

A meeting of the Planning Committee was held in the Village Hall, Station Road, Countesthorpe on Thursday 11th September 2025

Members present: Cllrs V Armstrong, K McGovern and J Thacker

Miss J Leech – Parish Council Manager

Miss E Frost – Assistant Parish Council Manager

Also present was Blaby District Councillor, R Holdridge.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr K McGovern.

2025/26.063 To receive apologies for absence, if any

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Clifford, C Ibbotson, S Kinvig and D Shuttleworth.

2025/26.064 To receive disclosures of interest and consider dispensations

There were no disclosures of interest.

2025/26.065 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 28th August 2025

The minutes of the meeting held 28th August 2025 were circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved to approve the minutes, which would be signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

2025/26.066 Public participation session

There was no public present.

2025/26.067 To consider matters arising for information purposes only

There were no matters arising.

2025/26.068 To consider a response to planning applications received from Blaby District Council

Plan No.	Address	Description of Application	Observation
25/0675/DOC	Land adjacent to Leicester Road and Foston Road	Discharge of condition 26 (lighting) attached to planning permission 23/1071/OUT	No comment.
25/0719/DOC	Countesthorpe Academy, Winchester Road	Application to discharge condition 5 (Construction Environment Management Plan for biodiversity) attached to planning permission ref: 24/0641/FUL	No comment.
25/0715/FUL	Meadows Sports Ground, Leicester Road	Installation of 6 x 15m floodlights around the main football pitch at The Meadows Sports Ground	Countesthorpe Parish Council is concerned, as in 2023, that this application will significantly increase the light pollution in the area and negatively impact upon the dwellings opposite. Light pollution harms wildlife by disrupting natural circadian rhythms, disorientating nocturnal creatures and interfering with their foraging and hunting. The Parish Council asks that the residential properties opposite the site are consulted.

			<p>Countesthorpe Parish Council still has concerns about the potential impact on the residential properties, and on the highway.</p> <p>The Parish Council notes that the Design and Access Statement still refers to the installation of the following:- “Planning permission is sought to install 4 x 18m LED Floodlights around our main pitch.”. As this is a discrepancy with the application description and drawings, the Parish Council therefore requests that the application should be revised and resubmitted with an accurate Design and Access Statement. There is also a discrepancy with regard to the hours that the lights are proposed to be in operation. This information should also be clarified and reconsulted on.</p> <p>The Parish Council recognises that this site is a valuable community asset but it needs significant improvement particularly with regard to the car parking to make it fit for purpose. Users of the facility already park on the highway and block the pavements. The increased hours will exacerbate this situation. The existing car park is insufficient and is often not usable due to waterlogging.</p>
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2025/26.069 Housing development updates (if any)

The following updates were received and discussed:

a. Keepers Farm

There was nothing to discuss.

b. Peatling Road

There was nothing to discuss.

c. Cosby Road

Leicestershire County Council’s Highway’s response regarding the Cosby Road application was noted.

d. Foston Road

It was noted that a representative from Miller Homes had reconfirmed their acceptance of the Planning Committee’s invitation to attend a future meeting to discuss construction management processes, however had stated that it would be preferred to wait until the roundabout design was finalised.

Confirmation had also been received that Allianz, the Contractor employed to complete groundworks on the site, would also be responsible for completing works to the roundabout.

- i. Blaby District Council consultation – street naming
Blaby District Council’s Building Control Department had reconsulted on street names for the Foston Road development with it being resolved to not submit a response as the newly proposed street names were deemed acceptable for the site.
- e. Willoughby Road
There was nothing to discuss.
- f. Gillam Butts
There was nothing to discuss.
- g. Solar Farm
It was noted that application 24/0734/FUL, Soars Lodge Solar Farm, had been granted planning permission at the most recent meeting of Blaby District Council’s Planning Committee, with an additional condition having been added during the meeting.
- h. S106 wishlist – also to be included as an agenda item on the Parish Council agenda
The current S106 ‘wishlist’ which had previously been submitted to Blaby District Council was again reviewed and amended. This would be further discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council.
- i. Whetstone Pastures
It was reported that representatives for the Whetstone Pastures development had contacted the Parish Council to offer a presentation regarding the development. This would be referred to the Parish Council at its next meeting.

The public consultation was noted as beginning during the week commencing 8th September. Publicity material had been received and shared with residents via Facebook and noticeboards.

2025/26.070 To receive any correspondence

- a. Copy correspondence from a resident regarding flooding at Mennecy Close
A copy of correspondence which had been distributed by a resident regarding flooding at Mennecy Close had been received. Key contacts referred to throughout the correspondence had been contacted by the Parish Council with it being confirmed that Severn Trent Water and Leicestershire County Council would be issuing a joint statement imminently.

2025/26.071 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 25th September 2025.

Signed Chairman

Dated..... 2025