

THE MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 10TH JANUARY 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, C. James, J. Jennings

Messrs: D. Ball, 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 3 members of the public present.

The Chairman asked members to stand for two minutes silence in memory of Mrs. Daisy Hancock and Mrs. Ann Collis-Smith, who had both died recently.

2008/1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mr. T. Blood, Mrs. J. Weatherstone, Mr. A. Collis-Smith and Mr. A. Clifford.

2008/2. 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)

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

Village Hall:

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

2008/3. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 13th December 2007 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record subject to the following:-

Members Delete Mr. T. Blood and include Mr. A. Collis-Smith.

2007/253 POLICE MATTERS – Mr. I. Paterson wished it to be recorded that the ASB reported by Mr. S. Parker, Blaby District Council should be ASBO (Anti Social Behaviour Order).

2008/4. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

The following letter of thanks has been received from Pastor Aubrey Vaughan for grant aid donated by the Parish Council to the Youth Mix at the Baptist Centre:

“On behalf of the Youth outreach group at the Baptist Church, I would like to pass on our grateful thanks for the generous gift of £750 Countesthorpe Parish Council Has given towards our youth work venture for the village. This particular gift will go a long way towards us buying four new laptops which will be a helpful resource for the young people to enjoy whilst spending their time with us at the lighthouse project internet café.

We are hoping to commence in the month of January with the new programme this means every Friday night we will be hosting Youth Mix which runs from 7.00 – 8.45pm for 10 – 15 year and then from 9.00pm – 10.30pm we will commence with the lighthouse project which will be an internet café for young people 14 -18 year olds. A place where they can meet friends surf the net and enjoy a coffee or soft drink together.

Please do feel free at any time to come and see the youth club and lighthouse project in action. Please pass on to the rest of the parish council, our grateful thanks for your kind support in this venture”.

2008/5. POLICE MATTERS

A site meeting has been arranged with representatives from the Highways Department to discuss parking problems at the corner of Westfield Avenue/Cosby Road and Linden Avenue/Winchester Road at 10 am. on 16th January 2008. Mr. D. Jennings volunteered to attend the meeting with the Clerk.

Mr. D. Ball asked the Clerk if she had contacted the police about the parking outside of Greenfield School, Gwendoline Drive. The Clerk replied that she had but would contact them again. The Chairman asked the Clerk to report the matter to Mr. J. Wells at Blaby District Council, the responsible officer for Traffic Wardens, to ask if he could arrange for the area to be patrolled regularly.

A parishioner raised concerns about vehicles parking on pavements, especially along Station Road. This caused problems to the disabled, pedestrians and pushchair users.

The Clerk stated that she would also raise this matter with Mr. Wells at Blaby District Council.

Concern was raised about the ease of access into Brook Court. The Clerk was advised to write to Ms. D. Dawson head of the Housing Department at Blaby District Council drawing her attention to this matter.

2008/6. DISPERSAL ORDERS

No action needs to be taken at present.

2008/7. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Countesthorpe – A Community Profile
- Leicestershire Rural Partnership – Annual Report 2007
- Leicestershire County Council – Branchline Newsletter
- Fieldwork (CPRE)
- Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan
- Blaby District Council – Blaby Central Community Forum
- International Tree Foundation

2008/8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:-

PLANNING PERMISSION

Plan No. & Date	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
07/0869/1/PX 13.09.07	39A Willoughby Road	Application granted subject to conditions attached to <u>planning permission</u>
07/1038/1/PXCS 7.11.07	39 Scarborough Close	- ditto -
07/1052/1/PXCS 12.11.07	40 Linden Farm Drive	- ditto -
07/1006/1/PXCS 7.12.07	20 Pinewood Close	- ditto -
07/0798/1/PX 17.08.2007	Land rear of 7 The Square	Refusal of Planning Permission

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0710711OXCS	Land rear of 37-43 Winchester Rd.	(Outline)(Re-submission) Erection of 10 two storey dwellings & associated vehicular access	As there are no differences in the planning application from the last one submitted, it is felt that the original decision should stand. County Highways obviously believe that traffic is already bad along this stretch of Winchester Road as they have carried out traffic calming measures with humps & a pedestrian crossing. It is believed a second crossing will be installed in 2008/09.

2008/9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
0607561 PX	Land at 4 Green Lane	AMENDMENTS Demolition, rebuilding & extension of existing cowshed to form dwelling house	No observations

2008/10. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)

Mr. K. Mason reported on a working party meeting held on Monday 7th January 2008 in the Parish Office where the following was discussed:

Office Computers It was resolved to accept the quotation from goIT to update the office computers at a cost of £2490 + VAT.

Bench - The Spinney The Clerk reported that she has been unable to prove who had caused the damage to the seat in the Spinney. It was therefore resolved to replace this seat and to make an allowance in the 2008/2009 budget for this. The cost of a new seat will be approximately £449 + fitting.

Salary Increase – The Chairman reported as per minute 94/209 new rates of pay for the groundsmen, bar manager and cleaners as from 1st April 2007 in accordance with Blaby District Council be accepted. It was resolved that the 2.95% increase be accepted.

Hanging Baskets Plantscape Ltd. have offered the Council a 3 year contract (2008 to 2010) to provide and fix 122 x PLH23 Lamp Post Baskets Green Planted, 6 x PCH16 Hanging Baskets Green Planted at a cost of £2440.00 + VAT. It was resolved to accept this contract.

Countesthorpe Athletic Football Club Members of the working party met with representatives from the football club to discuss their future plans.

At the next working party meeting it was resolved to review the football clubs licence at Willoughby Road playing fields.

Cemetery Extension

An e mail dated 14th December 2007 was received from the District Valuer re the valuation of land adjacent to Countesthorpe cemetery stating that the fee for service would be £450 + vat. It was resolved to ask the District Valuer to carry out a valuation.

Dale Acre Park The Clerk reported that she had contacted the contractor, E.L. Fencing re a start date for the erection of fencing within the park. The firm are waiting for a delivery of metal fencing and will start work as soon as it has been received.

Pickup Truck Allowances have been made for the replacement of the pickup truck. It is felt that this vehicle should be replaced. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary enquiries and obtain quotations to replace this vehicle.

County Hall Call Centre The Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive at County Hall re the poor service now received when trying to contact the Highways Department at Croft. In the past calls went directly to Croft but now they are routed via a call centre at County Hall causing delays.

2008/11. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chairman reported on a letter he had received from Leicestershire Highways re a request for the extension to the 30 mph speed limit on Foston Road. The Highways area team manager stated that the site will be monitored and should conditions change sufficiently to warrant further investigation the matter of the 30 mph speed limit will form part of that consideration process.

Members felt that perhaps a 'brown sign' could be erected advertising the garden centre and warning drivers of a concealed entrance as traffic frequently miss the turning thus creating problems on a very fast road.

2008/12. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

A new age kurling demonstration was held in the hall to demonstrate that the activity would not harm the floor. This matter will now be discussed at the next meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee.

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
J. Jeffcott – (Blaby Key Centre) keys for barrier/gates	13.56
C.E. Spreckley – supply & fit part to hot water system	150.00
Blaby District Council – Rates	235.00
Ian Gosling Ltd. – Carpet cleaner	12.74
Scottish & Newcastle – beers	613.46
Waverley TBS Ltd. - wines/spirits	175.11
B.O.C. – gas bar	12.98
ESPO – stationery/cleaning materials	125.58
J. Maynard – stock-taker	75.00
C'thorpe Parish Council – VAT quarter ending December 2007	567.02
C.J. Wade – replace damaged glass to front door	38.00
ESPO – Gas	375.78

Salaries for January 2008:

Bar Manager + cleaner x 2	862.07
Countesthorpe Parish Council – tax returns/pensions/caretakers salary	553.17

Return of Deposits

P. Harris – 12.1.08	150.00
C. Birkett – 19.1.08	150.00
Leic. School of Music – 27.1.08	50.00
J. Kay – 1.2.08	150.00
R. Collins – 2.2.08	150.00
A. Meredith – 9.2.08	150.00

2008/13. PARISH PLAN – REPORT THEREOF

The Rev. M. Gillespie reported that the new website had gone live.

2008/14. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

There were no reports.

2008/15. LICENSING ACT 2003 – APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE – THE BULLS HEAD PUBLIC HOUSE, 13 MAIN STREET, COUNTSTHORPE, LEIC.

The Chairman reported that the licensees of the Bulls Head had called at his house to discuss their concerns because the Council had objected to their application. He informed the licensees that this was a Council matter and if they wished to discuss it they were very welcome to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The Clerk stated that she had had a similar visit and had also extended an invitation for them to attend the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter.

The Clerk read a letter from the Senior Licensing Officer of Blaby District Council which advised that a hearing will be held to consider the application at the Council Offices on 17th January 2008 starting at 2.00 pm in the Brooks Room. The Council may name a person to represent them at the hearing.

The Chairman asked for a volunteer to attend the meeting but unfortunately no one was available to attend.

2008/16. INVITATION FROM MONITORING OFFICER FOR MEMBERS TO ATTEND A MEETING

The Clerk reported that she had sent a letter a letter to Mrs. K. Johnston, Monitoring Officer, Blaby District Council, inviting her to attend a meeting at Countesthorpe to discuss the Code of Conduct with members.

Mrs. Johnston replied inviting members to a meeting at Blaby District Council.

After a discussion the Clerk was asked to reiterate the invitation (date and time convenient to Mrs. Johnston) and also to send a copy of the original invitation to the Chief Executive at Blaby District Council and to Mr. E. White Leader of the Council.

2008/17. COUNTSTHORPE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ADVISORY GROUP – MEETING 22ND JANUARY 2008

The following letter was received from Mr. S. Parker, Community Safety Officer (ASB):-

“I am about to carry out some research into the reasons why Countesthorpe suffers from so much ASB. I am looking at forming a small group of people to look at all aspect of life within Countesthorpe. This will include housing, wealth/poverty facilities, street lighting, shops, alcohol, public transport and many more. The aim of this group will be to recommend long term measures to dramatically reduce Anti Social Behaviour in your area.

You are invited to send a representative to the first Brain storming session on the 22nd January 10 am. at Blaby District Council, please can you confirm your attendance by emailing me at the address above”.

Mr. D. Jennings and Mr. I. Paterson indicated that they would attend.

2008/18. COUNTSTHORPE STAR TRAK, IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF

In response to a letter sent to Leicestershire County Council on the 13th November the following reply has been received:-

“Due to a delay in the bus operator Arriva providing on-board equipment for buses on the 84/85 Bus Route this scheme has been on hold.

This equipment has now been installed and the connections to electricity supply at each location are currently being checked. I anticipate that installation of the sign heads will commence in March next year.

I am obtaining a date for connection to electricity supply for the two wooden bus shelters on Leicester Road and I will advise you of this in due course”.

2008/19. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
T.F. Bell – Insurance for Pickup Truck	717.20
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	9199.55
J. Adcock – Postages	18.58
B.T. - Internet Services	158.62
G.J. Mawby – Arrange Christmas tree lights in churchyard	120.00
C’thorpe Parish Council (Village Hall) –wine/juice for Chairman’s recep.	9.94
Green Wave Technology Ltd. – work to web-site	517.00
Parochial Church Council of C’thorpe – electricity charge for flood-lights and Christmas Tree lights	50.05
E.O.N. – Electricity Church Clock	28.70
Chapman’s Garden Machinery – repairs and parts to hedge trimmer	42.15
Glebe Gardens Ltd. – 3 x buxus/grass seed	92.55
ESPO – paint/stationery	82.90
Canon – photocopying	13.86

2008/20. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk read a letter from the Government Office for the East Midlands re Publication of the Draft East Midlands Plan Panel Report. The contents were noted.

Notification has been received from the Leicestershire County & Rutland Primary Care Trust of a change of ownership – Regulation 8(1)(a)(b) from: Thurnby Rose Ltd t/a Sam’s Chemist to: Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd.

The Chairman stated that there would be an extra Parish Council meeting on 31st January 2008 to discuss the Budget Estimates 2008/2009. Members would receive documentation in due course.

Meeting closed @ 8.50 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2008