

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Thrustrington Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 7.45 PM in the village hall

Present:

Cllr Prior, Cllr Kearns, Cllr Newton, Cllr Poland, 4 members of the public and the clerk.

958/2022- Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- N/A

959/2022 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

As agreed Declarations of Interest would be recorded at the start of each meeting. Councillors declaring an interest would still be entitled to take part in discussions unless the item is prejudicial, councillors would not be allowed to vote on the item or add opinion.

- N/A

960/2022 - Public Forum – 10 minutes

Members of the public were asked to declare their name when addressing the Chair if they wish for their name to be mentioned in this section of the meeting, if they did not want their name mentioned they need not declare it.

- A member of the public asked who is responsible for the wildlife site because it is in a poor state. It was noted that the area on the corner of Glebe Road and Hoby Road was the responsibility of Highways and that a complaint should be submitted.

961/2022 – County Council/District Council/Police reports

A copy of Cllr Poland's report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and included:

Charnwood Borough Council to consider raising its Council Tax by 9p a week

Charnwood Borough Council is proposing to raise its share of council tax by less than 9p a week for a Band D property. The proposed increase would see the annual charge for the Charnwood element of an average Band D property rise by £4.61 (3.52 per cent) to £135.69 from April 1, 2022.

The Council's Cabinet considered the proposed budget plans on Thursday, February 10 with its recommendation due to go before Full Council on Monday, February 21. The proposed final budget for 2021/22 is around £17.9 million. This includes making £850,000 of savings, generating extra income through fees and charges and using around £200,000 of reserves.

Councillor Tom Barkley, lead member for finance and property services, said: "We are proposing to increase the Charnwood element of council tax for 2022/23 by less than 9p a week.

"We do not make this proposal lightly. However, it is worth noting that the Charnwood element of council tax accounts for less than 10 per cent of your total bill. For that we provide scores of services, from bin collections and the maintenance of 600 acres of open spaces, to operating three leisure centres and a theatre and much more.

"We are working hard to minimise costs and have identified savings to ensure we are operating as efficiently as possible. I am confident we offer value for money and deliver excellent services for residents."

The proposed savings being considered by the Council include amending the opening hours of the Council's reception and the telephone contact centre and not reintroducing the Shopmobility scheme in Loughborough. There are also proposals to increase charges for the garden waste service and bulky waste collections. More details are on the Council website: www.charnwood.gov.uk/budgetsummary

In recent years, Charnwood has continued to have one of the lowest council tax charges in the country.

People on low incomes can apply for Local Council Tax Support. This gives up to an 85 per cent reduction on the whole council tax bill.

For more information on the proposals, please read the Cabinet report which can be viewed via this link: www.bit.ly/CBCtax2022

Leicestershire invited to negotiate devolution deal

Leicestershire has taken the next step towards securing a ground-breaking, multi-million-pound deal to bring devolved powers to the county. The Government confirmed on the 2nd February that Leicestershire County Council will be one of the first nine areas it will invite to agree a new 'county deal'.

The announcement is part of the Levelling Up White Paper published yesterday and follows a bid submitted by the council in the autumn. Leicestershire is in the vanguard of county deals and the County will work with Government to get the very best deal for Leicestershire's businesses and residents.

The council will now wait to hear from the Government about next steps. One potential effect of the county deal could be a re-organisation of how Leicestershire County Council is run, with the possibility that the County could move to a directly elected Mayor model instead of the current Cabinet and Leader system in place currently.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Leicestershire

A host of special events will be held in the city and county this year to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and mark her 70-year reign as monarch.

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The events, announced on Monday, 7th February by Mike Kapur, Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, include a garden party which he will host for people turning 70 in 2022 as well as the planting of trees and an art competition for primary school children. There are also awards for businesses and communities for 70 organisations.

All you need to know can be found at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/platinum-jubilee with information also available on how you can arrange your own community event or street party.

An extended four-day bank holiday, from Thursday, 2nd June to Sunday, 5th June 2022, has been chosen for the celebratory weekend.

Events include:

- An art competition open to primary school children – with the simple brief of painting a picture about what the Platinum Jubilee means to them. It is open to children in KS1 and KS2 year groups with a winner and runner-up award for each group. The closing date for entries is Friday, 1st April.
- A 70 at 70 garden party is the Lord Lieutenant's special invitation to people who are celebrating their 70th birthday this year. It will take place on Tuesday, 31st May at Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse near Loughborough. Nominations can be made by anyone meeting the criteria and the closing date is Friday, 1st April.
- An award for 70 organisations, such as school, businesses, voluntary and community groups that has done something exceptional to develop community spirit.
- Dozens of beacons will be lit on the evening of Thursday, 2nd June to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Local communities, parish councils, schools, youth groups, and farming communities can get involved by setting up and lighting beacons, sponsoring beacons, or illuminating a home or building – the National Space Centre will also be lit up.

Everyone in the city and county is also being invited to plant a tree as part of The Queen's Green Canopy initiative. Anyone wishing to plant their own tree for the Jubilee can access trees through schemes offered by the Woodland Trust. Residents can also apply to close their street or road for a street party to celebrate on a day over the extended bank holiday weekend, from Thursday, 2nd June to Sunday, 5th June or as part of The Big Lunch on the 5th itself, again visit the website for further details. Normally, a street party road closure would be subject to an administration fee. However, Leicestershire County Council is waiving the fee for Platinum Jubilee street parties.

Campaign to tackle high levels of male suicide in the city and county

Men are being encouraged to talk to their friends about their feelings, as part of a campaign that aims to tackle the high levels of male suicide across Leicester and Leicestershire. A total of 455 deaths by suicide in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland were recorded between January 2015 and June 2021. More than 75 per cent of those deaths – 353 – were men.

The 'Get the Ball Rolling' campaign has been devised by the city, county and Rutland councils' Start a Conversation partnership, and follows a report on male suicide published this year by Healthwatch Leicester and Leicestershire. It uses sporting references on beer mats, posters and on social media to show men how they can start a conversation with others, and where they can get help if they are struggling with their mental health.

Local brewery Everards is backing the campaign by placing the beer mats and posters in its pubs across the city, county and Rutland. It's also got the support of the United Leicester mental health hub, an online platform where members of the local sporting community share their own stories with the aim of helping others to talk and get the support they need. United Leicester is a partnership of the city's four professional sports clubs and funded by their respective official charities.

More about the campaign, advice on how to start a conversation about mental health and information on services on offer in Leicester is available at <https://www.unitedleicester.com/>.

Consultation on proposals to change the way Leicestershire deals with waste and recycling

People are being encouraged to give their views on what happens to waste and recycling in the county. Leicestershire Waste Partnership is asking residents to help shape its blueprint for future services, known as the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy 2022-2050.

A range of pledges, such as delivering reuse services and encouraging residents to prevent unnecessary waste, are set out in the strategy as is, subject to Government policy and funding, implementing household food waste collections. The consultation also seeks views on the future frequency of household waste collections.

The partnership is made up of Leicestershire County Council and all the Borough/District Councils in Leicestershire. By sharing views on this strategy, this will help Leicestershire use its resources more efficiently and become a net zero carbon county. This is an important consultation which asks residents, businesses and communities to share their views on how we can deliver future waste services, and create a cleaner, greener Leicestershire.

There is an urgent need for us to work towards a circular economy, where we reduce the impacts of climate change and take steps to live more sustainably. More than 40 per cent of all household waste in Leicestershire is currently recycled. These figures include reuse, recycling and composting for both kerbside collections and waste deposited at our recycling and household waste sites.

The consultation is open until April 25 and can be found on the county council's consultation page:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/have-your-say/current-engagement/leicestershires-resources-and-waste-strategy-2022-2050>. For copies in other formats, please email lesswaste@leics.gov.uk.

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962/2022 – Resolution to approve the minutes of the meetings held on the 23rd November 2022

A copy of the minutes were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Newton proposed that the minutes be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Kearns and all councillors were in agreement. The minutes will be added to the website.

963/2022 – Resolution to approve payments

A copy of the payment schedule was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting which totaled £262.33. Cllr Prior proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Kearns and all councillors were in agreement.

- Helen Chadwick, clerks salary = £262.33

964/2022 – Update on the local plan and feedback from responses

Steve Watson reported that the working party had been working to promote the Charnwood Borough Council Local Plan in the village to ensure that all parishioners were aware of it and its possible impact on the village. It was reported that a document had been drawn up and distributed in the village and that this had generated 134 responses with 130 objections and 4 in favour. It was noted that the comments will be submitted at the next stage of the consultation but at the moment there is not timescale.

Cllr Poland commented that at this stage there is nothing more for the parish council to do and that once the consultation is open that will be the time to submit our comments. It was noted that it will not be about the number of responses but more about the arguments that are raised.

A member of the public asked about timeframes and Cllr Poland commented that we are waiting on the inspector but that it is likely to be autumn.

A member of the public asked who is overseeing the process at Charnwood Borough Council and Cllr Poland agreed to find out.

Steve Watson asked whether there is anything we need to undertake now to make sure we are represented. Cllr Poland commented that parties can speak at the enquiry and he will let the clerk have the details. It was agreed that the working party would be reintroduced with the support of the parish council so that additional work can be done once we have the dates of the consultation. It was agreed that an article would be included in Thrussington Life to ensure that parishioners are aware of the local plan and to highlight the next steps.

The Chair of the Parish Council thanked the working party for the work they had done to date and that the council were very impressed with what the group had achieved and at such speed. It was incredible to see the village so engaged.

965/2022 – To discuss councillor co-option and agree actions

The clerk reported that following the resignation of Nigel Hainsworth a notice of election had been published by Charnwood Borough Council. It was noted that there was no call for an election and the parish council have been notified that they can now co-opt. An advert will be placed on in the next edition of Thrussington Life and a request for applications of interest to be submitted in early May.

966/2022 – To discuss a volunteering task for someone completing their Duke of Edinburgh Award and agree actions

The Chair reported that we have been approached by members of the public to asked of the parish council would be able to support individuals with tasks that they could use towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Councillors agreed that they would be interested in this in the future if requests from individuals came through.

967/2022 – To discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and agree actions

The clerk reported that she has spoken with Charnwood Borough Council (CBC) regarding a donation towards the village events and it has been confirmed that rather than a financial donation they will provide bunting, flags, etc. if we submit a request. Councillors noted that a village group has been set up to arrange activities over the bank holiday weekend. It was agreed that the clerk would submit a request to CBC for bunting, etc. It was also agreed that we would find out how many children in the village are under 11 and see whether the school are doing anything to mark the event.

968/2022 – To discuss traffic calming and agree actions

The Chair reported that we have submitted a request for all the white lines in the village to be painted as part of the Highways fund. It was agreed that we need to push Highways for the mobile vehicle activator and asked the clerk to arrange a date for a site visit.

969/2022 – Planning applications

- a. P/22/0067/2 - Erection of 3 detached houses - Removal or variation of conditions 7 & 8 of P/04/2301/2 (relating to the timing of road surfacing works) under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 at Wreake House Farm, Regent Street, Thrussington, Leicestershire, LE7 4UB. A copy of the planning application was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors discussed the application and agreed that they would object to the removal of the conditions.
- b. P/21/2593/2 – Erection of 5 dwellings and garages with vehicular accesses and associated works following demolition of existing farm buildings at Hollies Farm, Old Gate Road, Thrussington, Leicestershire, LE7 4TL. A copy of the planning application was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and they agreed that they had no objection.

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970/2022 – Parish Councillor updates

Cllr Kearns reported that:

- The litter pick will take place on Saturday 25th February and will start on Seagrave Road at 9.00 PM. The clerk will inform CBC that the litter will be available to collect on Monday at the bottom of Seagrave Road by the 30mpg. Steve Watson offered to do Hoby Road on Sunday. Councillors thanked Cllr Poland for his support in getting the litter pickers and rubbish bags.

971/2022 – Date of next meeting

- The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 19th April at 8.00 PM in the village hall.

Signed:

Date:

Chair closed the meeting at 21:15