



NEWTOWN LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting was held on Monday 26th July 2021 at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall.

0358/21 Members present:

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

Also in attendance: Clerk - Hannah Shaw, Borough Councillor - David Snartt, County Councillor - Deborah Taylor, PC Greg Moore, PCSO Mitchell Jarvis and three residents.

0359/21. Apologies for absence:

Councillors Stuart Eyre, Sue Greasley and Rob Haylock and Tree Warden, Brian Anderson.

0360/21. Confirm and sign minutes of the 5th May 2021 annual meeting of the Parish Council:

These were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

0361/21. 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.

0362/21. Police Matters and NHW reports:

Crime statistics received for May 2021: 1 x Criminal Damage reported

PCSO Mitch Jarvis reported there had only been one report of criminal damage in June which was the theft of wood from a bench at the Cemetery. Crime reference 21000316152.

The Clerk reported Sgt Steve Kilsby had moved on from the Charnwood West Police Beat Team and had been replaced by Sgt Chris Wharton.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0363/21. Report by County Councillor Deborah Taylor.

See Appendix One

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0364/21. Report by the Borough Councillor, David Snartt.

See Appendix Two

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0365/21. Village Governance and Residents:

Councillors to consider possible plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2/3/4/5 June 2022.

Resolve: Councillors agreed to discuss this at a meeting later in the year, once other village organisations had been consulted.

0366/21. Planning: Buildings and Tree Issues:

- **Decisions**

a) P/21/0485/2 - 307 Markfield Lane, Newtown Linford - Proposed single storey rear extension - Grant Conditionally 12/05/21.

b) P/21/0744/2 - Ivy House Farm, 72 Main Street - Refurbishment of windows retaining original frames, cutting out perished timber and splicing in sections of new frame. Re-glaze with heritage slim profile double glazing. Replacement of existing non-original casement windows. No objection 10/05/21 - Grant Conditionally 09/06/21.

c) P/21/0918/2 - 269 Markfield Lane, Newtown Linford - Proposed single storey extension to rear of dwelling - No objection 04/06/21 - Grant Conditionally 17/06/21.

Cllr. Tara Pickles had recused herself from discussions regarding this planning application.

d) P/21/0107/2 - Sunday School, Bradgate Road - Change of use of premises from public worship or religious institution to retail shop - Grant Conditionally 08/07/21

Resolve: Noted.

- **Comments submitted through Planning Explorer**

e) P/21/0450/2 - 9 Cravens Rough, Willoughby, Ulverscroft Lane, Newtown Linford - Demolition of existing dwelling on-site, and the erection of a replacement dwelling and associated development, including new hard and soft landscaping works and a new water treatment plant - No objection 08/06/21

Resolve: Ratified

- **Discuss**

f) P/21/1260/2 - Land at Ashby Road, Markfield -Outline planning application for residential development of up to 93 dwellings, public open space, landscaping and associated works. All matters reserved except for access.

Resolve: Objection. Councillors agreed to support colleagues at Markfield Parish Council and residents of Markfield and Newtown Linford, by objecting to this application.

Land for development in Markfield has been identified for future housing needs through the Markfield Neighbourhood Plan and an area south of the Village with access off London Road, has been allocated for considerable housing growth, with a planning application submitted in late 2020 for 282 dwellings.

This application for a residential development of up to 93 dwellings on land north-east of Ashby Road, Markfield, lies outside the identified area for growth and encroaches into an elevated part of

Charnwood Forest; an area of natural beauty within the parish of Newtown Linford, which Councillors strongly believe should be protected and remain undeveloped to retain this area of green space.

The proposed development would increase pressure on already stretched services, including the GP Surgery on Chitterman Way which serves a large number of Newtown Linford parish residents, Mercenfeld Primary School and South Charnwood High School.

Highway safety would also be compromised by having the entry and exit road to this proposed development located so close to the blind bend leading onto Whitwick Road, where a national speed limit of 60mph is in force. Traffic flow would also be considerably increased at peak times by motorists leaving Markfield via Leicester Road and the A50 roundabout at Field Head, where there are no traffic signals in operation. Residents already struggle exiting both Markfield and Newtown Linford safely onto the dual carriageway at busy times and further vehicles leaving Markfield would only add to this ongoing local problem. The Chairman asked this application be called in by CBC Plans Committee and wishes to speak. Clerk to submit comments to Planning Explorer.

g) P/21/1436/2 (Listed Building Consent) and P/21/1354/2 for Roecliffe Hall, Swithland Road - Improvements and installation of timber gates to existing East side site entrance.

Resolve: No Objection. Clerk to submit to Planning Explorer.

- **Appeal Decision**

h) P/20/0712/2 - Browns Hay, Markfield Lane, Newtown Linford – Allowed 20/05/21.

Resolve: Noted

- **Trees**

i) P/21/1291/2 - 528A Bradgate Road - T1 Field Maple – Fell

Cllr. Vicki Lightfoot recused herself from discussions regarding this application.

j) P/21/1243/2 - 3 Bracken Hill - T1 Oak tree - crown reduce by 3 metres or to the closest grown point (and remove dead wood - exempt works).

Resolve: Noted.

- **Other**

k) CBC Five Year Supply Update received by email 19/05/21.

l) Premises Licence (Grant) – Box of Smiles Ltd, 65 Main Street – Online sale of alcohol Monday to Sunday 00.00 – 23.59hrs.

m) CBC Local Plan Update received by email 27/05/21.

Resolve: Noted. Councillors to email comments to the Clerk regarding the CBC Local Plan Consultation by 16/08/21.

n) Pre-planning consultation received from WHP Telecoms Ltd for a proposed 20m 'Phase 8 monopole' and associated power and transmission cabinets on Markfield Lane.

Resolve: Noted. Councillor Snartt reported a meeting was planned with residents living closest to the proposed monopole and would submit comments thereafter. Councillors compared proposals to a similar monopole already in place on Groby Lane and hoped the pole would be painted green to blend into the surroundings.

0367/21. Bob Bown Memorial Field:

- Councillors considered a quotation received with respect to tree works identified through the recent Duty of Care Tree Inspection at a total cost of £2340 inclusive of VAT, across all three Parish Council maintained sites.

Resolve: Councillors agreed unanimously to accept the quotation. Clerk to obtain permission through the CofE Online Faculty System and apply for tree works within a conservation area for those identified at All Saints' Churchyard. Clerk to obtain permission from CBC for works to trees at Bob Bown Memorial Field.

- Wicksteed Play Ltd had carried out the new equipment installations between 24/06/21 - 30/06/21. This work has been funded by the National Lottery Community Fund – Awards for All grant.

Resolve: Noted. Councillors authorised payment to the value of £11,904 inclusive of VAT.

- Heads of Terms for a new 21 year fully maintained lease, had been received by email from CBC on 13/07/21 and circulated to Councillors on the Bob Bown Memorial Field and Play Park Committee. Rent will be determined by the Chartered Surveyor once terms have been agreed in principle.

Resolve: Noted. The Chairman commented that should CBC end the agreement, the Parish Council would be liable for removing remaining park equipment. The Parish Council will need to pay legal fees prior to the new lease terms commencing, totalling an estimated £700 plus VAT.

0368/21. Village Magazine:

There was nothing to report. The next magazine deadline for the September edition is 15th August.

0369/21. Parish Council Website/Facebook Page:

The Clerk reported Facebook group membership had increased to 355 members.

Resolve: Noted.

0370/21. Village Hall:

A Councillor reported the Village Hall had reopened for business following an 18 month closure due to COVID-19. A Covid Risk Assessment is in place and village hall hirers will be responsible for ensuring limits on attendance etc. are adhered to. The current limit is 150 persons in accordance with fire regulations.

Resolve: Noted.

0371/21. Highways, Footpaths, Street Furniture, Traffic and Transport:

- The Chairman updated Councillors on the TRO for Newtown Linford and areas surrounding the three Bradgate Park entrances. Following complaints from some Main Street residents, LCC are conducting a further informal consultation to gauge resident views regarding reinstating some areas of on road parking on upper Main Street only. The Chairman summarised the proposals and plans had been cascaded to all Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

A meeting had been held by some residents and a response had been submitted to LCC with their alternative suggestions but these residents were happy to accept LCC’s proposed alterations in full, if their suggested amendments were not possible. All residents of upper Main Street had received correspondence and were asked to reply in writing to Lee Measures at LCC within one month.

In general, other areas had benefitted from the installation of double yellow lines and no complaints regarding other areas had been received with the exception of a perceived increase in traffic speeds along Roecliffe Road (see below).

The Chairman and Clerk had also requested the double yellow lines outside 130 Main Street be lengthened past 126 Main Street, due to obscured sight lines in both directions and this suggestion had been included in the most recent correspondence.

CLr Taylor confirmed the Parish Council could submit a response to the informal consultation themselves and the outcome of this consultation would determine what happens thereafter.

Resolve: Noted. The Chairman was pleased LCC were addressing resident concerns and Councillors were happy to support changes to incorporate some on road parking, providing this does not impede highway safety by obscuring sight lines for both residents entering and exiting driveways and for incoming and outgoing traffic to and from the village. Clerk to submit a response to the informal consultation for upper Main Street on behalf of the Parish Council.

- Concerns had been raised by a resident regarding an increase in traffic speeds on Roecliffe Road since the double yellow line restrictions were implemented. Vice-Chairman, Tim Porte, had analysed downloaded data from the Roecliffe Road VAS over a 35 day period either side of the double yellow line installation and reported the following statistics:

Direction	Number of vehicles recorded	Before Double Yellow Lines 26/02/21 – 03/04/21			After Double Yellow Lines 04/04/21 – 09/05/21		
		Within 40mph Limit	Exceeding 40mph	No. of vehicles excessively speeding 70mph +	Within 40mph Limit	Exceeding 40mph	No. of vehicles excessively speeding 70mph +
Incoming from Joe Moores Lane towards Roecliffe Road	62,665	67.4%	32.6%	43 (highest speed 75mph)	65.2%	34.8%	66
Outgoing from Roecliffe	67,751	72.7%	27.3%	140	70.9%	29.1%	134

Road towards Joe Moores Lane							
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The data showed a slight increase of approximately 2% of vehicles speeding following the installation of double yellow lines, however, the average number of vehicles had risen from 1790 vehicles per day before yellow lines, to 1936 after the installation of yellow lines and in line with daylight hours extending and lockdown restrictions easing. The Chairman commented that previous VAS data had showed excessive speeds are generally during evening hours.

Resolve: Noted. Councillors felt there had been no significant variation in traffic speeds since the installation of double yellow lines, however, traffic had become busier since Easter and the installation of double yellow lines, along with daylight hours extending and the easing of lockdown restrictions. On previous occasions prior to the yellow lines being implemented, dangerously and obstructively parked vehicles will have also slowed incoming and outgoing traffic. PC Greg Moore commented the number of vehicles excessively speeding was quite high and speed operations in addition to the Police Speed Camera Van, would be carried out.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman will download and analyse the VAS data for Main Street and Bradgate Road also and will write an article for the September edition of the Village Magazine. Clerk to reply directly to the complainants of Rocliffe Road.

- A number of residents had reported issues with HGVs travelling through the village at speed and over a speed hump on Main Street. Properties adjacent to the speed hump by Tyburn footpath are reportedly being structurally affected, as is residents' health and wellbeing. Residents in attendance and written reports received by the Clerk prior to the meeting, request removal of the speed hump and consideration of possible alternative measures.

Residents in attendance reported severe noise and vibrations during dark hours, starting daily around 4am, causing disruption to residents and damage to properties.

The Chairman advised there is a 7.5 tonne restriction in force throughout the village but which does allow HGV access to and from properties/businesses. PC Greg Moore explained that once within a 'zone' of a 7.5 tonne restricted area, a vehicle can travel freely for access and proving a driver is contravening the 7.5 tonne restriction, is extremely difficult. Camera footage and registration plates may help to target those contravening the restrictions.

The Chairman explained the speed humps were originally installed to protect the immediate vicinity around the primary school. The chicane directly outside the school gates does not slow traffic down when there are no vehicles oncoming and had over the years, been the cause of a number of collisions. The Chairman reported the Parish Council wished to address vehicle speeds throughout the Parish and will look into possible solutions e.g. the purchase of a mobile VAS unit, dragons teeth markings etc.

Resolve: Clerk to pass on all communication received to Cllr. Taylor who will liaise with LCC Highways to see what options might be viable alternatives.

- The NatureSpot Wild Space Survey had been carried out by David Nicholls 02/06/21.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

- Councillors considered submitting an application to the Urban Wildflower Verge Scheme for an area on the Groby Lane central reservation. This verge has previously been identified as a LWS but due to poor management, no longer identifies as a LWS. The UWS would allow some of this area to recover.

Resolve: Councillors voted unanimously in favour of applying to the UWVS for the area identified on Groby Lane. Clerk to consult with residents and liaise with the Newtown Linford Biodiversity group. A resident in attendance had offered the NLB seeds from his own wildflower meadow.

- Street Lighting Column 9 on Bradgate Road failed its structural test and had been cut and capped for safety reasons. The Clerk had liaised with nearby residents who had expressed a need for the column to be replaced. The Clerk advised the cost to replace the column would be £1308.90 plus VAT or to remove would be £608.90 plus VAT.

Resolve: Councillors voted in favour of replacing street column number 9 on Bradgate Road at a cost of £1308.90 plus VAT. Clerk to action. The Clerk also advised Councillors the budget set for street lighting maintenance during the 2021/2022 financial period, had now been allocated.

0372/21. Churchyard and Cemetery:

- Following a topple test carried out on 14/06/21, 21 memorial stones at the Cemetery have been identified as requiring remedial work. One stone has been laid flat due to safety concerns. Others require stakes and ties whilst attempts are made to contact the owners. The Clerk had identified six owners to date and enquiries are ongoing.

Resolve: Clerk to keep Councillors up-to-date as enquiries progress and as memorials are identified which will require remedial works e.g. stakes and ties.

- Remedial repairs have been carried out to both the entrance and exit gates at the Cemetery prior to replacing the exit gate. Farm gate wheels have been attached to assist visitors when entering and exiting.

Resolve: Noted.

- Tree works had been carried out at the Churchyard and Cemetery, including the 3 x Sycamore trees felled 23/06/21.

Resolve: Noted.

- Faculty permission had been received from the Archdeacon for the stone wall rebuild at the Churchyard 25/06/21. BPT rangers and volunteers to undertake the rebuild at their convenience, commencing August. NLPC will need to cover the cost of materials required including replacement stone and lime mortar.

Resolve: Noted with thanks.

0373/21. Correspondence:

- Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of Charnwood Update.
- Building Better Hospitals Update received from West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group 09/06/21.

Resolve: Noted.

0374/21. 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.

0375/21. Reports on Meetings and Training by Councillors and Clerk:

- Clerk attended LCC Parish Clerks Liaison Meeting 07/05/21
- Clerk attended Charnwood Boundary Review Meeting 19/05/21
- Cllr. Vicki Lightfoot attended the Charnwood Forest Stakeholders Forum 18/06/21
- Clerk attended Pre-Submission Charnwood Local Plan - Virtual Update 05/07/21

Resolve: Noted.

0376/21. Items of Interest or for future meetings:

- The Clerk advised Councillors CBC Planning Department are offering a briefing session on Section 106 matters for Parish and Town Councillors in October.

Resolve: Clerk to forward details to Councillors.

- The Chairman reported new Director, James Dymond, had commenced in post at Bradgate Park Trust and would be attending the next Parish Council meeting on 23/08/21.

Resolve: Noted.

0377/21. Finance:

- AGAR submitted to external auditors, PKF Littlejohn 06/05/21.

Resolve: Noted.

Authorisation for payment of invoices:

10.05.21	Shaw & Sons Ltd.	Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial Book	£132.00
12.05.21	BHIB Ltd	Insurance Premium 2021/22	£746.80
21.05.21	SC Maintenance	Grass Cutting Schedule Invoice 1 of 4 for 2021/2022 period	£3425.00

28.05.21	HS	May Broadband and Out of Plan Calls	£50.96
28.05.21	HS	May Salary	£1049.18
08.06.21	LCC	Bradgate Road Replacement Street Lighting Column	£1455.59
14.06.21	ICO – Information Commissioner’s Office	Data Protection Renewal Fee	£40.00
16.06.21	APB	Village Hall Rent	£437.50
24.06.21	EY Book-keeping	Pension Services – Re- enrolment and Declaration of Compliance	£15.00
24.06.21	HMRC	NI and Tax Contributions Quarter 1	£387.64
24.06.21	Arboreco Ltd	Churchyard & Cemetery Tree Works	£780.00
28.06.21	HS	June Broadband and Out of Plan Calls	£52.29
28.06.21	HS	June Salary	£1024.98
01.07.21	LCC	Markfield Lane Removal of Street Light and LED Upgrade	£1094.45
02.07.21	NEST	Pension Contributions	£42.35
12.07.21	PWLB	Loan Repayment	£2468.06
TOTAL			£13,201.80

Bank Balances:

Business Current Account @ 20/07/21	£ 1,767.89
Business Reserve Account @ 20/07/21	£ 70,000.00
Total	£ 71, 767.89

Copies of the bank transactions for the month are attached to the filed hard copy of the minutes.

0378/21. Dates of the next three Parish Council Meetings:

Monday 23rd August 2021 7.15pm
 Tuesday 14th September 2021 7.15pm
 Monday 25th October 2021 7.15pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed by Chair:-.....

Dated:-.....

Appendix One – Report by County Councillor Deborah Taylor

County Councillor Report; Newtown Linford; July 2021

Couple of updates for me first on some new positions. From May 2021, I became the Deputy Leader of the County Council. I remain Lead Member for Children and Families and Community Safety. I have had Regulatory Services added to my Portfolio. This covers Registrations, Coroners and Trading Standards.

In June 2021, I was elected as Chair for the Police and Crime Panel, which holds the new Police and Crime Commissioner to account and covers Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Boundary Review for MP's Constituencies

The Boundary Commission for England is the independent organisation responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England. The current review is looking at all the constituencies for MPs and will conclude with a formal report and recommendations in June 2023.

You can use their website (<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/>) to:

- view current constituency and local authority boundaries.
- view our proposals for new constituency boundaries.
- submit a response directly to us about our proposals.

My county area is proposed to be changed and called the 'Mid Leicestershire' Constituency. I have included the link for that area here:

<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/6483?postcode=LE77YH>

Residents are being invited to submit their comments. The consultation is currently open until Monday 2nd August 2021, please ensure your response is received by that date at the latest, or it will not be considered.

Recycling Centres

From Monday 19th July, no appointments will be necessary to visit a county council recycling and household waste site in Leicestershire.

However, vans, pick-ups and cars with trailers must have a waste permit to visit a waste site. Permits are also required for any vehicle bringing in asbestos, chemicals or liquid paint.

I know some residents liked the booking system, but the majority didn't. The amount of complaints that have come into the contact centre have been huge. All complaints are responded to and this takes up a lot of time and resources. Therefore, the decision was taken to remove the booking system as soon as it was safe to do so.

Local Bus Services

The county council is working closely with local bus operators to come up with bold plans to improve public transport – and encouraging more people to use it. The Government has pledged £3 billion to help progress these plans across the country – and Leicestershire is aiming to secure a fair share of the funding.

However, to secure this funding, the council must develop a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The council needs input to help develop their plan. It wants to find out what people think would improve local bus services - and what would encourage them to use local buses more.

The council would like to hear from people who already use buses, those who currently don't as well as from public, private, and voluntary organisations.

There is a questionnaire at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/bus-strategy-survey for residents to have their say. The closing date is Friday 30th July.

Cycling and Walking

The County Council's ambition to improve the cycling and walking network across Leicestershire was approved at a recent cabinet meeting. This followed a consultation which attracted more than 2,400 responses. This gave the green light to the cycling and walking strategy (CaWS) and an accompanying action plan.

The CaWS sets out a vision to upgrade and provide cycle routes, cycle parking, and pedestrian facilities to create healthy streets and spaces. It will also include the provision of traffic education measures and cycle training for schools and workplaces to increase the number of cyclists and walkers. The initial target over 10 years is to increase cycle and walking trips to schools and employment by 10% and a rise in walking and cycling trips in the county by 15%.

Following a study to identify priority areas, the next areas will be Loughborough and the south-east quadrant of the Leicester Principal Urban Area, which includes Oadby, Wigston and Blaby.

More details will be provided as the action plan is developed.

Highway Fund

Leicestershire Matters magazine has been delivered across the county over the past few weeks. You will have seen the front page, sharing details about a £5m boost of money for roads. This includes a fund of £25k for each county councillor to spend across their areas on low level highways and environmental improvements.

I have been in contact with all my Parish Clerks, asking them to speak to residents and their councillors so that they can come up with proposals for consideration as to where the funding could best be used.

I am keen to hear from residents but would like to do this in a structured way. Therefore, I am requesting that if any residents have any ideas/plans/projects that could improve the lives of residents and our local area, please do contact your local parish council in the first instance. They will then forward me the 'wish list' for the area which I can then take forward, working with highway officers. I will look at all ideas, get some prices, ensure they are safe (in highway terms) and then begin to take some forward. Matched funding can also be used to fund larger projects.

Cllr Deborah Taylor

Appendix Two – Report by Borough Councillor David Snartt

Launch of Charnwood Local Plan 2021-37 Consultation.

In my view, this is a most important document which will have far reaching consequences for local communities. I would be grateful for residents to take time to read through the Local Plan information and make their representations to Charnwood Borough Council before the closing date of the consultation on the 23rd August 2021. You can visit the Council's website and view the pre-submission draft of the Charnwood Local Plan 2021-37, read all the related documents, before having your say on the Plan.

Charnwood Borough Council have launched a six-week consultation about its new plan and vision for the area over the next 16 years. Public consultation will enable residents, businesses and other interested parties to submit comments about the 'soundness' of the Local Plan, ahead of its planned submission to Government. The Council states 'the local plan is a key strategic framework for supporting future growth and developing healthy communities and environmental safeguards. It guides development and identifies locations for housing and employment land. The Local Plan also considers the impacts of climate change, infrastructure needs and protection of green spaces'.

The purpose of the public consultation is for interested parties to comment on the 'soundness' of the Local Plan in meeting standards set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Representations will be collected by the Council and submitted to Government alongside the Local Plan. A Planning Inspector will then be appointed to consider the documents during public examination. Guidance on 'soundness' and how to make effective representations is available on the Charnwood Borough Council's website, along with some frequently asked questions.

At the Full Council meeting where Councillors agreed that the Local Plan 2021-37 should go out for public consultation, I spoke of my concerns and asked for further information about two areas of the Local Plan. Therefore, I abstained when the vote was taken, I need to understand more fully the impact this will have on the Forest Bradgate Ward I represent at the Council.

I need more information about a site, which is supported in the Plan (HA15). This is designated as land South of Loughborough for 723 homes. I needed to know how this site was selected as it encroaches into Woodhouse Parish, part of my Forest Bradgate Ward, and the designated area of Charnwood Forest. This site is also on productive farmland and without more detailed information, in my opinion, risks the integrity of nearby ancient woodland.

I also need to understand more about the proposal to deliver 647 homes within the Anstey Parish, which, in my opinion, will also have consequences for the surrounding villages that rely on Anstey as their Service Centre. I note that there has been an increase of 21% in the number of dwellings in the current plan period. With the proposed new allocation of 647 dwellings this would be a further 18.4%. I am interested to know how this fits with the Strategic Growth Plan, which states: 'Shifting the Focus of Development: To date the majority of new housing has been built on small and medium sized sites in market towns, villages and rural areas, some communities feel overwhelmed by the speed and scale of change'. Talking to local residents they believe this is the case within the village of Anstey, which has already seen a large number of homes built, changing the whole perception of village life to a more suburban environment, without the necessary infrastructure, which includes services and highway vehicle capacity.

Maplewell Road, Woodhouse Eaves, Planning Appeal.

I was pleased to receive information from the Planning Inspectorate about the decision by the Inspector to conduct a virtual Hearing taking place on 28th July 2021. I have been corresponding with the Inspectorate about changing this appeal from written representations to a Hearing because of the public interest when this planning application was decided by Charnwood Borough Council.

I was told the Inspector would keep the appropriate procedure under constant review throughout the appeal process. Having now read the file in detail and visited the site, he finds he has some questions he would wish to

raise with the parties, and now considers a Hearing would be justified. However, the Hearing will be focussed on a few specific areas where the Inspector feels questioning is necessary to clarify or explain matters.

In my view, it would have been good to have the Hearing again in the Woodhouse Eaves Village Hall, which was the case for the last appeal for this site. I am hopeful that the Inspector will be able to understand the real concerns local residents have about this development in this sensitive area of Charnwood Forest and the impact this will have on village life. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Woodhouse Neighbourhood Plan Team in getting the Plan to the examination stage, I believe this will be a part of the decision making process.

Children's Cookie and Cake Competition.

Bake and decorate a biscuit, cookie or cupcake and be part of the competition inspired by Loughborough Markets and Fairs to celebrate their 800 year anniversary. The winning design will be entered into the 800-year book project.

The design of the biscuit, cookie or cupcake should relate to the market or fair, some examples might be, a fairground ride, the Town Hall or market stall. The entries will be displayed on a market stall for public viewing throughout the day on Saturday August 14th 2021, 10.00am until 2.00pm. Bring your entry on the day to Loughborough Market Place in front of the Town Hall.

Sign up to enter at www.charnwood.gov.uk/ccookie_and_cake_competition. The competition is open to children 12 years of age and under.