



NEWTOWN LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting was held on Wednesday 9th February 2022 at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall.

0491/22 Members present:

Councillors Sue Pritchard (Chairman), Tim Porte (Vice-Chairman), Rob Haylock, Vicki Lightfoot and Tara Pickles.

Also in attendance: Clerk - Hannah Shaw, Borough Councillor - David Snartt, County Councillor - Deborah Taylor, Tree Warden - Brian Anderson, PC Greg Moore and PCSO Mitch Jarvis

0492/22. Apologies for absence:

Councillor Sue Greasley and Bradgate Park Director - James Dymond.

The Chairman expressed her thanks to Councillor Stuart Eyre who had resigned from the Parish Council on 14th January 2022 after 5 years' service. Councillor Eyre had volunteered to continue helping with inspections of the Bob Bown Play Park, for which Councillors are grateful. The Chairman and Clerk will present Councillor Eyre with a token of appreciation.

A casual vacancy will be advertised once guidance is received from Democratic Services at CBC.

0492/22. Confirm and sign minutes of the 5th January 2022 meeting:

These were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

0493/22. Declaration of Parish Councillor's personal and/or prejudicial interests on agenda items:

There were no new declarations of interest.

The Chairman represents the Gardening Club on the Village Hall Committee.

The Chairman is a member of the Management Committee at Lingdale Golf Club.

Councillor Tara Pickles represents the Council on the Magazine Committee.

0494/22. Police Matters and NHW reports:

PCSO Mitch Jarvis reported the following crime statistics for January:

1 x Report of Criminal Damage - Car scratched - no suspects identified.

2 x Reported Thefts - A theft of a mobile phone and a theft of copper piping - no suspects identified.

The Chairman asked if the Police had any knowledge of the apparent theft of mobile homes from the Lady Jane Mobile Home Park. The Police had not received any report of this theft but will make enquiries and report back.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0495/22. Bradgate Park

Bradgate Park Director, James Dymond, had sent apologies to the meeting. The Clerk reported the Deer Barns Tearoom refurbishment was due to start on Monday 21st February and would continue until Easter. During this time, the Visitor Centre will be open daily for hot drinks and snacks and the Alonzi Catering Van would be parked at the Deer Barns Tearoom too.

A Councillor commented that works to the overflow car park in Newtown Linford had now commenced.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0496/22. Report by County Councillor Deborah Taylor.

See Appendix One

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0497/22. Report by the Borough Councillor, David Snartt.

See Appendix Two

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0498/22. Village Governance and Residents:

There was nothing to report.

0499/22. Newtown Linford Biodiversity

The proposed area for the wildflower area on Groby Lane had now been marked out by members of Newtown Linford Biodiversity, in time for the LCC grass cutting schedule resuming. The Clerk confirmed NLB were taking responsibility for the area and would sow wildflower seeds.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0500/22. Planning: Buildings and Tree Issues:

- **Decisions**

a) P/21/1994/2 - Hill View House, Benscliffe Road, Newtown Linford - Proposed detached single storey annex for ancillary staff accommodation – Grant Conditionally 10/01/22.

Resolve: Noted. The Chairman expressed her disappointment at this decision.

- **Comments submitted through Planning Explorer**

b) P/21/2161/2 - 103/105 Main Street, Newtown Linford - Refurbishment and alterations to join 103 and 105 into a single family residence and alterations to existing garage building – No Objection 06/01/22

c) P/21/2200/2 - Field Lodge, 38 Main Street, Newtown Linford - Erection of single storey extension to rear of house – No Objection 25/01/22

d) P/22/0027/2 - 74 Roecliffe Road, Newtown Linford - Two storey rear extension, single storey front extension, and patio – No Objection 04/02/22

Resolve: Ratified. The application for Field Lodge, 38 Main Street, had now been granted conditionally on 08/02/22.

- **Discuss**

e) P/21/2642/2 - 524 Bradgate Road, Newtown Linford - (Advice) Erection of detached dwelling and garage following demolition of existing.

Resolve: Councillors discussed this application at length and had no objection to the plans in principle but would await the further details of the full planning application before passing comment. This application currently seeks advice from CBC and is for information only.

- **Trees**

There were no tree applications to discuss.

The Chairman reported the works carried out to the Willow tree at 516 Bradgate Road, had been approved by Charnwood Borough Council, who had confirmed were in keeping with the conditions set in a previous application to pollard.

Tree Warden, Brian Anderson, raised the issue of two Ash trees in the hedgerow at 528 Bradgate Road. The trees are rotten and need felling but was unsure if they were on private or highways land. Councillor Snartt suggested legal advice should be sought as the trees are deemed to be a danger to the highway. However, it was assumed if the trees are sited on private land, it would be the landowners responsibility to have them removed. The Clerk offered details of the arboriculturist used for PC tree works.

Resolve: Noted.

- **Other**

f) P/21/2522/2 - Off Nearest DP100 Markfield Lane, Newtown Linford, LE67 9PQ (outside 185 Markfield Lane) - Install 1 x 10m wooden pole (9.0m above ground). Application Type: Equipment PD Notification (For information only).

Resolve: Noted.

0501/22. Bob Bown Memorial Field:

Councillors considered Solicitor quotations received with regards new Heads of Terms and draft lease of 21 years for the Bob Bown Memorial Field. Work to include preparing, reviewing, negotiating, finalising and reporting to you on the following documentation:

1. Lease
2. Inspecting the freehold title
3. Raising enquiries
4. Requisitions on title
5. Land Registry application
6. Completion arrangements

- a) Quotation 1 - £950 plus VAT and disbursements estimated in the region of £56.00
- b) Quotation 2 - £800 plus VAT and Land Registry Fees @ £45.00
- c) Quotation 3 - £400 plus VAT and Land Registry Fees @ an estimated £50.00

Resolve: Councillors voted unanimously in favour of accepting quotation 3 at a cost of £400 plus VAT plus land registry fees. Clerk to action and inform CBC. Solicitor - Mark Tildesley of Garrett-Long Solicitors in Anstey.

The Clerk reported the boulders and damaged sign at the Bob Bown Memorial Field had now been cleared and is liaising with the resident regarding replacement signage.

Resolve: Noted

0502/22. Village Magazine:

Councillor Pickles had attended the Annual Meeting of the Village Magazine Committee on Wednesday 19th January 2022. It had been reported there had been a drop in advertising revenue as businesses were impacted by Covid and it was also felt the Parish Council Facebook weekly marketing post had impacted on this.

The Chairman replied that on average four residents a week would respond to the post and these were not businesses that had previously advertised in the magazine. In addition businesses were increasingly utilising their own digital advertising.

The annual Parish Council donation 2022 had been paid, however, it may be increased in future if costs cannot be covered through advertising revenue.

Resolve: Noted.

0503/22. Parish Council Website/Facebook Page:

The Clerk reported Facebook group membership had increased to 383 members and website hosting, licence and support had been renewed with 2Commune for the 2022/2023 financial year, costing £552.00 inclusive.

Resolve: Noted.

0504/22. Village Hall:

The Chairman, Councillor Sue Pritchard, had attended the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Committee on Monday 17th January 2022.

It was reported there is a leak in the large hall cupboard.

The Village Quiz will take place on Friday 20th May 2022 and will be advertised in the Village Magazine, followed by the Facebook group.

Resolve: Noted. The Chairman will report the leak to the VHC Chairman, Toby Manning.

0505/22. Highways, Footpaths, Street Furniture, Traffic and Transport:

A resident had reported an issue with street lighting column 3 outside 105 Main Street. The Clerk had requested a quotation from LCC to a) paint out the back light of the existing lantern or b) replace with LED lantern and back shield, to prevent glare into property, reference FS392972126 and awaits their response 13/01/22.

Resolve: Noted.

The Chairman asked Councillor Taylor if there had been any update on the patching works to the speed hump on Main Street by Tyburn Footpath. Councillor Taylor reported works would be taking place but no date had been confirmed as yet.

Resolve: Noted.

0506/22. Churchyard and Cemetery:

- Councillors considered final quotations received for the Grounds Maintenance contract for the 2022/2023 financial year between March and October 2022. The Clerk advised the following:
 - a) Quotation 1 - £13,700 to include fortnightly grass cuts, weed killing as required and strimming twice a year or as and when necessary and hedge tidy.
 - b) Quotation 2 - £12,750 to include fortnightly grass cuts and strimming, three applications of herbicide, three applications of moss killer to the Cemetery driveway/gravel path, end of season front hedge cut, Yew hedge and shrubs and a mid-season trim of the Yew hedge and shrubs.
 - c) Quotation 3 - the third contractor had responded to inform NLPC they do not have capacity this year.

Resolve: Councillors voted unanimously in favour of accepting quotation 2. Clerk to action. Contractor - Michael Liggins of Firetree, Quorn.

0507/22. Correspondence:

Resignation received in writing to the Chairman from Councillor Stuart Eyre on 14/01/22. CBC Democratic Services informed 17/01/22.

LCC Communication - Electric Vehicle Car Club Survey received by email via LRALC 13/01/22. Clerk attended EV Car Club briefing 02/02/22.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) development - public engagement on draft networks received by email 21/01/22 and sent to Councillors.

Support for groups caring for the landscape and heritage of the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership area received by email 25/01/22 and sent to Newtown Linford Biodiversity group.

Final recommendations published for boundary review received by email 01/02/22 and sent to Councillors.

Resolve: Noted. Councillors to respond or action individually where appropriate.

0508/22. Scheme of Delegation

Councillors were asked to review the motion to provide for delegation to the Clerk, any decision that must be made if the council is incapacitated and unable to hold a meeting.

Resolve: Councillors unanimously agreed that in response to the Covid-19 outbreak in the UK and in the event that it is not possible to convene a meeting of the council in a reasonable time, the Clerk shall have delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the council where such decision cannot reasonably be deferred and must be made in order to comply with a commercial or statutory deadline. The delegation does not extend to matters expressly reserved to the council in legislation or in its Standing Orders or Financial Regulations. Any decisions made under this delegation must be recorded in writing and must be published in accordance with the relevant regulations. This delegated authority will be reviewed monthly at meetings of the council after the delegation was put in place, until such time a decision is made to rescind the agreement when the Covid-19 outbreak is stable.

0509/22. Reports on Meetings and Training by Councillors and Clerk:

Chairman, Councillor Pritchard attended the Village Hall Committee AGM 17/01/22
Councillor Pickles attended the Village Magazine Committee Annual Meeting 19/01/22
Clerk attended LCC Parish Clerks' Liaison Meeting 20/01/22
Clerk attended Electric Vehicle Car Club Information Session 02/02/22
Clerk attended LCC Best Practice Public Engagement Workshop 03/02/22

Resolve: Noted.

0510/22. Items of Interest or for future meetings:

LCC had announced there would be no charge for road closures to accommodate street parties over the Platinum Jubilee bank holiday weekend, from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June inclusive.

Resolve: Noted. Clerk to advertise in the Village Magazine and on the Facebook page.

0511/22. Finance:

The Chairman reported having been granted access to the Natwest Online Banking facilities and the previous Clerk, Pam McMorrان, had now been removed.

Resolve: Noted

04.01.22	NEST	Pension Contributions	£61.77
06.01.22	Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator Emergency Telephone System	£120.00
06.01.22	LCC Street Lighting Column Removal and Replacement, Bradgate Rd.		£1570.68
10.01.22	P Haddon	Village Maintenance Aug – Dec '21 inc	£165.00
11.01.22	Equals Money*	For Online Purchase of Memorial Tree Plaque	£46.00
12.01.22	PWLB	Loan Repayment	£2468.06
14.01.22	HS	Expenses – Memorial Plaque	£46.00
21.01.22	Leics. Footpath Association	Subscription 2022	£6.00
21.01.22	NL Village Magazine	Donation	£650.00
28.01.22	HS	Broadband and Out of Plan Calls January	£50.67

28.01.22	HS	Salary	£1069.42
28.01.22	2Commune	Website Hosting, License and Support	£552.00
28.01.22	LCC	Street Lighting Col.5 LED Conversion	£505.15
28.01.22	LCC	Street Lighting Maintenance Recharge	£4245.61
02.02.22	NEST	Pension Contributions	£47.21

Total Expenditure **£11,557.57**

*NB Card declined upon purchase. Money taken from card but order unsuccessful. Refund received 20/01/22. Purchased through expenses instead.

Bank Balances:

Business Current Account @ 03/02/22	£2113.67
Business Reserve Account @ 03/02/22	£65,000.59

Total **£67,114.26**

0512/22. Dates of the next two Parish Council Meetings.

Councillors voted to cancel the March meeting due to other commitments

- Wednesday 27th April 2022 7.15pm
- Wednesday 25th May 2022 7.15pm (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting)

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed by Chair:-.....

Dated:-.....

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Appendix One – Report by County Councillor, Deborah Taylor

County Council Report – February 2022

County Deal

The county has taken the next step towards securing a ground-breaking deal to bring more devolved powers to a local level. The Government has confirmed 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 last week and follows a bid submitted by the council in the autumn.

This will be an opportunity to have a greater say over local services and their funding, matters which affect everyone in Leicestershire. The county council are very grateful to the County’s MPs, and to Neil O’Brien in particular, for their help and support. The deal is also supported by the District Council Leaders

The wellbeing of children and young people has been an important part of our bid, which has made it particularly attractive to Government. Leicestershire has lost out for far too long – so we're fully committed to levelling up. We look forward to working with Michael Gove and his ministerial team to get the best possible deal for Leicestershire's residents.

The council will now wait to hear from the Government about next steps and a meeting is due to be set up in the next week.

Leicestershire Waste Partnership

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 seven districts. The consultation is open until April 25th and can be found on the county council's 'Have your Say 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

The Queens Platinum Jubilee

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.

The events, announced 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 aged children
- 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.

Thinking of holding an event to celebrate? Detailed below is some information and key dates that you may find useful to get you started.

Planning on having a street party to celebrate the event?

You will need to apply to Leicestershire County Council to close your street/road to traffic by completing sections 3 and 4 of the Queen's Jubilee event registration form. I have the forms if you would like them.

All fees associated with the legal application have been waived for The Queen's Jubilee and the application time reduced to 6 weeks, please note this is only for The Queen's Jubilee and does not apply to other events.

If you wish to apply for a road closure or any other restrictions the last date for submission is Friday 15th April 2022.

Given the occasion and following Government guidance the council will not be asking for the usual required documentation for a road closure, however consideration still needs to be given to ensure the safety of all attendees. Within the registration form you will find some additional information for you to consider. Further Government advice on road closures for street parties can be found here; <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/your-guide-to-organising-a-street-party>

The information you supply to us regarding your event will be shared with the emergency services so they can put their own plans and resources in place

Signs and Cones

Leicestershire County Council Highways is offering the loan of signs and cones, should you require these please complete the signs form. Signs and cones must be collected from, and returned to, the LCC Mountsorrel Highways Depot. Appropriate arrangements will need to be made for collection or a quote for delivery can be requested. The deadline for your cones and signs applications is Friday 15th April 2022.

Adult Learning Courses

Leicestershire residents looking to learn new skills or take up a new hobby can save 20% on fees for hundreds of part-time day, evening, and weekend courses, as the discount deadline has been extended to 28th February. The discount is applied to all fee-paying courses for anyone who enrolls by 28th February, on top of the 70% reduced fee, which is available to learners on certain benefits (e.g. Universal Credit, JSA, etc.) and for those on a low household income.

The courses are open for enrolment from GoLearn, Leicestershire County Council's Adult Learning Service and include a wide range of digital skills classes as well as Italian, Spanish, British Sign Language and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). There are also courses on online safety, first aid, pottery, Indian cookery, astronomy, yoga, drawing & painting, stained glass, textiles and much more.

All courses can be searched online at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/golearn. Learners can also call GoLearn on freephone 0800 988 0308 (lines open Monday – Friday 8.30am-7pm) and speak to a member of the team to find out more about the courses, fees or paying by instalments.

Cllr Deborah Taylor

Appendix Two – Report by Borough Councillor, David Snartt

Information from David Snartt.

New Political Map.

Charnwood Borough Council is set to have new boundaries for its council wards. The Local Government Boundary Commission is an independent body that draws these boundaries. It has reviewed Charnwood to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively. The Commission has published final recommendations for changes to Charnwood Borough Council. It says residents should be represented by 52 councillors. This is the same as current arrangements. There will be four fewer wards than there is now. The boundaries of all but two of the existing wards will change. The Commission believe the new arrangements will guarantee electoral fairness while maintaining local ties. 150 submissions from local residents and organisations helped decide the new wards. My ward of Forest Bradgate which includes the villages of Newtown Linford, Ulverscroft, Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves, largely stays the same, only a small area of Alan Turing Road is placed in Loughborough Shelthorpe Grange ward. Forest Bradgate ward will still be represented by a single Councillor.

I am grateful to both the Newtown Linford and Woodhouse Parish Councils for their contribution to the Commission's consultation stating similar views. That the current Forest Bradgate ward should be retained to keep the focus on the issues that they have in common. Their rural nature raises issues with traffic, tourism and conservation. They also cited the close working relationship between the two Parish Councils. I also expressed similar views.

Parliament now needs to agree the changes. The new arrangements will then apply for the next Borough Council elections in 2023.

New Armed Forces Bill

New legislation which ensure Armed Forces personnel, veterans and their families are better supported when accessing key public services has been passed in Parliament. The Armed Forces Bill places the Armed Forces Covenant in law for the first time to help prevent service personnel and veterans being disadvantaged when accessing essential services like healthcare, education and housing. It will ensure councils pay regard to the sacrifice made by our Armed Forces community.

Charnwood Borough Council signed the Armed Forces Covenant in 2013 and employs an Armed Forces Community Covenant Development Officer, in partnership with Melton and Rushcliffe Borough Councils to help develop and support the Armed Forces community. One way the Council demonstrates its commitment to supporting the Armed Forces community, is with a guaranteed interview scheme for veterans who apply for jobs with the Council. Those who meet the essential criteria are guaranteed an interview.

More information about support available to Armed Forces personnel can be found on the Council's website.

Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant.

Over 300 businesses in Charnwood have applied for a new business grant which aims to help hospitality and leisure firms impacted by Omicron. Charnwood Borough Council is administering the Government funding and is urging eligible businesses to come forward and take up the funding offer. A new earlier deadline has also been set for applications which need to be in by February 14th.

The Omicron Hospitality and Leisure grant aims to support hospitality, leisure, and accommodation businesses in the Borough which have been impacted by the Omicron variant. The scheme will provide eligible businesses with a one-off grant of up to £6,000. Grants are available to businesses that have a business rates account as of Thursday December 30, 2021. Full eligibility criteria and how to apply can be found on the Council's website at www.charnwood.gov.uk/omicron_grant. To stay up to date about business news including grant schemes involving Charnwood Borough Council, please sign up to the Council's e-mail alerts at www.charnwood.gov.uk/email_alerts

The Tiger Who Came to Tea.

I have received this information from the Charnwood Museum about their latest exhibition, the tiger who came to tea. The exhibition originated by Seven Stories, the National Centre for Children's Books, features a number of Judith Kerr's original illustrations from the Seven Stories collection and promises to bring this delightful book to life for a new generation of family audiences.

There will also be a reproduction of Sophie's kitchen, where young visitors can sit down to tea with a 4ft cuddly tiger, a reading area, dressing up, puzzles, games and lots more Tiger-related activities to appeal to the latest generation of young readers. The exhibition is currently running until Saturday 5th March 2022. For more information on what is happening at Charnwood Museum visit their website at www.charnwoodmuseum.co.uk