

Action	How it will be tackled	Progress
1. Buildings / (Planning consultations)	Meet with planning officers at Blaby District Council to discuss recommendations for :- (a) Retaining usage of commercial buildings (b) Provision of affordable housing (c) Provision of housing for the elderly (d) No further large scale development.	Public Meeting took place on October 19 th 2005. Questions were asked from the Council and from parishioners. This was an opportunity for Countesthorpe people to voice their concerns on items a-d and hear how Blaby District Council responded. In the foreseeable future very little new housing would take place that was not on a brown-field site. BDC advised the Parish Council to write to them with some ideas about the future of the now closed toilet.
2. Crime and Safety	Review of village policing arrangements in particular:- (a) Anti-social behaviour (b) Pedestrian safety, vehicles parking on pavements, more pedestrian crossings? (c) Higher Police presence / visibility	Public Meeting linked with Crime and Safety with a Public Meeting planned for March 2006. The PC have regular contact with the police over a variety of matters.
3. Health and welfare	Local Health and Welfare concerns including:- (a) Discuss formation of a Patient Participation Group with Village Health Centre.	Lower priority as we have an excellent Health Centre therefore no progress yet on the planned action points.
4. Traffic	Review of Traffic Calming scheme to reassess existing scheme and discuss any alternatives including:- (a) Safety cameras / “Too fast” signs (b) Mini-roundabouts (c) Investigate concerns of rat runs e.g. Gwendoline Drive	Public Meeting linked with Crime and Safety with a Public Meeting planned for March 2006
	(d) Parking problems at Greenfield School	Medium
5. Retail	Areas for improvement:- (a) Lack of a DVD/ Video shop (b) Too many fast food shops (c) Pubs in village do not cater for “a quiet meal with friends” Poor parking facilities – limits shoppers.	PC aware of this but not in a position to make any improvements.

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6. Litter and Pollution	<p>Generally seen to be good with some notable exceptions near the schools and shops:-</p> <p>(a) Gain co-operation from Head teachers / Principal to reduce perceived problem of litter from students.</p>	<p>Still a big problem as the litter is dropped quicker than it can be picked up. Letters to the local College and High School have been sent - it is a national social problem as well a local one.</p>
	<p>(b) Target areas for litter picking</p>	<p>Still a big problem as the litter is dropped quicker than it can be picked up. Letters to the local College and High School have been sent - it is a national social problem as well a local one.</p>
	<p>(c) Dog fouling also seen to be an issue, as number of bins increases seek to encourage and if necessary enforce clean street campaign</p>	<p>Over the last few years the PC has been providing additional dog fouling receptacles and will continue to do so. The streets are now noticeably cleaner from dog fouling.</p>
	<p>(d) "Pollution" was also seen to include Mobile phone masts. Strong feeling against these particularly near the schools and residential areas</p>	<p>BDC make decisions on this so PC can only flag up residents concerns as and when there they are made known. Understanding is that the recent complaints have now been heard and a ruling from BDC has been published.</p>

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7. Education	<p>Mostly favourable except:-</p> <p>(a) Special Needs provision, 75% of respondents stated they were unable to place their child in their 1st choice.</p>	Parish Plan Working Party not yet discussed this issue as it is not in a position to influence change.
	<p>(b) Further demand for Holiday play scheme / child care provision in 5/11 age group</p>	Parish Plan Working Party not yet discussed this issue as it is not in a position to influence change
	<p>(c) U3A limited understanding that age range is from 50+</p>	This will be made clear on the Parish Web site and Booklet to be launched early 2006
8. Employment	Seek to retain existing industrial land for future employment. Seek to restrict change of use to residential.	Raised at the October 19 th meeting but as there is a lack of interest from employers to move to Countesthorpe it is not an easy issue to address.

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9. Environment	Countesthorpe is seen as a “Rural” village, every effort to enhance this and prevent urbanisation:- (a) More tree planting	This issue will be addressed as and when necessary by the Parish Council.
	(b) Preservation of green spaces within the village	This issue was raised with BDC who have no plans to change the status quo.
	(c) Ensure school playing fields not sold off as a recreational assessment shows a shortfall of play areas.	This issue was raised with BDC who have no plans to change the status quo.
	(d) More seating around the village	Not yet Addressed. A re-think is needed as the last new seat despite being fixed solidly was stolen soon after it was fitted.
	(e) Maintain hedges and trees to prevent pavements becoming overgrown	All residents need to do is phone or email the Parish Office for this issue to be addressed. The Parish Clerk will ensure complaints are investigated and where necessary action will be taken to ensure remedial work is undertaken.
	(f) Clearer marking of footpaths and right of ways around the village	Will be raised in March 2006
	(g) Toilets in Central Street to be reopened and preferably refurbished, e.g. new superloo, stainless steel and self cleaning, easier to maintain.	See Comment from the Planning and Environment Meeting held on October 19 th 2005. Is now on the Parish Council Monthly Agenda therefore the Parish Council will continue to lobby BDC.
	(h) Extension of footpath down south side of Cosby Road past Hill Lane to join river / nature walk	No progress to January 2006

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10. Sport recreation and religion	Youth provision is seen as poor. Good sports facilities exist but this does not serve everyone and has limited impact during the evenings when groups of youths gather. This leads to complaints of the lack of recreational facilities leading to anti-social behaviour amongst a minority:- (a) Investigate the need for extra facilities for young people.	The Parish Plan Working Party with leaders of Young people's groups has met twice with a further meeting due on November 16 th . An event which all the over 11 year olds in the Village will be invited will be held in the Village Hall on February 1st 2006. A 'flyer' will be given to every young person at the High School and College as well as those whose education is outside of the village. The event will be designed with young people in mind for views to be exchanged. More information at each Parish Council Meeting.
	(b) Develop disused railway between Countesthorpe and South Wigston as Public Amenity / Walkway / Footpath.	Raised again at the Public Meeting held on October the 19 th . A letter has been sent by the PC to reopen this issue which has often in the past, despite repeated attempts by local PC members, received no acknowledgement or support from BDC.
	(c) Investigate facilities for senior citizens	Will be discussed in early 2006

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11. Communications	Whilst the Herald is very popular there is a need for better communications:- (a) Village web site & (b) Village Directory	Web site now under construction by Green Wave Technology due to be launched in early 2006. A new issue of the Parish Booklet is ready for printing. Council have agreed funding for both these ventures. Parish Office now has broadband. Office computers have new back up system and are maintained locally by 'goIT' practical IT solutions. Office staff have now completed the first stage of their Excel software training.
	(c) Improved use of notice boards.	New Notice Boards - Research is taking place to see what is available and at what cost. Initially the Council are looking into the cost and positioning of detailed Maps of Countesthorpe.
	(d) Investigate the provision of a new post box on Rosebank Road	Letter sent to the Post Office from the Parish Office requesting a review of this item.

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12. Parish Council	<p>The Parish Council was generally considered to be effective however:-</p> <p>(a) There is a need for the Parish Council to improve awareness of the scope of their authority and publicise contact points for themselves and other relevant authorities.</p>	<p>This will be dealt with on the new Parish Web site and soon to be published Booklet.</p>
	<p>(b) The last two elections have not been contested. Every effort should be made to encourage interested people to consider standing for election.</p>	<p>This will be addressed when the next Parish Council elections are due.</p>
	<p>(c) A greater sense of purpose or a central vision would help focus people's perception of the work of the Parish Council</p>	<p>Hopefully through the Public Meetings, Web site and Booklet residents will see what their Council is doing on their behalf and have the capability to make their own views known. Village residents are always welcome at the monthly Council Meeting where at 08:00 they can 'have their say'.</p>