

**THE MEETING OF THE COUNTSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD
COUNTSTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30
PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT:**

Chairman: Mr. M. Smith

Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Ball

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

Messrs: A. Clifford, A. Collis-Smith, F.E. Duffield, Rev. M. Gillespie,
P. Holdridge, D. Jennings I. Paterson, K. Mason, B. Smith

Mrs. J. Adcock Clerk to the Council

There were 5 members of the public present.

2008/163. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. T. Blood, Mrs. G. Farrands, Mrs. B. Forecast and Mrs. P. Mount, Deputy Clerk to the Council.

2008/164. 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 & Housing Blaby District Council)
Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning Blaby District Council)
Mr. D. Jennings (Planning Blaby District Council, Leicestershire County Council)
Mrs. J. Jennings (120 Station Road – personal & prejudicial)
Mr. D. Jennings (120 Station Road & Countesthorpe Cricket Club – personal & prejudicial)
Mr. M. Smith (Countesthorpe Cricket Club – personal & prejudicial)

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
Rev. M. Gillespie – Youth Reality Group (personal & prejudicial)

Accounts for Payment:

Mrs. M. Baum (Personal cheque)

2008/165. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 14th August 2008 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2008/166. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Rev. M. Gillespie asked if it had been ascertained as to whether the land adjacent to the cemetery was suitable for burial purposes. The Clerk replied that she was still awaiting a reply.

2008/167. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk advised that she had received a list of dates that WPC Morris would be holding her police surgeries in the library. This would be placed on the web site and the notice boards.

The following report was received from WPC Morris:-

1st – 31st August 2008

- 7 Assaults
- 1 Dwelling Burglary
- 3 Shed/Garage breaks
- 6 Damage to property
- 1 Damage to motor vehicle
- 5 Thefts
- 2 Thefts from motor vehicles

The Vice Chairman reported that there had been a meeting of the Police Liaison Meeting with Inspector Chell, Blaby LPU. The following action plan has been received:-

Countesthorpe ASB Plan

Following a recent meeting with Countesthorpe Parish Council the following issues were raised,

- (1) **Parking problems outside Greenfields Junior and Infant School** when parents drop their children off and pick them up, causing obstruction of the footpath. It seems to be more of a problem when they are picked up. Barbara and Adam have done some work on this and letters have been sent to parents. The head teacher – Colin Bowpit has also done some work, but there may be an opportunity to coordinate this together, for example – If registration numbers are taken, I am happy to draft a pro-forma letter, perhaps jointly with the Parish Council – which can be delivered to offending parents.

(2)

Actions

- (a) **Selena Ahmed** to visit Colin Bowpit 0116 2773584 and develop a joint approach to tackling this issue. Draft a pro-forma letter for Insp Chell to approve.
- (b) **Adam and Barbara** to continue to pay special attention when applicable and commensurate to other neighbourhood issues.

- (3) **ASB issues outside Countesthorpe Library** This is a continuing issue and may have increased since the policing successes in Blaby and Whetstone. This appears to occur in the evening and Friday night is most prevalent. This location seems to be a focus for local young people to gather and some cause nuisance to local residents. Letters of complaint received by the parish council were given to Inspector Chell. Also discussed the issue of damage to the church fencing (may be suitable for Blaby volunteers to locate a camera) and the possibility of “Prick Stick” on walls outside the library – again may be suitable for Blaby Volunteers Team.

Actions

- (a) **Parish Council** requested to commence a log of ASB events which could later be used in any civil ASBO/CrASBO applications. A diary will suffice.
- (b) **Kal Uppal** to review current intelligence in Countesthorpe and explore the possibility of ABC or CrASBO via Blaby District Council.
- (c) **Blaby Sgts** include Countesthorpe in the ASB patrol strategy, particularly on Friday nights. Names and addresses of ASB offenders to Kal Uppal.
- (d) **Steve Day, Crime Reduction Officer**, to arrange an EVA in conjunction with the neighbourhood team to explore options to harden target area.
- (e) **Steve Parker**, to be contacted (via this e-mail) to deliver further “Respect” posters to Countesthorpe Parish Council.
- (f) **Sue Willett**, to include item on next volunteers meeting agenda concerning Countesthorpe.
- (g) **Adam/Barbara**, to keep Insp Chell informed of situation and review content of letters.

Overall plans to be coordinated by the neighbourhood sergeant, Selena Ahmed, in conjunction with Inspector Chell and the neighbourhood officers – Barbara Morris and Adam Hicks.

I will review both issues on 1st October to see whether we need to amend our tactics.

A copy of an e mail sent to WPC Morris had been received from a resident in Foston Road complaining about the speeding of traffic and the number of HGV’s in excess of 7.5 tonnes using the road. Photographs had also been provided. It was resolved to bring this up at the next Police Liaison meeting on 29th September 2008.

Mr. D. Ball reported that he had recently attended a JAG meeting where several items relating to Countesthorpe had been discussed.

2008/168. DISPERSAL ORDERS

There was nothing to report on this matter.

2008/169. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Rural Community Council – Energy Auditing Training – 27.11.08 @ 133 Loughborough Road.

- Blaby District Council – Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report
- Leics. County Council – Launch of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Rural Community Council – A.G.M. 25.9.08
- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- Leics. County Council – Branchline Magazine
- Leics. County & Rutland Primary Care Trust – A.G.M. 25.9.08
- Clerks & Councils Direct

2008/170. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

A Planning Appeal to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government against the Council's decision to refuse the planning application for the land rear of Land adjacent 1 Almond Close - Erection of one detached bungalow and single detached garage dwelling - Observations required no later than 7th October 2008.

Planning Permission/Refusal

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
0805431 PX 13.8.08	76 Cosby Road	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
0803241 LX 23.5.08	7 The Square	- ditto -
0805161 PX 21.7.08	3 Springwell Close	- ditto -

Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0805621 PX	Ash Tree Farm, Peatling Road	Change of use of existing rest room to provide residential accommodation for agricultural worker	The P.C. strongly oppose this application on the following grounds:- It is outside of the 'established village'. It is not a farm it is just a field. It would set a precedent for future development. There is no need for any residential accommodation.

			If granted the P.C. would like to see an 'agriculture tie' as one condition, and a limit on temporary use.
0806661 AY	Co-op Store, 8 Main Street	Proposed display of non-illuminated window graphics	The co-op is in a conservation area & its felt that this would be out of character & not in keeping with the street scene.
0806421 PX	25 Westfield Avenue	Single storey rear extension	No observations

2008/171. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0806991 PX	10 Willoughby Road	Erection of one detached dwelling	The P.C. would like to know whether this application is in addition to the previous 2. If so, concerned with 'over intensity of area'.
0806501 PY	C'thorpe Cricket Club, Bassett Ave.	Retention of 2 cricket practice nets & adjoining 3.4m high safety netting	No observations
0807121 PX	18 Rosebank Road	Single storey side extension & rear conservatory	No observations
0806851 PY	9 Church Street	New vehicular access to include demolition of part of front boundary wall & erection of iron railing gates & brick pillars (to form 2 off-street parking spaces)	The P.C. are concerned about highway issues in this very busy street. (it is in the conservation area) If permission is granted the P.C. would like a turning circle within the garden (in order that they could drive out forwards)
0807181 PY	120 Station Road	Retention of front porch & new pitched roof	No observations

Mr. D. Jennings and Mrs. J. Jennings left the meeting but returned after a decision was made re planning application for 120 Station Road.

Mr. D. Jennings and Mr. M. Smith left the meeting but returned after a decision was made re planning application for Countesthorpe Cricket Club, Bassett Avenue.

An exhibition will be held at the Cricket Club Bassett Avenue on 19th September 2008 at 2pm. – 9pm. relative to the possibility of building houses on land off Leicester Road, Countesthorpe.

2008/172. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)

A meeting of the working party took place on Monday 8th September 2008 in the Parish Office. Mr. D. Ball reported on the following:

Foston Road Cemetery

It was resolved to charge the following burial fees for non residents of the village:

- Burial plot - £500
- Cremated remains plot - £250
- The interment fees would be £120 per plot

This would take effect as from today 11th September 2008

Closed Church yard

It was resolved to request a meeting with members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Andrews Church to discuss the continual vandalism of the back fence, which the Parish Council took responsibility for. It was felt that perhaps a more robust type of fencing would be more effective.

Zebra Crossing – Winchester Road

Complaints had been received re the dimness of the amber lights on the new pedestrian crossing on Winchester Road. The Clerk reported that she had already reported this but she would contact them again.

2008/173. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Finance

Mr. K. Mason reported that several requests had been received from national charities for grant aid. As it was this Council's policy not to donate to national charities, it was resolved that no further action be taken.

Best Kept Front Garden Competition

Mrs. M. Baum requested that 2 garden vouchers be bought from Glebe Gardens for the Best Kept Front Garden Competition.

This was resolved.

She added that there was no category this year for non residential premises but a special mention would be given to the Bull's Head Public House for their display of hanging baskets.

Community Forums

Mr. I. Paterson reported that he had attended a meeting of the Blaby Community Forum at Countesthorpe College arranged by Blaby District Council. There were several speakers who spoke on a variety of subjects. The next meeting will be held at Enderby Civic Centre on 24th November 2008.

Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Council's – Blaby Branch

Mrs. J. Weatherstone reported that she had attended meeting of the above association.

2008/174. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. K. Mason reported on the following items:-

Library

A letter had been received from Margaret Bellamy head of libraries complaining about the youths who congregated on the car park during the opening hours and intimidated the staff and users alike. It was resolved that a meeting would be arranged to discuss the matter. The following members volunteered to attend:- Mr. M. Smith, Mr. K. Mason, Mr. D. Jennings, Mr. I. Paterson and Mr. A. Collis-Smith.

Alarm System

The new alarm system has now been completed after a series of errors. New fobs had been delivered and would be issued to all key holders. These would now replace the codes.

After a discussion it was resolved to pay the caretaker an extra 4 1/2 hrs. @ 1.5 hourly rate for all the extra time he spent in the hall due to the malfunction of the alarm system.

CCTV A quotation of £947.89 = vat had been received for an upgrade in the CCTV system. The cost was to include a new camera to the rear of the building and an upgrade on the camera to the front of the building. There would be an additional annual service charge of £30.

It was resolved to accept this quotation.

Anti Social Behaviours on the Village Hall Car Park

A survey had been issued to various people relating to the nuisance of the youths congregating on the car park. This would be looked at and discussed at next month's meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee.

A member advised that in his opinion Mr. S. Parker Blaby District Council should be issuing ASBO's and or warning letters to parents of all known suspects, and he found it very disappointing that this wasn't being done. It was resolved to send Mr. Parker a letter asking him why this wasn't being carried out. A copy of this letter to be sent to Mr. J. Leech, Blaby District Council.

Sleeping Policemen

As previously discussed County Highways was contacted re installing sleeping policemen on the car park. Mr. M. Palfreyman stated that he would send a representative to discuss this matter. It was resolved to ask for a site meeting.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:

	£
Blaby District Council – rates	244.00
Leicester Sound & Lighting –sound system check	64.63
Valmo lamps/light bulbs	27.14
Blaby District Council – Premises licence 23.9.08 – 22.9.09	180.00
J. Jeffcott – Extra Keys (Morgans) bolts for cigarette bin (B&Q)	19.96
BOC – Gas for bar	16.34
Cessar Ltd. – repair to dishwasher	55.23
Tranter Fire & Security Services – maintenance	138.71
Severn Trent – Water rates	622.04
Waverley TSB – wines/spirits	300.52
Scottish & Newcastle – beers	799.94
ESPO – paint, glasses, straws	110.51
Pratt & Chesterton – repairs security lights	150.40
Secom – upgrade of alarm system	1635.60

Salaries for September 2008:

Bar Manager + cleaner x 2	779.63
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary	213.90

Return of Deposits

J. Oram – 19.9.08	150.00
British College of Accordions - 21.9.08	50.00
Mr. Briggs – 27.9.08	150.00
Ms. Neville – 4.10.08	150.00

2008/175. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

Rev. M. Gillespie left the meeting at this point due to personal & prejudicial interest.

A report from Matt Brown had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for their perusal.

A request for grant aid was made by the treasurer of the Reality Youth Project. After a discussion it was resolved to donate £2,000.00 as in previous years. When put to the vote there were 14 for and 1 abstention (Mr. A. Clifford) and 1 against (Mr. F.E. Duffield).

Rev. M. Gillespie returned to the meeting.

2008/176. SECTION 106 MONIES

Mrs. J. Jennings and Mr. D. Jennings had attended a meeting at Blaby District Council. It was highly recommended that the Parish Council set up a wish list imminently. Particularly in view of the fact that several areas of land in the village are currently being looked at for potential house building. The following members agreed to serve on a working party to discuss this matter:

Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. A. Clifford, Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Mr. I. Paterson, Mr. K. Mason and Mrs. C. James.

A meeting would be arranged in due course.

2008/177. LAND @ DALE ACRE PARK – REGISTRATION THEREOF

The relevant documentation had been received from the solicitor J. Webb to have the area known as Dale Acre Park registered in the Council's name. The declaration had to be signed in the name of the Clerk as an 'officer' of the Council. The title however would be given in the name of Countesthorpe Parish Council. This had to be carried out at another firm of solicitors and there was a commission fee of £11 charge. Permission was given to the Clerk to carry out this work.

2008/178. CHAIRMAN'S RECEPTION

Everything has now been finalised for the evening. Everyone was asked to arrive between 7pm. and 7.30pm.

2008/179. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages/Pensions	8115.81
J. Adcock – Postages	53.34
Countesthorpe Parish Council (Village Hall) payment by Blaby D.C. for hire of Hall via BACS	372.00
Clerks & Councils Direct – annual subscription	10.00
ABC Motors Ltd. – petrol/oil	202.54
E. Oughton – Music for Chairman's evening	100.00

M. Baum – Picture frames for Best Kept Front Garden competition	19.95
Chapmans Garden Machinery – recoil for hedge-trimmer	23.50

2008/180. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- a) A letter had been received from a resident whose 87 year old mother lived in Green Lane. Once again the gate post to her property had been broken down by an HGV travelling through. This has happened earlier in the year also after the driver of an HGV was directed there via his Sat. Nav. Members agreed that Green Lane was not suitable at all for HGV lorries. After a discussion it was resolved that a site visit be arranged forthwith. A letter would also be forwarded to Mr. M. Lugg, Leicestershire County Council.
- b) A letter had been received from Open Spaces Society advising about their launch of a campaign for ‘Green Alert’. This is to raise awareness for all planning authorities.

It was resolved to put this on next months agenda.

- c) Blaby Parish Council are holding a public meeting in Blaby Social Centre on 25th September 2008 to discuss the new proposals for car parks in the Blaby District area.
- d) A consultation survey has been received from Blaby District Council re car parking fees in the district. It was resolved to put this on next months agenda. All members are to receive the relevant information beforehand.
- e) Blaby District Parish Council Seminar is to be held on 29th September 2008. Any member wishing to attend please notify the Clerk.

Meeting closed @ 9.15 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated2008