

A MEETING OF THE COUNTRESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD COUNTRESTHORPE ON THURSDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010 AT 7.30 PM. WHEN THERE WERE PRESENT:

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

There were 23 members of the public present in the meeting room. A number of parishioners wishing to comment on the planning application for Willoughby Road were unable to enter as the room was full and remained in the foyer until the item was heard.

Mr. D. Ball informed members of the public that tonight's meeting was a Parish Council meeting and not a special meeting, to discuss the planning application on Willoughby Road. This item would be discussed under planning applications in the usual way.

The letter circulated to villagers stating that there would be a public meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm about the Willoughby Road planning application had been sent without the knowledge of the Council.

2010/114. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Mrs. B. Forecast, Mr. R. Daw, Mrs. J. Adcock, Clerk to the Council

2010/115. 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)

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

Mrs. J. Weatherstone (Planning Blaby District Council & 3 Oaks Housing)

Village Hall:

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

Youth:

Mr. A. Clifford – Employed by Leics. C.C. in the Youth & Community Education Section.

Accounts for Payment:

Mr. D. Ball

Allotments:

Mr. I. Paterson

2010/116. MINUTES OF A MEETING held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 as circulated by the Clerk were approved as a correct record.

2010/117. MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

There were none.

2010/118. POLICE MATTERS

Sgt. L. Westbury, P.C. P. Hurst and P.C.S.O. S. Slatford attended the meeting.

Complaints have been received about the parking of cars on pavements. PC Hurst explained that cars parked on pavements must leave sufficient room for buggies or wheelchairs to pass.

The Chairman asked if item 16 on the agenda Spoilbank – Nuisance + Anti Social Behaviour to Residents could be heard. This was resolved.

PC Hurst stated that the police had been called on several occasions to the Woodlands to deal with youths on the Spoilbank. He stated that the behaviour of the young people was appalling. Notices had being issued to certain individuals this had helped the situation considerably as had an increased police presence.

PC Hurst is encouraging the young people to become involved with organised activities in the village. He also stated that new activities are in the planning stage.

A Councillor stated that he had received complaints from residents of The Driver who were also experiencing problems with a group of young people who leave Countesthorpe in the evening for Whetstone via The Drive.

PC Hurst stated that he was unaware of any problems in this area but would look into it.

2010/119. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Blaby District Council

- Youth Bus (Blaby District Council) Visiting Village 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> June 2<sup>nd</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> July BB19
- ding Achievement Awards 2010 Outstan
- an for Ensuing Year – Mr. Barry Garner Chairm
- nity Action Annual Summer Open Day 22.6.2010 at Enderby Leisure Centre 11am. – 3pm. Commu
- of meetings held in April 2010 Minutes
- s Statement to Annual Council Leader'
- Spaces Consultative Meeting – Changed from 8<sup>th</sup> June to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010 Open

- & Rutland Playing Fields Association AGM 24<sup>th</sup> June at 133 Loughborough Road Leics.
- rshire County Council – Branchline Newsletter Leiceste
- Playing Fields Newsletter The
- & Rutland Association of Local Councils May Newsletter Leics.
- Space Magazine Open

## 2010/120. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mrs. J. Jennings reported on the following:

Planning - Permission/Refusal

Plan No.	Address	Blaby District Councils Decision
10/0246/1/PX	50 Gwendoline Drive	Application granted subject to conditions attached to planning permission
10/0172/1/PX	81 Bassett Avenue	- ditto -
10/0238/1/PX	60A Cosby Road	- ditto -
10/0180/1/AY	Land between 69 & 79 Scalborough Close	- ditto -
10/0179/1/AY	Land at Borrowcup Close	- ditto -
10/0244/1/VY	Land east of Scalborough Close	REFUSAL of variation or removal of condition
10/0245/1/VY	Land north of Borrowcup Close	REFUSAL of variation or removal of condition

## Planning Applications

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
10/0315/1/x	10 Orchard Close	Installation of replacement windows, cavity wall insulation & erection of flue to gas boiler	No observations
10/0325/1/PX	Land north of Borrowcup Close	Substitution of house types (Plots 234,35, 36 & 109) of planning permission 09/0492/1/PX	No observations
10/0381/1/PX	31 Waterloo Crescent	Erection of replacement	No observations

		detached garage (including demolition of existing garage)	
10/0337/1/PX	76 Cosby Road	Erection of 1 detached dwelling with garage (including demolition of existing dwelling & garage) (Revised Scheme)	No observations
10/0328/1/VY	The Paddocks, Hospital Lane, Blaby	Variation of condition 1 attached to p.p. 07/0904/1/PY to allow the permanent occupation of the site for any gypsy traveller family & removal of condition 2 which requires upon cessation of the use, the land be restored to its former condition	The conditions should remain the same as previous (i.e. land to be restored to its former condition upon cessation of use)

**10/03331/1/OX – Proposed residential development (maximum 120 dwellings) associated landscaping and infrastructure with access from Willoughby Road (Outline) (Re-submission) – Land at Willoughby Road.**

The Chairman read two letters from residents appertaining to this application. They both strongly objected to this application.

After a lengthy discussion it was resolved to:

- a) Re-iterate previous objections to this application.

The Parish Council is categorically against this application on the following grounds:-

1. An increase in traffic, particularly at the staggered crossroads of Cosby Road and Willoughby Road. It is felt that this junction in particular is busy and dangerous at times, without the added cars that a development of 120 will incur.
2. Construction traffic along Willoughby Road together with slow-moving farm traffic will prove dangerous and hazardous particularly for the number of school children who use the Parish Council's playing fields adjacent to the proposed new development.
3. A blatant intrusion into the open countryside.

4. Fields around the proposed development in particular to the rear of Mennecy Close is subject to flooding ( a resident explained that the whole of her home has been flooded on several occasions and feared the worst once building began)
  5. The amount of wild- life that lives in and around this area will be disturbed and their habitats destroyed.
  6. It has been decided that 300 houses must be built in Countesthorpe during the period 2006 – 2026. To date 339 houses have been given the go-ahead to be built. It is felt that enough is enough and as Countesthorpe has now met the limit a stop should be put on any further development forthwith.
  7. In conclusion I enclose a copy of a letter received from Council for the Protection of Rural England that gives several reasons as to why this development should not take place.
- b) The Hallam's planning application for Leicester Road had been granted therefore Countesthorpe had more than exceeded its quota for new houses.
- c) The reasons for refusal of the first application made by Blaby District Council were also to be included in the Councils observations.

Blaby District Councils reasons for refusal of the outline planning permission dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010:

1. The site of the proposed development lies within an area identified in the Blaby District Local Plan as Countryside where there is both national guidance and local policy in presumption in favour of protecting the open and undeveloped character and appearance of such areas. If developed in the manner proposed, there would be a loss of the openness which would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the open countryside.
2. The District Council can demonstrate in excess of a 5 year housing land supply in the Non Principal Urban Area. This meets the requirements set out in Planning Policy Statement Note 3: "Housing" to maintain a minimum 5 year housing land supply within the part of the District
3. The District has set out in the Core Strategy Submission Version its vision for the District including the number of dwellings to be developed within the adjoining settlements which make up the District. To permit development which would greatly exceed the numbers of dwellings identified for each settlement would undermine the strategy of distributing development across a number of settlements.

The Chairman explained that letters written by parishioners to Blaby District Council objecting to the first application are not taken into consideration. Therefore letters objecting to the current application must be sent to Blaby District Council.

At the present time this application will go before Blaby District Council's planning meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

The Chairman read the following letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010 from The Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles MP:

### **Abolition of Regional Strategies**

I am writing to you today to highlight our commitment in the coalition agreements where we very clearly set out our intention to rapidly abolish Regional Strategies and return decision making powers on housing and planning to local councils. Consequently, decisions on housing supply (including the provision of traveller's sites) will rest with Local Planning Authorities without the framework of regional numbers and plans.

I will make a formal announcement on this matter soon. However, I expect Local Planning Authorities and the Planning Inspectorate to have regard to this letter as a material planning consideration in any decisions they are currently taking.

### **Residents e-mail – Walnut Way**

The Chairman read an e-mail from a resident in Walnut Way who was complaining that only one member of the Parish Council had objected to the houses being built on Willoughby Road.

The Chairman pointed out that a Special meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010 (152 attended) when members of the Council unanimously objected to the planning application and their observations were forwarded to Blaby District Council.

### **Section 106 Agreement – Borrowcup Close & Scalborough Close**

A letter received from Mr. A. K. Senior dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010 re the above was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The contents were noted.

### **Street names for the Borrowcup Close & Scalborough Close Development**

Blaby District Council resolved after consultation with the appropriate authorities that the following road names be adopted for the -

Borrowcup Close site:

- |            |         |
|------------|---------|
| -          | Hoffler |
| - Close    |         |
| -          | Clarke  |
| - Crescent |         |
| -          | Albert  |
| - Road     |         |

Scalborough Close site:

- |                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| -              | Ridley |
| - Close        |        |
| -              | Mill   |
| - Field Avenue |        |

- Drive Thomas
- on Road Billingt

**Borrowcup Close/Scalborough Close Development**

Residents, who meet regularly, are unhappy that Persimmons representatives have been providing minimal feedback about their concerns. They are not attending the residents meetings as originally agreed.

Blaby District Council refused Persimmon Home’s planning permission to remove condition 13, which required vehicle wheel cleansing facilities. It appears that the road sweeping machine the builders employed is now not being used and neither is the wheel cleansing facility thus the mud/dust carried onto the roads by construction traffic is causing major problems.

It was resolved to write to the Enforcement Officer at Blaby District Council asking him to look into this matter.

**Footpath diversion**

Section 119 – Highways Act 1980 – Proposed Diversion of Footpath Z44 (Part) within the Parish of Countesthorpe.

No objections to this diversion were raised.

**2010/121. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PUBLISHED**

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observations
10/0/330/1/PY	Land rear of 53-55 Peatling Road	Erection of one detached bungalow with associated access & parking (revised scheme)	No observations

**2010/122. MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL PROPERITIES – REPORT FROM THE WORKING PARTY (MONTHLY MEETING)**

Mr. D. Ball reported on a meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June:-

**St. Andrew’s Church**

A quotation has been received for the removal of all the concrete footpaths and lay-bys at St. Andrew’s Church. The lay-bys are to be turfed over and the footpaths to be re-laid using a coloured concrete exposed aggregate finish. The working party recommended that the path from Station Road to the Church be completed first at a cost of £5,470 + VAT and an amount of £6,000 be put in next year’s budget to cover the section from Main Street to the Church doors.

This was resolved.

### Bedding plants

These have been purchased from Glebe Gardens at a cost of £597.77.

### Cemetery – Foston Road

Quotations are being sought to landscape a new area for the scattering of ashes near to the chapel in the cemetery.

### Weed Spraying

The working party recommenced a weed spraying rota for the groundsman, starting with the Health Centre and Square Garden.

### Petrol/Diesel

The Council have held an account with ABC Garage, South Wigston for a number of years. The business has been sold and the new owners will not invoice the Council monthly. It has therefore been suggested that the Council open an account with Tesco, which is also in South Wigston. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

## 2010/123. REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES, REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT COUNCILLORS & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

### Finance Working Party

The working party met on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and recommended that grant aid of £500 be pledged to the Countesthorpe Skate Park project.

### Insurance Documents

The insurance documents for the Parish Council and the Village Hall were reviewed by the working party. No variation is required.

Two requests for grant aid have been received. A working party meeting will be arranged to discuss these applications.

### Best Kept Front Garden Competition

Mrs. M. Baum reported on the following:

Posters have been put up around the Village advertising the event. Nomination forms are available in the Parish Office, The Rainbow Shop, Library and Countesthorpe College. The closing date for nominations is Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Initial judging will take place week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July and final judging on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Councillors were asked to volunteer to inspect areas of the village and nominate gardens for the competition. Mrs. Baum asked volunteers to let her have their names after the meeting.

Glebe Gardens have very generously offered voucher prizes of:

- Kept Front Garden – 1<sup>st</sup> prize £40 - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £20 Best
- g Basket Container – 1<sup>st</sup> prize £20 - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £10 Hangin

- Productive Allotment 1<sup>st</sup> prize £30 - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £15

The Parish Council will donate a £25 voucher for the Chairman's Choice.

The next meeting of the working party will be Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm. at 6 Laurel Drive.

#### Blaby Central Community Forum

Mr. I. Paterson reported that he had attended a meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Transport for youth to access Blaby District Council facilities at Enderby and Huncote was discussed. £2000 is being granted to produce a booklet on how to get to these venues.

Mini goals posts have been given to Enderby and Narborough.

#### Staffing

A meeting took place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. The next meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30 pm.

#### 2010/124. VILLAGE HALL – REPORT THEREOF

Mr. K. Mason reported:

Blaby District Council sent a copy of the Licensing Act 2003 - Pointers to watch for during the World Cup coverage/events. Copies have been given to Mr. K. Mason Personal Licence Holder and Mrs. J. Downs, Bar Supervisor.

The Village Hall accounts showed a loss of £2775.80 for the year 2009/2010.

Members expressed their concern but felt it was due to the number of bookings with bars that had dropped in the last few months.

It was recommended that more advertising be done. The Blaby Courier and the Lutterworth news paper in the first instance.

#### 2010/125. VISION GROUP – REPORT THEREOF

Rev. M. Gillespie stated that a meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 10 am.

#### 2010/126. YOUTH WORK WITHIN THE VILLAGE

There was nothing to report.

#### 2010/127. ALLOTMENTS

Mr. K. Mason reported on a meeting held with two members of the Allotment Society and a small group of Councillors.

The Allotment Society is concerned that in the future the allotments could be sold for building purposes. Would the Parish Council consider purchasing the land?

After a discussion it was decided to arrange a meeting with a representative from Blaby District Council to discuss this matter further.

The Chairman, Mr. K. Mason, Mrs. C. James and Mr. M. Smith wished to attend any meeting arranged.

#### 2010/128. RESIDENTS LETTER RE STATION ROAD + ZEBRA CROSSING

Correspondence from a resident of Station Road was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Mr. D. Jennings contacted Mr. R. Wightman, Leicestershire County Council, about this matter.

Mr. Wightman has since replied to the resident – he states “The frequency of personal injury/accidents at this location would not justify additional road safety measures being introduced when compared to other locations in the county”.

“Since the accident involving the crossing patrol officer in September 2005, Leicestershire County Council has installed ‘Zebrite’ Belisha Beacons. These are designed to highlight existing zebra crossings particularly during daylight hours by increasing their conspicuity to oncoming vehicles”.

This matter was discussed in full. It was felt that the signage was sufficient and the table junctions along Station Road appeared to be effective in reducing the speed of traffic however, the situation would be monitored. The local Police Constable has been contacted with regard to this matter and he also stated that he would monitor the area concerned.

#### 2010/129. SPOILBANK – NUISANCE + ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR TO RESIDENTS

This item was dealt with under Police Matters minute number 2010/118.

#### 2010/130. BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL APPOINTMENT OF PARISH/TOWN COUNCILLOR TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Blaby District Council is seeking to appoint a Parish Councillor to serve on the Standards Committee.

No Councillor volunteered.

#### 2010/131. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

	£
Countesthorpe Parish Council – Wages	8430.26
J. Adcock – postages	40.17
Blaby District Council – Rates cemetery (May & June)	120.00
Glebe Gardens – grass seed	99.75
B.W. Wilford – to complete & sign off 2009/2010 accounts	137.50

ABC Motors – diesel/petrol/oil	183.20
University of Leicester – Gradiometry survey field adjacent of cemetery	822.50
D. Ball – mobile ‘phone for groundsman	14.95

2010/132. MATTERS THAT THE CLERK MAY WISH TO RAISE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

a) News Release from Blaby District Council – New powers to fine for environmental crime. Car parking attendants in Blaby District have been given new powers to issue on the spot fines to people caught committing environmental crimes.

Civil Enforcement Officers, as they are now known, will be able to give fixed penalty notices of up to £75 for litter, graffiti and fly posting offences while out on their regular rounds.

b) Leicestershire Waste Partnership has launched an exciting initiative to encourage reuse. The new Reuse campaign encourages residents to think about how they can reuse their unwanted items rather than sending them to landfill. Go to [Freeuseit.org](http://Freeuseit.org) website for more information.

Meeting closed @ 9.05 pm.

Signed ..... Chairman Dated .....2010