



THURLASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Elaine Foxon
16 Cambridge Drive, Desford, Leicestershire, LE99JB

☎ 07873 229990 Email: clerk@thurlastonparish.org.uk

Minutes of Thurlaston Parish Council Meeting Held at 7pm, Thurlaston Village Hall on 3rd October 2023

Present: Councillors Roni Tinsley (RT) (Chair), Trevor England (TE) (Vice Chair), Paul Holyman (PH), Philip Marshall (PM), Esther Harrison (EH), Maggie Wright (MW), Elaine Foxon (EF) (Clerk/RFO)

Parishioners/Visitors Present: 3

1203-10/23 Apologies

None received

1204-10/23 To Approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held 5th September 2023 (Appendix A)

Proposed/seconded: PH/TE **Decision:** Accepted

1205-10/23 Request for Dispensations for Matters Where Councillors Have Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None received

1206-10/23 County Councillor and/or District Councillor Report

No CC report

DC report filed as follows:

For reference the following press releases went out during the month: -

- Householders to save with Solar Together Scheme
- Solar panel plan for council depot
- Hundreds of opportunities at job fair
- Blaby Toilets open
- New framework will boost business prosperity in the district.
- Do you want to go Green and save money?

PM visits District

The district received a special visit from Prime Minister Rishi Sunak recently as part of his regular PM Connect events. Representatives from the Council were invited along to the event through the office of South Leicestershire MP, Alberto Costa. The session took place at the headquarters of Topps Tiles on Grove Park, Enderby, with Mr Sunak answering questions from the audience. When asked a question on local government by Julia Smith, the PM said he recognised the value of District Councils such as Blaby and the positive impact they have on communities.

HNRFI examination

As many councillors/residents will be aware the Planning Inspectorate has begun its examination of the proposals for the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange. This examination phase, which started on

Approved by Full Council

..... Chair/Vice Chair @ Meeting Date.....

12 September, will take six months. Blaby DC's formal Written Representation was discussed at the Full Council meeting on 26th September and will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the examination process. The council is committed to responding robustly to these proposals and at every turn will act in the best interests of residents and the district. DON'T FORGET THAT THE WRITTEN REPRESENTATION DEADLINE IS 10TH OCTOBER 2023

Timetable-:

- Monday 30th October (evening) open floor hearing.
- Tuesday 31st October – issue specific hearing on traffic and transport
- Wednesday 1st November – issue specific on environment and transport matters.
- Wednesday 1st November - issue specific hearing on need for the development and social-economic matters.
- Thursday 2nd November (morning) – open floor hearing.

Blaby toilets open!

The new toilet facility on Johns Court car park in Blaby village centre is now open to the public. The modern, new facility features a Changing Places unit which has specialised equipment to cater for severely disabled children and adults and their carers as well as a standard accessible toilet. The block has an environmentally friendly natural sedum roof and thanks to the smaller footprint of these toilets we have been able to create an extra disabled parking space immediately adjacent.

Council receives £1.38 million housing funding.

Blaby DC have been awarded £1.38 million in funding after a successful bid was made to the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC) for Local Authority Housing Funding. The funding is based on the Council acquiring 11 units of accommodation, 10 of which will be used to ease homelessness pressures by reducing temporary accommodation costs. The funding also allows for a further unit which will give the Council the opportunity to assist another family from the Afghan Resettlement Scheme that are currently residing in bridging accommodation. However, the grant only represents 40% of capital costs and a further 60% will need to be found in order to acquire the units and the timescales currently attached to the grant conditions are extremely challenging.

Air quality improves.

Air quality improvements will see the removal of three Air Quality Management Areas in Blaby District. These areas are Narborough Road South, the B4114 in Enderby and Narborough and Enderby Road Whetstone. Our latest Air Quality Annual Status report reveals that monitoring at these areas over the last five years has shown consistently low levels of nitrogen dioxide, well below Government targets.

Home Upgrade Grants

Blaby DC are part of an initiative where the most energy poor households could benefit from a portion of a £6.8 million Government funding boost. As part of Green Living Leicestershire, Blaby DC will be able to offer the new funding in the form of a Home Upgrade Grant to help make homes more energy efficient. The grants are targeted at households with the most inefficient heating systems which may also emit the most carbon emissions. A range of enhancements can be supported from the large scale such as insulation, heat pumps or replacement doors and windows to smaller scale measures like smart heating controls or LED lighting.

Big Community Switch

For several years, Blaby DC have supported the Big Community Switch initiative together with iChoosr where residents can benefit from value for money fixed price green energy tariffs through a dedicated auction. This year the council have promoted two rounds of the Big Community Switch – the latest of which is taking place now. It works on the principle that the more people who register an interest in switching, the better the deal suppliers may offer – leading to potentially cheaper 100% green

1207-10/23 Parishioners Time

Coffee morning 29th September 2023 in the afternoon had raised £420 for McMillan

Concerns raised over speeding traffic and where it can be reported – advised via Police website and ideally with registration number.

1208-10/23 Accounts (to be paid appendix B, received appendix C) incorporating

The account detail below was presented to Full Council:

Payee	Description	Nett invoice total	VAT	Invoice total inc VAT	Pay reference
Astley Computers	Annual cloudback up charge	£140.00	£0.00	£140.00	BACS 06.10.23
Clerk	October Salary and Expenses	£580.85	£0.00	£580.85	BACS 04.10.23
HMRC	PAYE October	£140.80	£0.00	£140.80	BACS 06.10.23
ICO	Dara protection renewal	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00	BACS 06.10.23
Thurlaston Village Hall	Hall hire July- Sept	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00	BACS 06.10.23
HSBC Bank charges applied 30.07.23- 29.08.23		£8.00	£0.00	£8.00	
RBL	Poppy wreath and donation S137	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00	BACS 06.10.23

Received

Received from:	Description	
BDC	2nd payment precept 2023-2024	£ 14,606.00

EF requested payment for ICO to be approved via direct debit as reduced charge to £35.00

Decision: Resolved Unanimously.

Accounts listing Proposed/seconded: PM/EH Decision: Accepted

Finance Sub Committee meeting notes circulated to all prior to meeting –

Proposal: Precept increase by 3% £876.00 in total, with the overall precept to be set at £30,088 for 2024-2025.

Decision: Resolved unanimously.

Note: *The Band D element requires confirmation from BDC whereupon receipt, the exact equation/breakdown will be reviewed, discussed and decision made, which is estimated to be January 2024 meeting.*

1209-10/23 Correspondence Received (To be discussed appendix E and for info only F)

CORRESPONDENCE – TO BE DISCUSSED (Appendix E October 2023 mtg)

Format - Email/Letter	Contents
None received	

Approved by Full Council

..... Chair/Vice Chair @ Meeting Date.....

CORRESPONDENCE – FOR INFORMATION ONLY (Appendix F October 2023 mtg)

Format - Email/Letter	Contents
None received	

1210-10/23 Planning (inc Planning Applications as per Appendix G)

PLANNING APPLICATIONS –from 05.09.23 – 03.10.23

None received

1211-10/23 Old School Surgery

MW/RT updated all regarding the recent meeting held with the next scheduled for 25th October 2023. Dr Kitchen had been in attendance although none of the issues or concerns had received any significant answers or positive progression.

1212-10/23 All Saints Church

Update received following the recent meeting held.

Diocese had confirmed that the fabric of the building was the responsibility of the Parish.

5 Year review of the building will reveal all issues and assess the remedial works required in detail.

Diocese support was Gill Elliott.

The original plans for the toilet and servery can be used following the retirement of the original architect.

PCC now has 4 members with the support from the village, to date, being excellent and these will be liaising with local Church Wardens for assistance with grants available etc

1213-10/23 Action List (Appendix H)

Review of outstanding issues and update of actions.

To be added – Footpath friendly mapping for safe route for wheelchair users incorporating drop kerbs

1214-10/23 Recreation Ground 'Rules of Use'

Option of content drafted and circulated to all prior to meeting.

Further review to be placed on December agenda

1215-10/23 TPC Annual Awards

Agenda item to review nominations November meeting.

1216-10/23 Christmas

Light switch on 27th November 2023

Santa run scheduled for Wednesday 20th December 2023

1217-10/23 HNRFI - Rolling agenda item to ensure any dates, issues, matters of interest are raised and discussed

PH to progress with further representations made with reference to LCC and BDC submissions and supporting the content.

Grave concerns regarding A47, lack of sustainable travel to and from site, flooding issues Thurlaston brook – soakaway issues and flood plain.

1218-10/23 Fosse Villages Shaping Our Future - Rolling agenda item. Updates, issues, plan raised and discussed at the meetings of the Fosse Villages Shaping our Futures Forum.
No further updates at the time of meeting.

1219-10/23 TPC Community Working Group Rolling agenda item

The second 'Big Help Out' event took place on 23rd September 2023 with a list of outstanding works compiled from the initial event and also further projects identified and completed.

Refreshments were provided by volunteers at All Saints Church.

Proven to be well supported and attended with a regular addition to the Parish diary of events, one to be held Spring/April and the second September/late autumn.

1220-10/23 Proposed for Closed Session

In accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1(2) and the Local Government Act 1972 s100 (2) the following agenda item is likely to be considered with members of the public and press excluded from the meeting for the reason that matters appertaining to employment of staff are of a confidential nature.

CLERK APPRAISAL – Annual review report had been deferred following the resignation of the Clerk. 6 months Notice has been submitted and accepted.

Recruitment process to commence.

At this point, the Clerk left the meeting and the following detail was recorded by the Chair.

1221-10/23 Exchange of Members Information

MW - Concern has been raised by a parishioner about Thurlaston brook at Nun's Bridge on Earl Shilton Road. The weeds have grown nearly across the brook, partially blocking it. Concern was about possible flooding. Cllr. Wright has said that it needs to be reported to the Environment Agency and the landowner.

PM - reported that the contract tractors have dislodged a number of manhole covers in the field opposite the Garden Centre. Although they are not on the official footpath, there is a danger to dogs and people as the drains are fairly deep.

PH - raised the issue of installing both water and electricity on the recreation ground. It was agreed that we should make enquiries into the possible costs in the first instance.

Chair declared the meeting 'Closed' at approximately 9pm

Next Scheduled Meeting(s) Calendar:

Personnel Committee, October with actual date TBC – closed session

Full Council Meeting: Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7pm

Signed:.....(Chair/Vice Chair) Dated:.....