development Briefing Strengthening the role of Local Councillors

- Leics. County Council – Leics. Rural Strategy 2007/2014
- Blaby District Council – Local Development Framework – Version 2

2008/54. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

A letter received from the Team Leader Service Support at Charnwood Borough Council re Proposed Local Planning Application Requirements was read to the Council. The contents were noted.

PLANNING PERMISSION

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
08/0019/1/AYCS 9 th January 2008	Sams Chemist, 5 The Bank	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
07/1164/1/PYCS 17 th January 2008	1, Elliots Yard	- ditto -
07/1114/1/LXCS 28 th November 2007	Baptist Church & Hall Church Street	- ditto -
08/0065/1/PXCS 11 February 2008	14 Willow Drive	- ditto -
07/1071/1/OXCS 15 November 2007	Land rear of 37 – 43 Winchester Road	- ditto -
07/1005/1/OX 19 th October 2007	Land to the north of Borrowcup Close	REFUSAL OF OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION
08/0035/1/PXCS 1 February 2008	ATM Unit C’thorpe Post Office, 69 Station Rd.	- ditto -

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. D. Jennings and Mr. M. Smith left the meeting when planning application 07/1190/1/PYCS Countesthorpe Cricket Club, Basset Avenue was heard as they are both members of Countesthorpe Cricket Club. Mr. D. Ball was elected to act as Chairman in the absence of Mr. D. Jennings Chairman to the Council and Mr. M. Smith Vice Chairman.

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
Amended 0711701 PYCS	Bulls Head Main Street	Erection of timber framed canopy to courtyard	No observations
0800101 PYCS	1 Linden Farm Drive	Retention of garden shed	No observations
0800591 PXCS	11 Barnley Close	Two storey front & first floor side extension	No observations
Plan No.	Address	Description of	Observations

		Application	
0711901 PYCS	C'thorpe Cricket Club, Bassett Ave.	Erection of retractable safety netting on 10 m high poles along northern boundary	No observations
0710231 PXCS	Griffs Bodyworks Ltd. 85-87 Station Road	Demolition of existing buildings & erection of 10 semi detached dwellings & 2 detached dwellings with ass. parking/garages & construction of new access road.	Concern from neighbours at the rear who feel the buildings would overwhelm their property. Concern also re surface drainage in this part of the village. The P.C. would like confirmation that drainage system will be in order prior to building works taking place. Parish Council are concerned that there will be a loss of local employment opportunities. Site Visit is requested.

2008/55. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0801521PXCS	60 Scalborough Close	First floor side extension	No observations
0801831 PYCS	7 Westfield Avenue	Rear conservatory	No observations

2008/56. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 10th March 2008 in the Parish Office where the following was discussed:

Foston Road Cemetery

It was recommended that the burial fees be increased. Listed below are the new charges:

PART 1. INTERMENTS

1.	For the interment in any grave: -	
(i)	of the body of a still born child, or of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month.	12.00
(ii)	of the body of a child whose age at the time of death exceeded one month but did not exceed 10 years.	15.00
(iii)	of the body of a person whose age at the time of death exceeded 10 years.	40.00
2.	For the interment of cremated remains in a grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted.	40.00
3.	A scattering of ashes	25.00

PART 2. EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF BURIAL IN EARTHEN GRAVES

1.	For the exclusive right of burial in perpetuity in an earthen grave 8 feet by 4 feet.	90.00
2.	For the exclusive right of burial of cremated remains in an earthen grave 2 feet by 2 feet.	40.00

PART 3. MONUMENTS, GRAVESTONES, TABLETS AND MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

Application must be made via a Stone Mason or Funeral Director for one of the following options:

For the right to erect and place on a grave for which an exclusive Right of Burial has been granted:

1.	Headstone - Not exceeding 2'6" high. Can be mounted onto a plinth max. of 4". Slab 2'6" long x 1'6".	25.00
2.	Monument in the form of -A Portable Iron or Stone Vase - Not exceeding 1' in height and occupying a space not exceeding 1' by 1'	20.00
3.	A Combined Portable Tablet, Vase and Base – Not exceeding 14" in height and occupying a space not exceeding 14" x 14".	20.00
4.	The fees indicated for the various options of this Part include the first inscription. For each inscription after the first a fee of £15.00 is payable.	15.00

The fees will be **treble** for non-parishioners. The Clerk will have discretion to waive this provision in the case of parishioners of long standing who have been obliged to reside outside the parish during their declining years in order to receive nursing or other residential care.

Fees were approved and adopted by the Countesthorpe Parish Council acting as the Burial Authority at a duly convened meeting of the Parish Council on the 13th March 2008.

It was resolved to increase the fees from the 1st April 2008.

Grave Space 902

Tree roots have disturbed the head stone on this grave. The Clerk and Mr. Ball met Mr. Kenyon, from County Hall at the cemetery and he advised that the tree roots must not be disturbed otherwise it would cause serious damage to the tree. He recommended that the ground around the roots be bridged and the head stone re-sited thereon.

The Clerk and Mr. Ball also met the undertaker at the cemetery and explained what action had been recommended. He concurred with this and would contact the relative accordingly.

Memorial Walls

The Clerk was asked to ascertain how many free bricks remained on the walls of remembrance so that if necessary consideration could be given to the construction of a new wall.

Over 65 Retirement Policy

It was recommended that the ACAS policy be adopted. This was resolved.

Pickup Truck

The senior groundsman had been consulted and he was of the opinion that the pickup truck would last for another year. £12,000 has been put to one side from previous budgets towards a new truck. It was therefore recommended to make allowances in the 2009/2010 budget to purchase a new pickup truck. This was resolved.

Leysland Park

It was resolved to purchase a new bin to replace the one that was vandalised.

Willoughby Road Playing Fields

An updated licence for the use of the football pitches had been sent to Countesthorpe Athletic Football Club. This has been signed by two members of the club. The Clerk advised that the Chairman and one other member of the Council sign this Licence before the meeting. This was duly signed by Mr. D. Jennings and Mr. M. Smith. A copy of the signed Licence will be sent to the football club. The licence will be reviewed again in two years time.

Health Centre Car Park

A resident had asked if the bollards and kerbs at the entrance to the Health Centre car park could be painted white.

It was resolved that the groundsmen could undertake this work subject to the agreement of the Practise Manager at the Health Centre.

2008/57. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Herald Quiz

The Chairman stated that although the Council's team did not win it had been a very enjoyable evening and wished to congratulate the Herald for putting on the quiz.

Finance Working Party

Mr. D. Jennings withdrew from the meeting when grant aid for the Cricket Club was being discussed. Mr M. Smith also withdrew for this item as well as for the Greenfield School application.

Mr. K. Mason reported on a meeting of the finance committee which was held on Tuesday 11th March 2008 where the following was discussed:

Grant Aid – Section 137 – the following applications had been received:

Countesthorpe Cricket Club

Mr. D. Ball acted as Chairman as Mr. D. Jennings & Mr. M. Smith withdrew from the meeting whilst this item was being discussed.

Concern has been raised by a resident about the possibility of a cricket ball causing injury to children playing in their garden which is adjacent to the cricket ground. Quotations for a Ball Stop Fence have been obtained and this will cost in the region of £5000. Planning permission is also required.

After a discussion it was resolved to grant the Cricket Club £500 subject to planning permission being granted.

Greenfield School

The following letter was received from the Head Teacher at Greenfield Primary School.

“I am writing on behalf of the governors of Greenfield Primary School to request a Parish Council grant of £300 to fund the opening of the school gates throughout the summer holidays.

The school has previously benefited from your generosity which ensures that the school grounds can benefit the community during the long summer break.

I do hope you will give this matter your consideration.”

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr. C. Bowpitt the Head Teacher and ask in the first instance for a timetable of when the grounds will be opened.

Mr. I. Paterson withdrew from the meeting when the following application was discussed:

Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust

The following letter was received from the Chairman:

“Since the Parish Council’s most generous contribution of £750 to the Trust’s funds last February the trustees have disbursed a total of £2,150 to a variety of deserving causes. Of this amount £1,200 has gone towards support for disadvantaged children in respect of their extramural educational needs; £700 towards work with the youth of the village; £150 to assist a young person in his sporting activity; and £100 to support historical research. We are always ready to consider any worthy village cause that is brought to our attention and we

advertise this fact accordingly. We hope that we continue to have the confidence of the Council and can look forward to further support in order to continue the work we have been doing for so many years.”

The Clerk was asked to write to the trust and ask for their balance sheet.

Countesthorpe Locality Youth Service Report February 2008

Tammy Ballard Youth Development Worker Countesthorpe Locality – covering Blaby, Whetstone, Cosby Glen Parva and Countesthorpe sent the following report:-

This report will focus on the developments of the Detached Youth Work in the Countesthorpe Village. For almost two years there has been a Detached Youth Work Team in Countesthorpe, the youth workers work with young people where they are, they seek to help support and offer advice and guidance to the Young People that they meet.

Originally the workers went out on Friday night and predominantly worked with Young People on harm minimisation. There was at one point high numbers of transient Young People meeting at various hot spot areas in the Village. Eventually after police intervention these large groups of young people were dispersed.

Thereafter the workers evening changed to a Thursday night with a focus on developing relationships with young people and offering positive activities. After some analysis of the needs of the Young People the workers were able to determine that the Young People would like a place to meet that is either situated at the Village Hall or in the centre of the Village. The Young People we spoke with did not want to return to a school site, the main reason being location as it is easier to meet in the two places listed.

Due to the lack of appropriate facilities an investigation into the pilot of a mobile provision was initiated. With the support of Countesthorpe Parish Council Countesthorpe, Village Hall and Countesthorpe Medical Centre and 637 Bus the first stage of the project has been completed.

There has been 3 sessions using the 637 Red Double Decker Bus, at the Village Hall and the medical centre. We have engaged with 20 young people all male and from 4 different friendship groups. We are working on a survey with the young people on what they would like from this pilot project.

Already relationships are positive and we have been providing a variety of positive activities along with addressing serious issues with the Young People that we are working with. We have had visits from members of the public and Parish Council members who have been suitably impressed by the mobile provision. Feedback from one member of the public has been that there should be more and even a suggestion of a Youth Shelter.

The 637 bus is only available on a short-term basis as it is normally booked with the Blaby District Youth Work team, it is also fully booked for all other weekday nights. I have identified another mobile unit that is available on a Thursday evening and to have such a provision on a permanent basis would cost around £3,000 per annum. I would like to ask the Parish Council if they consider the activity something that will have a positive impact on the Village if they could help fund or seek funding for the cost of the mobile unit. The Youth Service will provide paid youth workers and will fund any resources needed to develop the Youth Work on these sessions.

After a discussion it was resolved to hold a meeting with Tammy Ballard to try and encompass what is happening and where future funding should go. The following Councillors agreed to hold discussions with youth workers:- Mr. D. Jennings, Mr. K. Mason, Mr. I. Paterson, Mr. F.E. Duffield and Mr. M. Smith.

Financial Regulations

The Financial Regulations have been updated and the working party recommended that these be accepted by the Council. This was resolved.

The auditor Hacker Young recommended that the Council adopt Standing Orders.

Mr. Mason stated that the Council works efficiently without Standing Orders and advised against adopting any. This was resolved.

The insurance documents for the Village Hall and the Parish Council were inspected by the working party and accepted. This was endorsed by the full Council.

Best Kept Front Garden Competition

Mr. D. Ball advised that he no longer wished to be Chairman of this committee but Mrs. M. Baum was willing to take over. This was resolved.

2008/58. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
Safetyshop – England Flag	61.03
ESPO – Gas	376.81
Westcotes Interior Contracts – Kitchen floor	474.70
PHS Sanitary Disposal – 1.4.08 – 31.3.09	139.17
BOC – Gas for bar	29.96
Scottish & Newcastle – beers	414.29
Waverly TBS – Wines/Spirits	223.53
ESPO – Cleaning materials, fluorescent tubes	74.85
ESPO – Gas	328.48

Salaries for March 2008:

Bar Manager + cleaner x 2	717.21
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary	447.64

Return of Deposits

V. Croft – March	48.00
Prostaid	150.00
Wigston Rotary Club – refund of balance	250.00
Wigston Male Voice Choir – return of part bond	50.00
British Judo Council – 15.3.08	150.00
J. Thompson – 29.3.08	150.00
O. Smith – 4.4.08	150.00
J. Mansfield – 22.3.08	150.00

2008/59. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE – There was nothing to report.

2008/60. MEETING WITH MONITORING OFFICER AT BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Clerk read a reply to a letter she sent to the Chief Executive, Sandra Whiles re the Monitoring Officer visiting the Parish Council to discuss the Code of Conduct.

The content of the letter was noted.

2008/61. PROPOSED YELLOW LINES WESTFIELD AVENUE/COSBY ROAD AND LINDEN AVENUE/WINCHESTER ROAD – LETTER FROM RESIDENT

A letter from a resident in Westfield Avenue was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The letter expressed concern over road safety if yellow lines were introduced on the corners of Westfield Avenue/Cosby Road and Linden Avenue/Winchester Road.

After a discussion it was resolved to send a copy of the letter to County Hall for their consideration as the Parish Council are still awaiting their proposals and an acknowledgement to the resident.

2008/62. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	8458.18
J. Adcock – postages	24.86
J. Jeffcott - B & Q – black gloss paint	15.98
Shaw & Sons Ltd. – Burial register	164.50
Canon – photocopier rental	225.14
Severn Trent Water – Water Charges cemetery	88.85
K. Tee Motorcentre – Bulb sockets for trailer	6.48
Alice Graphics – Precept leaflets	82.00
ABC Motor Carriers Ltd. – petrol/oil	63.00
EP Builders Merchants – Wood for playground equipment L.O.S.	67.36
International Tree Foundation – annual subscription	25.00
Leics. & Rutland Playing Fields Ass. - annual subscription	15.00
Chapmans Garden Machinery – Asuka Mower (£846.00)	
Generator & accompanying tool (£861.99)	1707.99

2008/63. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

There was nothing to report.

Meeting closed @8.45 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2008