

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 14th FEBRUARY 2008 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT: -

Chairman &
County Councillor D. Jennings

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, P. Holdridge, I. Paterson, B. Smith

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

There were ten members of the public present.

2008/25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. M. Smith and Mr. K. Mason.

2008/26. 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)

Mr. F.E. Duffield (Planning – Blaby District Council)

Mrs. J. Weatherstone (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

2008/27. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 10th January 2008 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record subject to the following:-

Minute 2008/10 Office Computers: Cost of computer should read £2490 + VAT not £24900 + VAT.

2008/27a. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 31st January 2008 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2008/28. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

The Clerk read the following letter received on 21st January 2008 re: Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 – Section 28 and 29 Bulls Head, 13 Main Street, Countesthorpe

“At the hearing that was held on 17th January 2008, the Licensing Authority agreed to grant a licence subject to the following conditions, in addition to the conditions consistent with the operating schedule:

Additional conditions:

- The variation of the Premises Licence be permitted, subject to all the proposed works being carried out and completed at the premises to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority, prior to Regulated Entertainment being commenced. The completion of the works must be notified by Punch Taverns to the Licensing Authority.
- The Premises Licence Holder will adopt the Challenge 21 Policy and provide adequate, documented training for staff before they are allowed to sell alcohol.

The Licensing Authority believes that the inclusion of the conditions above will ensure that the applicant can adhere to the promotion of all four licensing objectives, in particular the prevention of public nuisance”.

The contents of the letter were noted.

A letter of thanks was received from Jane McCormick, Youth Worker, for grant aid of £250 to go towards the ‘Worlds Aids Day Event’ organised at Countesthorpe College.

2008/29. POLICE MATTERS

WPC. B. Morris and Police Community Support Officer Adam Hicks attended the meeting.

WPC Morris reported on the following:

Speed monitoring was carried out on Winchester Road prior to the installation of the pedestrian crossing; the average speed south bound was found to be 34.4 mph and north bound 33.3 mph. Further monitoring will be carried out.

The areas around The Bank and Dale Acre Park are being monitored with regard to underage drinking.

Reported crimes - 1st - 31st January, 2008

1 Damage to M. Garrets Bakery

1 Burglary at Mercury News

2 Assaults at Countesthorpe College/Leysland High School

4 Damage to motor vehicle

1 Person having been found smoking cannabis in the street

The Clerk read the following letter from the Team Leader – Resilience & Technical Services Blaby District Council re car Parking issues – Countesthorpe:

“Thank you for your letter of the 16th January regarding car parking issues in and around Countesthorpe.

I have spoken with the Parking Supervisor for Blaby District, and he assures me that he and his team visit the area on a regular basis. He will try to visit the school at appropriate times although you will appreciate that there are parking issues at virtually every school in the District at 3.30 pm. And there are only 3 parking attendants.

He will also check on general parking matters within the area, but can only act where there is a contravention of a Traffic Regulation Order i.e. a waiting restriction. Advice will be given in these circumstances”.

Mr. D. Ball stated that motor vehicles were regularly parking on pavements in the streets surrounding Greenfield School thus causing an obstruction. This should be dealt with by the Police. Parking on double yellow lines is now the responsibility of the parking wardens based at Blaby District Council.

WPC Morris stated that she would look into the matter of vehicles causing an obstruction by parking on pavements in the village.

2008/30. DISPERSAL ORDERS

No action needs to be taken at present.

2008/31. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Environment Agency – FOCUS magazine
- Community Forums – Leicestershire County Council
- Developing Community Health Services (P.C.T.)
- Leicestershire Matters – Booklet
- Communities & Local Government Consultation on Orders & Regulations
- Playing Fields – Magazine

Blaby District Council Press Release

- New Forum planned to support District’s Older Residents

2008/32. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk read the following e-mail received from Severn Trent on 22nd January 2008 re pumping station Scalborough Close:

“The sewers and pumping station that serves this development have not yet been adopted because remedial works to the pumping station have remained outstanding for many years. The developer is now actively rectifying these issues and adoption is being progressed through his consultant TDS Midlands Limited. Adoption will take place under Section 102 of the Water Industry Act 1991.

The impact of all new housing developments on the public sewerage network and sewerage networks that are subject to adoption is assessed by Severn Trent Water to ensure there are no flooding issues caused by additional flows. This is undertaken by Asset Protection Waste Water. If you or the residents have any further concerns please contact the Asset Adoption at Leicester Water Centre, Anstey Lane, Leicester. LE12 8TT”.

The contents of the e-mail were noted.

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

PLANNING PERMISSION

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
07/1154/1/PXCS 13 December 2007	28 Walnut Way	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
07/1082/1/AY 16 November 2007	113 Station Road	- Ditto -
07/1031/1/PXCS 22 November 2007	Meadow View, Main Street	Refusal of Planning Permission

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0711701 PYCS	Bulls Head, Main Street	Erection of timber framed canopy to courtyard	No observations
0711541 PXCS	28 Walnut Way	Single storey side & rear extension	Kitchen completely enclosed
0711141 LXCS	Baptist Church & Hall, Church Street	Installation of internal sliding door & gear between Baptist Church & Foyer & installation of 8 replacement windows & opening lights to southern elevation of Church Hall	No observations
0711641 PYCS	1 Elliots Yard	Single storey side extension to form conservatory	No observations
0800191 AYCS	Sams Chemist, 5 The Bank	One non-illuminated fascia sign	No observations

Mr. D. Jennings stated that the planning application for 37-43 Winchester Road which was rejected in September was re submitted with no amendments and was heard again by Blaby District Council in January. When put to the vote the planning application was again rejected by one vote. The accuracy of the counting of the votes was questioned therefore the matter will have to be discussed and voted on again.

2008/33. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0800351 PXCS	C'thorpe Post Office, 69 Station Road	Installation of one ATM unit to front elevation	No observations
0800651 PXCS	14 Willow Drive	Single storey rear extension	No observations

2008/34. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)

Mr. D. Ball reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 11th February 2008 in the Parish Office where the following was discussed:

Poplar Avenue/Aspen Drive After being contacted by a resident a request from Leicestershire County Council has been received to have the bollards between the two roads painted to make them more visible at night. It was resolved that the groundsmen should carry out this work as Leicestershire County Council stated that they no longer carried out such work.

Cemetery Foston Road A letter has been received from a lady concerning tree roots that have disturbed a relative's headstone. The Clerk and Mr. Ball have visited the site and confirm that tree roots have moved the headstone. It is recommended that Mr. Kenyon the tree specialist from Leicestershire County Council be consulted on this matter for advice.

Best Kept Village Competition The working party recommend that no entry is made for the competition this year.

Retirement Policy It was recommended that the ACAS Policy be consulted.

Willoughby Road playing fields The licence between Countesthorpe Athletic Football Club and Countesthorpe Parish Council was reviewed and it was recommended that the fee for hiring the pitches should be increased. After a discussion it was resolved to increase the licence fee by £100 thus making it £800 for the season. The fee will be increased for the 2008/2009 season, starting in August. It was further resolved to review the licence again in two years time.

DVD of Village History A request has been received from Leicestershire Rural Partnership to include the DVD on their web site. It was resolved to loan them the DVD.

Spinney, Leicester Road

The damaged seat in the Spinney has been made safe by the Council's workforce. It was resolved that this seat be replaced during the next financial year.

Dale Acre Park The fence separating the park from the bungalows on Shetland Way has been vandalised. It was recommended that advice be taken from a fencing contractor on the best way of fencing this area.

Hanging Baskets Before they are erected this year the lamp posts will be inspected to make sure that they are suitable as more signage has been put up in the village.

Planters It was recommended that plants up to a value of £800 be purchased from Glebe Gardens. This was resolved.

Leysland Park The roof of the kiddie cabin needs to be replaced. This work can be carried out by the groundsmen. It was therefore recommended that wood be purchased so that this work can be carried out as soon as possible. This was resolved.

College Hedge Cosby Road The Clerk was asked to contact the college to ask them to cut back the overhanging hedge along Cosby Road.

St. George's Flag The flag outside of the Village Hall needs to be replaced. This was resolved.

2008/35. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Two requests for grant aid have been received one from Greenfield School and the other from the Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust. These will be referred to the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

Mr. I. Paterson reported on a meeting he and the Chairman had attended at Blaby District Council. The meeting was to be a 'brain storming' session to discuss anti social behaviour in Countesthorpe. The meeting was arranged by Mr. S. Parker. It was felt that this was an unsatisfactory meeting as other agencies such as the police were not present.

2008/36. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

New Committee Member It was felt that a new member of the Village Hall Management Committee was needed to replace Mr. G. Gamble. It was decided to ask the U3A for a volunteer.

Repairs to the flooring in front of the sink units in the kitchen are to be carried out at a cost of £404 + VAT.

A demonstration of New Age Kurling was held in the hall to check its suitability. It was felt that there would be no harm to the floor so this can go ahead.

Problems have arisen with regard to a booking on the 7/8 March. The person hiring the hall has given a false name and address on the hiring form thus making it impossible to verify the booking. The deposit has been paid. After a discussion it was resolved to write to the named person on the hiring form informing them that the booking will be cancelled if payment is not received within 7 days.

2008/37. VILLAGE PLAN – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. I. Paterson stated that A4 posters and A5 leaflets had been produced advertising the Council's web-site.

The Clerk asked if this item could be taken off future agendas. This was resolved.

2008/38. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

A report on the developments of the Detached Youth Work in the village from Tammy Ballard, Youth Development Worker, was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Mr. A. Clifford stated that the 637 Youth Bus had proved very successful but to get full benefit from this project a 6 month continual window was required.

2008/39. DEFERMENT OF MEETING BETWEEN MONITORING OFFICER, BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the monitoring officer at Blaby District Council who stated that she had contacted the Standard Board for England who had informed her that she was not obliged to visit local parishes but as she had previously stated she was more than willing to hold meetings with Parish Councillors at Blaby District Council. Mrs. Johnston felt that if she visited one parish she would have to visit all parishes within the district.

After a discussion the Clerk was instructed to write to the Chief Executive of Blaby District Council, with a copy to Mr. E. White, requesting that the Monitoring Officer visit Countesthorpe Parish Council at a time and date convenient to herself. The following members wished to meet with her:

Mr. A. Collis-Smith, Mr. I. Paterson, Mrs. B. Forecast, Mr. P. Holdridge and Mr. D. Jennings.

2008/40. VILLAGE QUIZ – 7TH MARCH 2008

The Chairman asked for volunteers to represent the Parish Council. Mr. A. Clifford, Mrs. C. James and Mr. D. Jennings volunteered. Mrs. J. Jennings volunteered to be the reserve.

2008/41. TO FORMERLY ACCEPT LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (LGPS) REGULATIONS POLICY STATEMENT FOR ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

The Council's contribution to the local government pension scheme will now be 250% (from 265%) and the employees contribution will range from 5.5% to 6.5%. This will become effective from 1st April 2008.

It was resolved to adopt this scheme.

2008/42. BROOK COURT – SECURITY & OWNERSHIP OF LAND

Parking A letter dated 22nd January has been received from Blaby District Council confirming that the land in question is Council Housing Land. All correspondence relating to the matter will be forwarded to the Tenancy Services Team Leader who will look into parking issues.

Security A letter received from the Housing Operations Manager, Blaby District Council, noted the concern raised by the Parish Council and a visit from the Community Safety Team will be arranged to speak to tenants about the importance of security, particularly with regard to opening the doors to unknown callers.

2008/43. TELEPHONE SYSTEM – LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

A letter from the Chief Executive Leicestershire County Council re the new telephone system to contact Highways staff was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The contents were noted.

2008/44. CAR PARKING ISSUES WITHIN COUNTSTHORPE – BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

This item was dealt with under Police Matters.

2008/45. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

J. Jeffcott (B & Q) – paint brushes, screws, nails	27.65
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages for February	8052.52
J. Adcock – postages	67.13
Campaign to Protect Rural England – annual subscription	28.00
goIt – New computer system x 2 + installation set up + batteries	3090.25
Alice Graphics – 25 A4 posters & 200 A5 handbills advertising web-site	37.50
Green Wave Technology – Annual web-site hosting	352.50
Cromwell – 2 x waterproof trousers – groundsmen	33.20
Blaby D.C. – replacement of dog bin & post in Spinney	186.83
Canon – rental of photocopier	225.14
E.L. Fencing – new fence Dale Acre	1492.25
Edge Designs Ltd. – 1 st year licence on line for financial package	285.91
Blaby D.C. – uncontested Election Fee	50.00

ABC Motor Carriers Ltd. – petrol / oil	83.76
EP Builders Merchants – wood to repair fencing & benches	78.89
Time Repair – to repair Chairman’s Chain	15.00
BT – Telephone bill office	192.46
ESPO – Protective clothing/goggles/boots/jackets	370.21

2008/46. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Appointment of Independent Members to Standards Committee

Two vacancies will shortly become available on the Standards Committee for Blaby District Council. For further details contact the Administration and Legal Services/Monitoring Officer at Blaby D.C.

Partnership Funding for Rural Bus Shelters 2008/2009 Programme

No allowances have been made in the 2008/2009 budget for bus shelters this year.

Traffic along Green Lane

A complaint has been received about a gate post being demolished in Green Lane. This occurred when a very large heavy goods vehicle attempted to drive down Green Lane. The vehicle had been directed along this lane by its satellite navigation system. Its destination was Glebe Gardens on Foston Road. This incident was reported to the police and the Highways Department.

The Clerk reported on another complaint received from a resident about heavy goods vehicles being directed by their satellite navigation system along Cosby Road then turning left along Winchester Road to Blaby.

After a discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Department asking if consideration could be given to a weight restriction sign or sign advising truck drivers that Green Lane was unsuitable for heavy vehicles and also to ask if anything could be done with regard to inappropriate instructions on satellite navigation systems.

Meeting Closed @ 9.10 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2008