



## NEWTOWN LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting was held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall.

**1 Members present:** Councillors Stuart Eyre, Sue Pritchard, Rob Haylock, Sue Colebeck, V Lightfoot,

In attendance: Clerk Pam McMorran County Councillor Deborah Taylor, Charnwood Borough Councillor David Snartt, Tree Warden Brian Anderson, 5 residents

**2. Apologies for absence:** - Councillors Tara Pickles, Holly Cross, Director Bradgate Trust Peter Tyldesley, Police Beat Team.

**3 Confirm and sign minutes of the October meeting.** These were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

**4 Declaration of Parish Councillor's personal and/or prejudicial interests on agenda items:**

The Chairman represents the Gardening Club on the Village Hall Committee. The Chairman is Lady Captain of Lingdale Golf Club whose land adjoins the Parish land.

**5 Police and NHW reports:** - The beat team are sending out warnings for circulation quite regularly at the moment. One being that car keys are being stolen and then the perpetrators go back at a later date for the car. The advice is to move your car immediately with the spare set of keys. Mrs. McMorran had nothing to add in her capacity as NHW co-ordinator.

**6. Report by the County Councillor** - see schedule 2

**7. Report by the Borough Councillor** - see schedule 3

**8. Village Governance and Residents:** -

**a. Plantscape Planters for 2019** - Due to difficulties in finding safe lampposts the Clerk asked the Councillors whether alternatives should be considered such as on the Village Hall or either end of the village. The Councillors agreed to consider this further in particular the village hall. Clerk to obtain further information.

**9. Planning issues:**

**P/18/2285/2** 257 Markfield Lane

**P/18/2010/2** Tennis Club - The Councillors have reservations

**P/18/2174/2** Cravens Rough

**P/18/2140/2** 440 and 442 Bradgate Road - The Councillors have reservations

Councillor Snartt reported that the land adjacent to 58 Main Street ( the subject of a previously refused planning application) had now been purchased.

**Tree matters:** - Tree Warden Brian Anderson had nothing to report. The Chairman said a resident near the river by the Cricket ground had a problem with an ailing tree which he believed belonged to the Bradgate Trust. It was confirmed that the tree at 68 Main Street had now been taken down following Charnwood B. C. not placing a TPO order on it.

**10. Bob Bown Memorial Field:** - The wetpour surface has now been repaired by Fenland Leisure and Councillor Sue Colebeck showed photographs to all Councillors present. The Annual Inspection report has been prepared by HAGS and this would be marked up as last year to decide which work could be carried out by Peter Haddon and which had to be done by a maintenance company. Councillor Colebeck also

reported that all bins including the new bin were now full and had not been emptied for sometime. The Clerk to deal.

**11. Village Magazine:** - nothing to report

**12. Parish Council Website:-** - The Chairman said she was still working on her website training.

**13. Village Hall:** - nothing to report

**14. Highways, footpaths and traffic:** -

**a. Grey Crescent Consultation earlier in the year.** The Councillors discussed the following received earlier in the week from Councillor Deborah Taylor and circulated by the Chairman and Clerk. They also read letters from several residents and heard those residents present at the meeting. The Councillors asked Councillor Taylor to enquire from LCC whether it would be possible to yellow line opposite the drives of those residents who did not have driveways opposite them. Addendum Post meeting LCC have stated that since these lines would be outside the homes of those residents who have already said no to yellow lines it would not be very likely to be passed. There would have to be a complete new consultation paid for by the Parish Council (costing no less than £7,500) and the Councillors agreed that, in the absence of any other possible compromise, the LCC offer of elongated H 's across the drives of those residents with off road parking should be progressed.

*I finally have the report for Grey Crescent following the consultation there were 25 responses received from residents. 16 of the respondees objected to the proposals and 9 respondees supported the proposals. With that response and what I heard when I attended a meeting with the residents, I felt it would not be appropriate to go ahead with the proposals of double yellow lines. From the information fed to me from residents, the main issues seem to involve driveways being blocked. As a compromise, and with officers advice, we have decided to put forward a proposal to offer all residents with off road parking on Grey Crescent the option of having an elongated H across their driveway. If the Parish Council agree to this proposal, all residents (with off road parking) on Grey Crescent will be handed delivered a letter from LCC to confirm the results of the consultation and ask if they would like an elongated H across their driveway. They will have a time limit to respond and the lining will be completed in one go.*

**b. VAS signs** - The solar powered unit on Sharpley Hill has been working without interruption for 5 weeks. It continues to slow the traffic. The Councillors decided to replace the battery powered unit on Roecliffe Road with a new solar powered unit. The pole for which was already sited in a suitable position for a clear sky. The Clerk reported that she had provisionally sold the battery /mains unit to another Leicestershire Parish Council. In view of the discounts being offered at the moment it was decided to order the solar unit for Bradgate Road to be placed on Bradgate Trust land. The Chairman thanked Malcolm Brewin for the considerable amount of time spent on this project.

**15. Cemetery:** - Malcolm Brewin confirmed that he had now completed the work required of him including the parking area for the cemetery extension. The Chairman thanked him on the Council's behalf. It was thought that Dick Howard may have more trees from the Friends of Charnwood to be planted. It was pointed out that these need to be at a specific distance to allow the large maintenance machinery to get through.

**Churchyard** - nothing to report

**16. Bradgate Park Trust:** - no report received

**17. Reports by Councillors/Clerk:** - none

**18. Correspondence:** The Councillors considered a letter from someone outside the village wishing to use their metal detector on Parish Council land. After discussion the Councillors voted no as the only land is the Bob Bown Land and this could raise safeguarding issues with the users of the playground..

**19. Items of Interest or for future meetings:** - none

**20. Finance: Authorisation for payment of invoices**

a. The Councillors reviewed the draft budget (see schedule 4) prepared by the Clerk and it was agreed that the Precept application for 2019 would be £51,000.

TT	EE Broadband November	47.60
TT	EE Broadband December	47.20
TT	Clerk - November salary	1024.20
TT	Clerk - December Salary	1024.00
TT	HMRC	903.86
TT	Elan City solar VAS	2518.80
TT	Insight - signage for Stagg and VAS posts	435.00
PC	Safety Tape on Bob Bown	9.88
TT	OS Paper map copying	65.70
TT	SC Maintenance	1236.66
TT	HAGS Annual Inspection Bob Bown	180.00
	Village Hall rent 2018	120.00

<b>Bank Balances</b>	<b>Current account @ 07.11.18</b>	4259.28
	<b>Reserve account</b>	59885.19
		<b>64144.47</b>

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

**21. Dates of next three Parish Council Meetings:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

### Schedule 1

**Police Report;-** There has been one burglary and one shed break since the last update. There has been no vehicle crime. Further crime figures can be found online at <https://www.police.uk/leicestershire/NL56/Have a crime-free Christmas>.

We're working hard over Christmas to keep you and your family safe, but there are steps you can take to help us.

### When you're out shopping

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you, especially in busy shops and crowded streets where thieves and pickpockets may well be operating.

- Keep valuables in inside pockets of clothing or bags. Keep a close watch on them, and try not to keep them all in one place.
- Only carry the cash and cards that you need. Always shield the PIN pad when entering your PIN.
- Be careful where you park your car, especially if you will be returning to it after dark. If parking in a multi-storey car park, choose a well-lit space as close to the exit as possible and away from pillars. Reverse into position.
- Avoid going back to your car to leave your shopping part-way through your trip. If you have to keep presents in the car, make sure they are out of view in the boot, the car is locked, and keep the receipts with you.
- Deter pickpockets and muggers. Don't overburden yourself with bags/packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Always carry a purse close to your body and not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front trouser pocket, likewise with your phone and keys.
- Try and avoid taking young children into busy shopping areas. If it is unavoidable make sure they know what to do if they lose you e.g. tell the nearest counter assistant that they are lost and never leave a shop without you. Agree a meeting point with older children, in case you get separated.
- Never leave your bag unattended on your trolley whilst shopping and don't leave it in your vehicle when returning your trolley.
- Don't get loaded down with too many bags. Try to keep one hand free.
- Keep car doors locked whilst driving in built-up areas, especially if you've got bags or presents in the car.

#### **At cash machines**

- If you see anything suspicious alert the bank or call the police on **101**.
- Shield the keypad when typing in your PIN at a cash machine or in a shop.
- Only withdraw as much as you need and avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Put your money and cards away (not in your back pocket) safely before leaving the machine. Ideally pay with a debit/credit card wherever possible.

#### **When you're out for the evening**

- Watch your drinks and food to ensure that nothing is added to them. Never leave your drink unattended, even if you are going to dance or to the toilet. If your drink has been left unattended, don't drink any more of it. If something tastes or looks odd, don't eat/drink any more if it. Be aware, though, that some drugs are colourless and tasteless.
- If someone you don't know or trust offers to buy you a drink, either decline or accompany them to the bar and watch that nothing is added.
- Know your own limit.
- If you meet someone new at a party, avoid going home with them or inviting them back to your home/accepting a lift from them. It's safer to arrange a second date in a public place to get to know the person better. If you do find yourself alone with someone you don't know well, make sure that someone knows where you are and who you're with.
- Pay attention to your instincts. If you feel uneasy about someone, there may be a reason.
- Make sure someone knows where you are going and when you'll be home.
- Avoid walking home alone and never with someone you don't know well.
- Drink responsibly, arrange for a member of your group to be a designated driver.
- Check your taxi drivers ID and never get into an unlicensed taxi.
- The ideal plan is to book your cab or taxi in advance or call a licensed cab company from the party and arrange for them to pick you up right outside the venue.
- Never accept a lift from a minicab touting for trade on the street. They are illegal and can be very dangerous.

- Always sit in the back of a cab/taxi and if you get chatting to the driver, do not give away personal details. If you feel uneasy with the driver, ask him to stop at a busy familiar place and get out.
- If using public transport, have your ticket, pass or change ready in your hand so that your wallet or purse is out of sight.

## **Schedule 2**

### County Council Report - December 2018

#### Roecliffe Road

I was asked at the last meeting I attended to ask highways to look at the junction of Roecliffe Road for additional speed signs. They are happy that the signs are as they should be and do not see the need to add any more signs. They admit that there is vegetation covering some of the signs and this has been added to the work program. I will chase up to get this work completed.

#### Unitary Status

In the week commencing Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November all the scrutiny meetings were started to be held at County Hall with unitary status on the agendas. I attended the Children and Families Overview Scrutiny meeting on the Monday. There was a good discussion held and many questions that were put forward. The questions from the scrutiny meeting were fed into the Scrutiny Commissioners meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November. There are no clear answers yet, but these meetings have highlighted the concerns and issues that members want clarity on. All the meetings held are available to be listened to on the County Council website: [www.leicestershire.gov.uk](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk)

Following the Cabinet decision in October to start an engagement and scrutiny process on outline proposals for the development of a unitary structure the Leader of LCC received a copy of a private and confidential letter from MPs, which was copied to the District Council Leaders. That letter asked the Leader to stop any work on reorganisation and made the same request of the District Council Leaders.

The Leader, having discussed this with his Group, believes the best way forward is to ask the Chief Executive to commission a business case that will flesh out in detail what a unitary structure for Leicestershire will look like in the context of a clear vision, what powers it will have and how it will operate. Once that business case is completed, that will go back to the Scrutiny Commission and the cross party working group for further consideration, before coming back to Cabinet and then to Full Council at some point for final approval. This will then become the settled will of the County Council, should it be approved. This process is likely to be completed in the spring time next year and the business case will be produced within current resources. The business plan will then sit on the shelf until such time as an opportunity arises for Leicestershire to look at Unitary Status.

#### Impower Report

Leicestershire County Council has been named the most productive council in the country for the second year in a row. The council retained the top spot in the 2018 table compiled by consultancy firm iMPower. The list of 150 councils measures value for money and to what degree each pound spent is improving lives. iMPower compares the 150 councils in England and looks at a range of areas including overall performance, older people, housing and homelessness and children's social care.

This is a great achievement as we are one of the lowest funded council in the Country.

#### Innovation Partnership

Children's charity Barnardo's is to team up with Leicestershire County Council in a trailblazing project to help improve the lives of children and families. The partnership is one of the first of its kind in the UK and signifies a new way of working. It will bring together the council's skills and expertise with those of a key partner to design and deliver support vulnerable children and families.

The 'Innovation Partnership' covers the whole system, from the point of entry into children's services through to leaving care. It aims to manage demand, provide the most cost-effective placement and support services to deliver the best outcomes for children and young people. The council has more than 550 children in its care, and the figure is rising. The partnership will help to enhance support to young people and families on the 'edge of care', in care and care leavers.

This is a great opportunity for the looked after children of Leicestershire and I look forward to working with Barnardo's and how this scheme develops.

### Energy Improvements

Carbon dioxide emissions have been cut by 34% in the past 12 months by Leicestershire County Council, thanks to several energy-saving projects. The council's performance for 2017/18 showed a significant improvement in the last year, with carbon dioxide (Co2) emissions reducing by over 7,000 tonnes. In the same period, there was a 29% reduction in the amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated from its operations. The most significant decrease was attributed to reduced gas use in buildings, because of a biomass boiler being installed at County Hall.

### Pride in Practice

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November I attended the Pride in Practice Conference at the King Power Stadium. There was 350 frontline staff who are working with families and children. They provide support and practical advice and hopefully improve the lives of our young people. It was an inspiring day and showcased the great work that goes on in Leicestershire. There is still work to do but we are moving in the right direction.

### Grey Crescent

I am aware that this is on your agenda later on and will be happy to discuss this at that point if that is agreeable by the Chairman..... See minute 14.

### **Schedule 3**

John Sutherland.

I was pleased to see so many people at the Service of Thanksgiving for John. It was a fitting tribute to someone who had devoted so much of his life for the good of other people. The service reflected the man himself, especially the pieces of music chosen throughout the service, with a 'tribute to our dad' spoken by his daughter. It was also good that Councillors had the opportunity to record their thoughts about John at the Full Council meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Remembrance Sunday.

This year Remembrance Sunday was a special day, the Centenary of the end of the First World War. Many services of Commemoration took place in local towns and villages across the County.

I attended the service at Welbeck Defence 6<sup>th</sup> Form College, Woodhouse. This takes the form of a drumhead service, which is a Religious service conducted in the field during armed conflict, often near the battle front. This year, it seemed a fitting way to remember all the people who paid the ultimate sacrifice during the First World War. The College was also proud to support the special commemorative event for the fallen, "There But Not There". This commemorates the centenary through a nationwide installation of life-size silhouettes of soldiers. These figures represent every name of the British and Commonwealth fallen during the First World War.

In the evening I attended a service in Leicester Cathedral to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War. This service included a poignant dance routine performed by students from the Curve Dance Company lead by Mel Knott (daughter in-law to Lydia).

I also made time to call in at the Linford, Newtown Linford to look at the impressive commemorative stone which has been placed at the front of the building, It was also interesting to see the many photographs that were on display showing the history of village life.

Land Adjacent to 57 Main Street.

You may recall that a planning application to develop 3 dwellings on land between Grey Crescent and 57 Main Street, Newtown Linford was refused by Charnwood Borough Council and dismissed by a Government Inspector on appeal.

After a recent meeting with the resident living at 57 Main Street, I was delighted to hear that they had purchased the land and do not have plans to develop this. I am sure residents living adjacent to this part of the village, who objected to the planning application will be very pleased with this outcome. Especially as the new owners are looking to improve the area of land, returning part of it to its previous use as an orchard. In my view, this will again help to maintain and enhance the Newtown Linford Conservation Area, therefore I am grateful to the residents who have purchased this land, keeping it as green space.

Local Government in Leicestershire.

I have indicated in previous reports I would keep you informed about the proposed changes to the structure of local government in Leicestershire. The Leader of Charnwood Borough Council has stated: *Leicestershire MPs have written to the Leaders of all seven district councils and the Leader of Leicestershire County Council about their respective reviews of the structure of local government in Leicestershire and specifically the County Council's ambition to create a single unitary council. The MPs have made it very clear that, in their view, which is supported by the Secretary of State, commissioning any reviews of the local authority structure is "wholly unnecessary" and any such reviews should immediately stop – which the district councils accept. Therefore, Charnwood Borough Council, along our fellow district councils in Leicestershire have agreed to halt the review of structural changes in the county.*

It will be interesting to see how this item develops over the coming months and the future direction the County Council will take.

Bradgate Park Trustees.

You may have seen on the Bradgate Park website the Trust were advertising for interested people to apply to become Independent Trustees.

You also may know I was a Trustee whilst I was a County Councillor. Therefore, I thought I was in a unique position to become part of the Trust again as an Independent Trustee. Not only for my experience gained, but to represent the local community as a Borough Councillor. In my view, Bradgate Park has a big impact on the local area and, in my opinion, the Trust need to understand more fully the consequences of their actions going forward and be good neighbours when making strategic decisions for the future wellbeing of local communities, especially the host village of Newtown Linford.

It seems now because there is a time limit of nine years a Trustee can serve on the Trust for that amount of time, my application was deemed invalid. Therefore, in my view, the opportunity to have a strong local voice to represent local communities has been lost. I do hope that whoever is successful when filling the vacancies understands the Deed of Trust and the subsequent Charity Scheme along with a good knowledge of the local area.

Land Adjacent to 293 Bradgate Road Anstey.

A planning application to erect 2 detached dwellings adjacent to 293 Bradgate Road, which was refused by Charnwood Borough Council has now gone to appeal to be decided by a Government Inspector. As this is close to the Newtown Linford Parish boundary, I sent details of my concerns and objections to the Planning Inspectorate.

Although this is within Anstey Parish, in my view, it compromises the area of separation between Anstey and Newtown Linford. This conflicts with the Local Plan, Core Strategy Policy CS11 which states: "we will retain the following areas of separation - Anstey/Newtown Linford". The proposed site is situated outside the development area of Anstey and is only served by a two hourly bus service, which, in my opinion, would make the car the main mode of transport, adding to the unsustainability of this site.

I believe the Policies within the Core Strategy should carry full weight now the Council can demonstrate a five year housing land supply. This is in contrast when we have seen so much piecemeal development in all areas of the village when the Council's land supply was under five years. I will be interested to see the decision made by the Inspector when deciding this appeal.

Planning Application P/18/2140/2.

I have asked this planning application to be determined by a Planning Committee at Charnwood Borough Council. The application is for the demolition of existing dwelling at 440 Bradgate Road and erection of 3 detached dwellings and alterations to vehicular accesses, 440 and 442 Bradgate Road. My main concerns are the effect of the proposed development on the character and settlement pattern of the area and not being in a sustainable location.



Schedule 4

Newtown Linford Parish Council  
1st April to 31st March

	ending	31.03.2019	31.03.2020	31.03.2021
bal bf		50217.70	£43,444.51	£47,120.28
Precept		50500.00	51000.00	51500.00
Cemetery		1400.00	1400.00	1400.00
VAT repayment		2200.00	1800.00	1800.00
Interest		9.00	9.00	10.00
donation FF		£1,500.00	0	0
	<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>105826.70</b>	<b>97653.51</b>	<b>101830.28</b>
<b>Staff</b>	Clerk Salary	15000.00	15450.00	15790.00
	Employers NI	907.44	£969.52	£1,011.01
<b>Maintenance</b>	Chyard maintenance	1422.21	1600.00	1800.00
	tree felling	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Cemetery maintenance	2905.03	2500.00	2750.00
	cemetery rates	87.82	90.45	93.16
	Cemetery extension	8286.53	1000.00	1000.00
	P Field main/inspec	3549.14	3700.00	3800.00
	P Fields repairs	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
<b>Village Environment</b>	Xmas Tree/ electric tests	515.00	530.45	560.00
	Hanging Baskets	861.00	1200.00	1400.00
	troughs	80.00	120.00	140.00
	tree carving	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Magazine	650.00	700.00	750.00
	VH Rent	1750.00	1750.00	1750.00
	bus shelter rent	30.00	30.00	30.00
	VH PWL repayment	4936.00	4936.00	4936.00
	Grit/bins	200.00	260.00	320.00
	Street lighting	3085.03	3177.55	3272.87
	VAS and signage	7280.40	1000.00	1000.00
	gen maintenance bins etc.	1000.00	1200.00	1300.00
<b>Administration</b>	civil enforcement	900.00	1000.00	1000.00
	Audit/Accounts	780.00	803.40	827.50
	hire V Hall PC meetings	132.00	156.00	180.00
	defib battery	0.00	231.75	0.00
	Insurance	923.81	951.52	980.06
	Office Admin	377.82	389.15	400.82
	website and broadband	1114.88	1148.32	1182.76
	Coun. Training/meetings	40.00	160.00	200.00
	Subscriptions	368.08	379.12	390.49
	Petty Cash	200.00	100.00	100.00
	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£62,382.19</b>	<b>£50,533.23</b>	<b>£51,964.67</b>
	bal cf	<b>£43,444.51</b>	<b>£47,120.28</b>	<b>£49,865.61</b>

