

A MEETING OF THE COUNTESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 11th FEBRUARY 2010 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT:

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

There were four members of the public present.

2010/26. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mrs. M. Baum, Rev. M. Gillespie, Mr. F.E. Duffield and Mrs. B. Forecast.

2010/27. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST ON THE AGENDA

Listed below are Councillors who wished to declare an interest in the following:-

Planning:

Mr. D. Jennings (Planning Blaby District Council & Leicestershire County Council)
Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning Blaby District Council & 3 Oakes Housing)
Mrs. C. James re plan No. 10/0064/1/PY (LY)

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

Maintenance of Council Property:

Mr. B. Smith – cemetery charges

Matters Arising:

Mr. I. Paterson – Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust - Trustee

2010/28. LEICESTERSHIRE YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE – IMPACT PROJECT MANAGER

Mr. K. Chauhan has sent his apologies for this evening and said he would telephone the Clerk to make another appointment.

2010/29. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 14th January 2010 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2010/30. MINUTES OF A MEETING Held on 21st January 2010 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2010/31. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Clerk read the following letter of thanks from the Stuart Cosby Memorial Trust for grant aid towards their fund of £1,000 (Section 137).

“On behalf of the SCMT trustees once again I write to thank the Parish Council for its most recent generous contribution of £1000 to the Trust’s fund. The continuing support of the Council is much appreciated and councillors can be assured that the money will, as always, be put to good use within the village or for the benefit of its inhabitants”.

2010/32. POLICE MATTERS – There were none.

2010/33. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

- Leics. & Rutland Association of Local Councils – newsletter Jan. 2010
- Rural Community Council Seminar – 4th March 2010
- E.M. Fire & Rescue Control Centre – Brochure
- Borough of Oadby & Wigston Core Strategy Submission
- L.C.C. Consultation on transfer of 10 L.C.C. Residential Care Homes & sale of Silverdale Hostel
- Leicestershire & Rutland Playing Fields – Newsletter
- Leicestershire Footpath Association – Annual Report

2010/34. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk read the following letter from Persimmon Homes re planning application No. 09/0620/1/PX

“Further to your letter of 27th January 2010, I think it may be helpful if our Technical Manager, Luke Simmons, meets the appropriate people to discuss their concerns.

Clearly the Planning Officer will need to be a party to these discussions but in the first instance perhaps you could provide us with the contact details of those to be involved, which presumably includes the two direct neighbours.

We are obviously keen to achieve an amicable solution with all parties”.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Planning Officer at Blaby District Council, the two neighbours concerned the Planning working party and Persimmon Homes.

A copy of an article from the Herald plus an additional note (Put the brakes on, NOW! By Colin Veitch) was circulated to members.

This article was discussed in full and the general consensus was that members felt that Countesthorpe seemed to be the only Parish in Blaby District that was being hit by large housing developments. The planning permissions granted so far had reached the target for the village sent originally by the District Council for land bank requirements.

Although the Parish Council are not in favour of any new housing developments 106 monies need to be discussed in order that the Parish Council can make a claim to part of the money the builders have to pay towards infrastructure etc. when a new development is granted.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Planning Officer to discuss the way forward with regard to applying for 106 monies and also to ask him the situation with regards to the 106 monies relative to the Scarborough Close development.

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:

Planning - Permission/Refusal

Plan No.	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
09/0726/1/PX 3.13.2009	3 Beechings Close	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
09/0620/1/PX 15.10.2009	Land east of Scarborough Close	- Ditto -

Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
09/0765/1/PY	20 Cherry Tree Close	Single storey rear extension to form conservatory	No observations
10/0031/1/PX	19 Cosby Road	Garage extension with store over	No observations
10/0030/1/PX	7 Cosby Road	Pitched roof to garage	No observations

2010/35. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED

Mrs. C. James left the meeting room when plan number 10/0064/1/PY was discussed and then returned after the resolution.

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
10/0051/1/PX	2 Springwell Drive	Single storey front extension	No observations
10/0064/1/PY	5 Main Street	Erection of replacement entrance gates & pillars	No observations
10/0065/1/LY	5 Main Street	Removal & replacement of entrance gates &	No observations

		pillars	
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2010/36. STAFFING MATTERS This item will be discussed in camera.

2010/37. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERITIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)

Mr. D. Ball reported on the working party meeting held on 8th February 2010:

Burial Charges

Mr. B. Smith left the meeting as he had a personnel and prejudicial interest in this item.

The Chairman read a letter from the family of the late Ida Osborne. Mrs. Osborne used to live in the village but had left about 13 years ago when she re-married. Some of her relatives are buried in the cemetery, including the scattered ashes of her first husband. She had requested that her ashes be buried in Countesthorpe.

The Chairman stated that fees for non-residents had been discussed and agreed by the full Council at the meeting in March 2009. The funeral directors are fully aware of the Council's fees and had informed the family accordingly. However the relatives had obtained an old copy of the charges which stated that fees for non-residents would be trebled but they were requesting in this instance that the fees charged should be the same as those for residents of the village.

A discussion ensued and it was resolved that as the criteria in this case did not apply to the council's policy then the fee for a non-resident would be charged.

Village Hall Car Park

A further supply of Breedon gravel is required to fill in the pot holes in the car park. It was resolved to purchase a small quantity of gravel.

Willoughby Road Football Lease

The working party reviewed the licence and recommended that it be renewed under the same conditions. This was resolved. The licence will be reviewed again in two years time.

War Memorial

The Clerk reported a letter she had received in answer to her query about moving the war memorial. An extract of the letter stated:

“I note in your letter that it is proposed to relocate the memorial. As I believe was highlighted by my colleague to a representative of St. Andrew's Church in 2009, the Trust does not generally recommend the relocation of war memorials unless absolutely necessary due to the risk to the physical fabric of the memorial”.

This was noted.

Mr. Paterson asked that copies of this letter be sent to the Rev. D. Hebblewhite and the Rev. M. Gillespie.

Cemetery – Foston Road

Mr. D. Ball stated that he and the Clerk had met with a representative from the Environmental Agency to discuss the suitability of the land adjacent to the cemetery for burial use. He will be forwarding a full report but advised that part of the field would be suitable for burial purposes. The Clerk was asked to enquire what steps should be taken next and proceed accordingly.

2010/38. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

There was nothing to report.

2010/39. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. K. Mason reported that adverts had been placed in local newspapers advertising the bar supervisors job. A small group from the Village Hall Management Committee will meet on Monday 22nd February to review the written applications in the first instance.

2010/40. VISION GROUP – REPORT THEREOF

There was nothing to report.

2010/41. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

Mr. A. Clifford reported that 20 – 25 young people were regularly attending the youth club. The Youth group wished to thank the Parish Council for the (section 137) grant aid of £840 that had been promised. Work on the mural had already been started.

2010/42. THE COLLECTION OF REFUSE OVER THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD

Many complaints were received this year about arrangements made for refuse collection over the Christmas period. Blaby District Council has responded to the complaints and has asked for the Parish Councils views on the following:

1. Are the Parish in favour of the one week shut down with 14 day single gap and keeping the same collection day indefinitely (assuming the communication is done properly!)?
No
2. Are there any suggestions for how we can better communicate the service information to residents?
Advertise the holiday service in the Herald which is delivered to every household in the village well in advance.
3. If the Council were to consider extending the week closure to other areas, what services if any should not be shut down for the week?
Not in favour

It was further resolved to request the return of the rotation system e.g. the collection day to be changed annually.

2010/43. CAR PARKING IN THE VILLAGE

Mr. I. Paterson brought to the attention of the Council problems being experienced by people who work in the village and who are unable to park in the Blaby District Council car parks due to the new parking restrictions of 2 hours. One person who works in the Rainbow Shop was fined £60 for parking in the Co-op. Mr. D. Ball advised that there are 2/3 car parking spaces within the curtilage of the Rainbow shop.

A member of the public asked if a disabled badge holder could park for 3 hours or just the 2 hours as specified on the notice.

After a discussion it was resolved to write to Mr. J. Wells at Blaby District Council suggesting that the limited parking restrictions be removed.

2010/44. VILLAGE QUIZ – 12TH MARCH 2010

The Clerk asked for volunteers for a team for the Village Quiz.

Mrs. C. James, Mrs. J. Jennings and Mr. D. Jennings volunteered.

2010/45. ABSENCE OF COUNCILLORS AT MEETINGS

The Clerk brought to the attention of the council the fact that three Councillors have been absent from meetings due to ill health.

If a councillor is absent from meetings for 6 calendar months then by law they are automatically excluded unless a resolution is made to accept the reasons why that councillor is absent

It was resolved to accept their reasons for non attendance and to review the situation in 6 months time.

This item would be put on next month's agenda and the Clerk would advise members of the relevant dates appertaining to each councillor.

2010/46. BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL 2010/2011 BUDGET SURVEY

A copy of the Blaby District Budget Survey 2010/11 was circulated to members. Members were asked to complete the survey and return it in the stamped addressed envelope to Blaby District Council.

2010/47. CHAIRMAN'S EVENING 2010

It was resolved to hold the Chairman's evening on Friday 10th September 2010.

2010/48. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – wages February	8616.45
J. Adcock – postages	46.98
C.P.C. (Village Hall) payment sent incorrectly to C.P.C. for hall hire	144.00
Supplies Team – cartridge	269.64
Leics. County Council – Grant aid for Youth (minute 2009/162)	840.00
International Tree Foundation – Subs	25.00
British Telecom – office ‘phone	236.90
Green Wave Technology – Annual website hosting	352.50
ABC Motors – Diesel/petrol/oil	52.41
Countesthorpe Health Centre – Medical report for groundsman	10.00

2010/49. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Mr. I. Paterson reported that Countesthorpe Twinning Association will be celebrating the signing of the twinning charter in May to celebrate 25 years of the union between Countesthorpe and Mennecy. A ceremony will be held in St. Andrew’s Church on Saturday 15th May 2010.

The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending and asked them to leave as the next item was to be taken in camera.

Meeting closed @ 9.15 pm.

Signed Chairman

Dated 2010