

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Thrussington Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 18th October 2022 at 8.00 PM in the village hall**

Present:

Cllr Prior, Cllr Newby, Cllr Kearns, Cllr Watson, Cllr Chester, Cllr Poland, 3 members of the public and the clerk.

1028/2022 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- N/A

1029/2022 – 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.

- Cllr Watson declared an interest on item 1035 as he is a member of the working party group.

1030/2022 - 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 minuted 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 about the road markings as they have still not been painted. It was noted that these are part of the Highways Fund and have been requested.
- A member of the public commented that residents have spoken with them about not knowing about the parish council, when they meet, can they attend, how they access minutes, etc. It was noted that parish council meetings are a public meeting and everyone is welcome to attend. The agenda and minutes are available on the noticeboard and the website and anyone can contact the clerk directly to ask for a copy. Cllr Watson commented that we have agreed to discuss how we promote the parish council and it was agreed that an article, with meeting dates, would be included in the next edition of Thrussington Life. Cllr Poland suggested that he could also contribute to Thrussington Life.
- A member of the public commented that there are two live planning applications and asked whether these are being reviewed by the parish council. The clerk confirmed that if a planning application is live then we receive notification of this and it is circulated to councillors and if there are concerns it is discussed at a meeting. It was noted that the parish council have 21 days to comment on an application once it is live and if this falls outside of a parish council meeting then the clerk can request an extension to the deadline.
- A member of the public commented on the Gypsy Traveller site and asked if the parish council would be considering this. There was some confusion as to whether this application was live and Cllr Poland confirmed that he had not been made aware of this. It was noted that this application (P/22/1765/2) is awaiting validation. It was agreed that the clerk would look into this with planning.

1031/2022 – County Council/District Council/Police reports

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

Safety Partnership secures £149,000 to help tackle anti-social behaviour and crime

Charnwood Community Safety Partnership has secured £149,000 to help reduce youth-related anti-social behaviour and crime. The partnership, which is made up of the borough council, police, county council, health agencies and others, has received funding through the Home Office's Safer Streets fund. The bid was backed by the Leicestershire Police Crime and Commissioner, Rupert Matthews.

Further funding will be provided by the partnership to take the total for the project to £250,000 which will be used for a variety of projects intended to support young people to make better choices and deter them from getting involved in anti-social behaviour and crime.

All the agencies involved in the Charnwood Community Safety Partnership will be working together to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime in the area. There will be a particular focus on diverting young people who may be involved in anti-social behaviour and crime towards more positive behaviours. This funding is fantastic news for communities in Charnwood enabling investment in projects proven to deter young people from anti-social behaviour and crime.

Different agencies deal with different kinds of anti-social behaviour. The Council has created this online guide which helps people direct ASB reports to the right organisation: https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/asb_guide

Huge budget challenges at County

Leicestershire County Council's budget gap is set to grow from £8m to £28m next year – and could even top £140m by 2026 - as the 'dire' financial situation affecting local authorities intensifies.

Published on Tuesday 20th September, a key report says that the council is in new territory and explains that global events, rising inflation – expected to continue to rise despite recent interventions - surging demand for services and the continued impact of Covid, mean costs are increasing at an unprecedented rate.

It reveals that the nationally agreed pay offer alone requires the council to find an extra £8m, whilst every 50p added to the National Living Wage costs over £10m. Inflation is also expected to add another £20-to-£30m every year for the next four.

Service demand is unrelenting, says the report, and expected to go up by £18m every year, excluding the impact of

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

inflation. Capital costs – for building roads, schools and other one-off projects – could grow by £45m if infrastructure price rises don't reverse.

Although there are no proposals at this stage, the paper illustrates the challenge ahead by providing an initial list of potential areas to investigate for possible service changes or reductions. This includes gritting, parks, bus subsidies, projects reducing smoking and boosting health, Beaumanor Hall and planned big road schemes.

The Leader Nick Rushton has said:

“Our financial situation is frightening, worse than the years of austerity. We've lost £230m a year in spending power since 2010. We're very lean so it's not possible to balance the books without impacting front line services. We pride ourselves on doing the best we can with the money we have but we will have to make some tough decisions. Nothing is off the table.”

As the lowest funded county council under the Government's funding system, Leicestershire will always be sensitive to financial shocks. But the challenge currently being faced will put even the best funded local authorities under pressure. Cabinet member for finance, Lee Breckon, added: “We knew earlier in the year pressure was building, but a perfect storm of global events such as Covid, Russia's war in Ukraine and the cost of living crisis, plus spiralling service demand, means we now have to look across the board at all services. And this will include things that affect our everyday lives such as road repairs, gritting, big road schemes and waste sites, as well as support for adults and children.

“No one wants to do this - and I'm acutely aware this comes at a time when people are increasingly struggling to make ends meet. Support for people who need it most will be prioritised and we're continuing to press our MPs and the new Government for a better deal for our tax payers and to reform special educational needs and disability support.”

A one per cent rise in Council Tax generates £3.6m – councils are allowed to increase rates by 1.99 per cent without holding a referendum.

Over the autumn, residents are set to be asked to help shape plans – more information about how people can comment will be available later this month.

The council will publish its four-year budget proposals in December.

Thousands of Leicestershire pensioners eligible for vouchers

Vouchers have been sent to around 11,000 pensioners in Leicestershire to help them with the continuing cost-of-living crisis.

The one-off £100 payment is the latest part of Leicestershire County Council's £10 million-plus package of support designed to support people in the face of soaring energy bills and rising food prices and other day-to-day costs. The wide-ranging support is helping people make their homes more energy-efficient, delivering food vouchers for 14,000 children during school holidays and providing emergency food, fuel and debt advice.

The voucher can be exchanged for cash at any PayPoint retailer by 16 December.

Information about support with cost of living is available at <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/find-help-with-cost-of-living>.

Changes to opening times at waste sites

The seasonal change in opening hours for Leicestershire's recycling and household waste sites have now come into effect. From Saturday 1 October to 31 March, autumn and winter opening times will apply, with all county council waste site opening times changing to 9am to 4pm, on the days they are open. Last entry will be at 3.55pm.

Sites at Lount, Lutterworth, Melton, Mountsorrel and Whetstone are closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and the Barwell, Coalville, Loughborough, Market Harborough, and Oadby sites are closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

1032/2022 – Resolution to approve the minutes of the meetings held on the 19th July 2022

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

1033/2022 – Resolution to approve payments

A copy of the payment schedule was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting which totaled £461.41. Cllr Kearns proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Prior and all councillors were in agreement.

- ATV Contract Services, mowing = £185.00
- Helen Chadwick, clerks salary = £276.41

1034/2022 – To discuss the request to put up a Christmas tree on the village green on the 27th November, with the lights switch on on the 4th December and use of the electricity on the green for the lights and to run the urn at the light switch on and agree actions

The clerk reported that she had received a request from the community to install a Christmas tree on the village green from the 27th November with the light switch on on the 4th December. Councillors discussed the request and agreed that permission would be granted, this was proposed by Cllr Newton and seconded by Cllr Watson.

1035/2022 – To discuss the request from the local plan working party group for a donation of £400 towards the commission of a professional report to be included in the parish council objection and agree actions

Cllr Watson reported that working party group is producing a lot of information in relation to the Bellway Homes planning application for 68 homes on Old Gate Road. It was reported that along with this work it had been recommended that the parish council would benefit from a profession report and that the group had approached a

THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

company in Nottingham. Cllr Watson reported that following on from an initial quote for the report the working party group request a contribution of £400 to partially fund the professional report.

Cllr Prior proposed that the parish council support the financial request, this was seconded by Cllr Newton and all councillors were in agreement.

Cllr Watson shared examples of the information that is going out to residents and that the group will visited everyone in the village to encourage them to submit an objection based on the main planning issues but also to include their own comments.

It was noted that the site is live and we have until the 10th November to submit comments.

Cllr Poland reported that he has called this application in to the planning committee and he will speak in support of the parish councils objections. It was suggested that someone from the working party group should also request to speak at the committee meeting.

Councillors agreed that the Bellway Homes planning application is not sustainable with the three year land supply that Charnwood Borough Council has.

Cllr Prior commented that this could continue into next year and that the parish council does have limited funds as we have already given a considerable donation that was not expected in the current budget. He commented that we need to start thinking about the 2023/2024 budget and if the application is ongoing we perhaps need to ring fence some funding for future developments.

1036/2022 – Update on the removal and replacement of the parish council noticeboard and agree actions.

The clerk reported that we have agreed include a replacement noticeboard in the 2023/2024 budget and that for the time being the WI noticeboard will be used for parish council notices. It was reported that the current board still needs to be removed.

1037/2022 – Update on the bins on the village green

Cllr Prior that we do need to pick this up again with Charnwood Borough Council as no further action was ever taken following the site visit. Cllr Poland ask for the parish council to email him about this so he can pick it up at Charnwood.

1038/2022 – Update on traffic calming

The clerk reported that the licence for the two sites, Seagrave Road and Hoby Road, has been submitted and that we still need to carry out the public consultation with neighbouring properties.

1039/2022 – Planning applications

A copy of all planning applications are circulated to councillors prior to the meeting

- P/22/1539/2 – Bellway Homes, proposal for 68 homes off Old Gate Road
- Update on the Charnwood Local plan

Cllr Watson reported that the objection has been submitted. Cllr Poland reported that hearings are currently taking place and if adopted it is likely to be next summer.

1040/2022 – Parish Councillor updates

- Cllr Watson asked about the commented made by a member of the public regarding the painting of the white lines in the village. Cllr Poland reported that these have been requested as part of the Highways Fund and are on the schedule but there is a huge delay because of all the requests submitted through the fund.

1041/2022 – Date of next meeting

- It was agreed that the parish council meeting would take place on Tuesday 15th November at 7.30 PM in the village hall.

Signed:

Date:

Chair closed the meeting at 20:30