

# **THRUSSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Thrustrington Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7.30 PM in the village hall**

### **Present:**

Cllr Prior, Cllr Kearns, Cllr Young, Borough Cllr Woodward and the clerk.

### **1130/2023 - Resolution to receive apologies for absence**

- Cllr Newby, Cllr Watson, Cllr Poland

### **1131/2023 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda**

- N/A

### **1132/2023 - 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.

- N/A

### **1133/2023 – County Council/District Council/Police reports**

*A report from Cllr Sandra Woodward was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting:*

Cllr Sandra Woodward, Cllr Laurie Needham and Cllr Chris O'Neill are working across Wreake Villages including Cossington, East Goscote, Queniborough, Rearsby, South Croxton, the Avenues area of Syston and Ratcliffe on the Wreake. We have a provisional link Councillor for each area, however with 3 of us available we can provide flexibility and strength in supporting Thrustrington.

We have close working relationships with the Syston, Sileby and Seagrave Councillors and are working collaboratively with all Councillors for the benefit of residents. This should also help to look at the whole picture in Wreake Villages, whilst at the same time understanding Thrustrington's unique identity and challenges.

It has been a busy time for Borough Councillors, predominantly with planning applications.

#### **1. Old Gate Rd**

Cllr Woodward visited the site and made comments on the planning portal, supporting the issues raised by residents. On 16<sup>th</sup> May there was a request to review highways plan and there is an acknowledgement that the biodiversity assessment is still in progress. On 9<sup>th</sup> June, Bellway have submitted amended plans related to affordable housing. Cllr Woodward has requested a discussion about the application with the case officer. Due to staffing changes, this has not taken place yet, but she will keep chasing this and hopefully will be able to report further next time.

#### **2. Hoby Rd**

Cllr Woodward visited the site and made comments on the planning portal. She has gained further advice from planning officer Susan Chan and it was confirmed that feedback has been given to the applicant that further work is needed on the breeding frog population, the barn owl roost and the loss of grassland and retained hedgerow and there is no current response on the portal. There will be new planning officer assigned to this case as Susan has now left CBC, so I have asked the manager who the interim contact is. It is expected it will be heard at the August plans committee meeting which Cllr Woodward will be in attendance.

#### **3. Local Plan**

Regarding the status of the Local Plan and its adoption, the Inspectorate sent a letter to Charnwood requesting some further information before they can make their decision over its soundness and whether they require modifications.

The letter can be accessed here [CD8.18 Charnwood EIP Inspector Letter 23.05.23.pdf](#)

It's our understanding that CBC have provided the information to the Inspectorate and that there is now some work that needs to be done by the County Council in order for things to progress.

#### **4. Charnwood Arts**

Cllr Woodward is a co-opted member of this charity and plans to increase the reach of services and projects in Thrustrington and the surrounding area. We welcome ideas and input from parish council and residents about how the village might benefit from Charnwood Arts.

#### **5. Contact**

Please do be in touch with either new or outstanding issues that residents require help with, and we will be more than happy to assist. We will make sure our contact details are with residents in the next 2 weeks and we will consider holding a surgery if this works for residents. Please do get in touch between Parish meetings if there is anything we can help with.

*A report from Cllr James Poland was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting:*

### **Views sought on county's flood risk strategy**

Residents are being encouraged to take part in a questionnaire on local flooding launched by Leicestershire County Council. The online survey went live this week and will gather views on the council's updated local flood risk management strategy. Flooding can cause damage, disruption, and destruction where it occurs and increased heavy rainfall suggests the risk could be growing.

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The consultation asks residents for their views on the strategy and for observations on any history of flooding, both on their property and locally. The county council has a duty to investigate flooding in its area and identify the relevant parties who would be responsible for taking action to prevent future repeat occurrences. The strategy details when it will investigate a flood and what level of investigation will be carried out, acknowledging that a number of different parties may have a role in resolving identified flooding issues.

It also looks at how the risk of flooding can be managed from small watercourses which overflow, such as ditches, streams, and brooks, where surface water collects after extreme rainfall, and from ground water which rises from underlying rocks or water flowing from underground springs

Among the key objectives of the strategy are:

- Effective planning policies, guidance, and approval processes to help ensure that development is not at risk and does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- Providing information and support regarding maintenance of watercourses by owners of land which relates to or near to river banks;
- Details of how local projects are developed for at-risk communities.

The consultation will be open until Sunday, 13th August and can be found at [leicestershire.gov.uk/flood-risk-strategy](https://leicestershire.gov.uk/flood-risk-strategy) and, for more information, call 0116 305 4121 or email [flooding@leics.gov.uk](mailto:flooding@leics.gov.uk).

## Call for Leicestershire people to help in fight against ash dieback

Residents are being encouraged to play their part in keeping the countryside green by helping the county council identify and manage diseased ash trees. Leicestershire County Council is dealing with the ongoing challenge of ash dieback, which has seen thousands of ash trees wiped out across the UK. The highly destructive disease is caused by a fungus and can lead to infected trees shedding branches or limbs, or potentially falling as the tree dies.

There are no exact figures for the number of ash trees in Leicestershire, but it is estimated that there are more than half a million in the county, with around 120,000 of them at the side of roads. Many of the trees are on private land, and the council is working to raise awareness of the issue among residents, businesses and landowners to remind them of their responsibility to ensure their trees do not become a hazard to road users and member of the public using footpaths.

The council has created a booklet full of help and advice on ash dieback, including clear information on the steps which landowners with infected trees on their land need to take to halt the spread of the disease, as well as pictures showing the symptoms of ash dieback. The booklets have been supplied to each of Leicestershire's 130 tree wardens to support their work with landowners, and are available to download from the council's website. More information on ash dieback, including a short video, can also be found on the website.

The county council is working to protect existing trees, while also helping to plant 700,000 more – one for every person living in Leicestershire – over the next decade. The tree planting drive has just reached the landmark figure of 250,000 trees. Landowners are also being reminded that, with certain exemptions, all trees in Britain are protected by the Forestry Act, which means that a felling licence may be required to remove them. Tree owners should be clear that their tree is in an exempted category, which includes trees in gardens; or obtain a licence, before any felling takes place.

## **1134/2023 – Resolution to approve the minutes of the meetings held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**

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

## **1135/2023 – Resolution to approve payments**

A copy of the payment schedule was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting which totaled £1,267.01. Cllr Kearns proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Young and all councillors were in agreement.

ATV, mowing service	£270.00
Helen Chadwick, clerks salary	£276.41
Zurich Municipal, annual PLI	£513.20
HMRC, PAYE	£207.40

## **1136/2023 – Planning applications**

- a. Via email Cllr Watson reported that outline planning permission from application 22/1168/2 had been granted on the 25<sup>th</sup> May with conditions, this is for 65 homes off Gaddesby Lane, Rearsby.
- b. Via email Cllr Watson reported that he was pleased to acknowledge support from Councillor Woodward, though he hadn't been able to find her comments on the planning portal, either for [P/22/1539/2](#) (Old Gate Road) or [P/23/0406/2](#) (Hoby Road). As stated in her report, the Local Plan comments that we were expecting from the inspectors by the end of May were not informative as they were just asking for more information, rather than giving an idea of the recommendations they were going to be consulting on. Bellway have continued to have conversations with CBC and have submitted new plans with minor changes, without answering further questions on open space, or affordable housing.

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- c. P/23/1048/2 – Construction of single storey rear extension at 12 Fernely Rise. A copy of the planning application was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed that they had no comments.
- d. P/23/07562/2 – Alterations to roof profile and fenestration, additional roof lights and first floor extension to rear of house at 8 The Green. A copy of the planning application was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed that they had concerns about the change to the street scene, that the property would not be in keeping with others properties or the conservation area or neighbourhood plan.

## **1137/2023 – Update on the speed sign**

The clerk confirmed that there was nothing further to report since the last meeting. It was noted that following the accident in the village speed checks have been carried and it was agreed that the parish council would ask for the results.

## **1138/2023 – Parish Councillor updates**

- Cllr Prior asked for LRALC training information to be circulated to councillors.
- Cllr Prior commented that we had received a communication from Openreach regarding services to the village. It was agreed that they would be invited to a future meeting and that this would be published in Thrussington Life. It was also suggested that we find out what Rearsby are doing and whether we have a joint meeting.
- Cllr Kearns asked whether anything had happened with the weight limit signs through the village. The clerk confirmed that Cllr Poland had provided an update but there was nothing else reported about the signs. It was agreed that this would be followed up by the clerk.

## **1139/2023 – Dates of 2023 meetings**

- A copy of the draft meeting dates were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
  - Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September
  - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October
  - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Signed:**

**Date:**

Chair closed the meeting at 19:45