



## NEWTOWN LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.15 pm in the Village Hall.

**1 Members present:** Sue Pritchard, Sue Colebeck, Rob Haylock Vicky Lightfoot

In attendance: Brian Anderson, Pam McMorran, David Snartt, Deborah Taylor, One resident

**2. Apologies for absence:** Tara Pickles, Stuart Eyre and Holly Cross

**3 Confirm and sign minutes of the January 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. Councillor V. Lightfoot is a member of the Village Hall Committee.

**5 Police and NHW reports:** - A report had been received and circulated relating to thefts of red phone boxes.

**6. Report by County Councillor Deborah Taylor**

CCR – Newtown Linford

### Newtown Linford Public Meeting

*Thank you to the Parish Council for hosting the public meeting. It was a lively meeting with plenty of ideas and solutions put forward. The general feeling of the meeting was we need to look at the parking in the village in a holistic way rather than piecemeal solutions that just move the problem elsewhere in the village.*

*Since the meeting Peter from Bradgate Park has agreed to look into surfacing the overflow car parks for use all year round. I have had a meeting with Fiona Blockley at LCC to discuss the results of the double yellow lines consultation. Before we move forward we are carrying out some speed checks within the village to make sure that any changes we carry out will not increase speeding within the village. I do not want to try and solve one problem and create another. Once we have the results from the speed checks I will have another meeting with Fiona to discuss the next steps.*

*Residents are sending in information and photos which are helpful in discussing the next steps.*

*There is also a meeting planned for 12<sup>th</sup> March with the Lead Member from CBC, who has responsibility for parking enforcement, and LCC and Newtown Linford is on the agenda. Both David and myself have asked for feedback from this meeting.*

### Cropston Road, Anstey

*I was dismayed to receive notification that a part of Cropston Road in Anstey will be closed for 2 weeks. The closure is for work on a sewer in the area. The closure will be over the 2 weeks of the school Easter holidays from 26<sup>th</sup> March until 8<sup>th</sup> April. The original diversion route was through Cropston and Newtown Linford. With the issues we have with parking in Newtown Linford at the moment and it being planned for over the Easter holidays I was extremely*

concerned about diverting a large amount of traffic through Newtown Linford and asked the highway authority to speak to the City Council to ask if we could divert through Thurcaston and the city. The weight restriction will be suspended through Thurcaston, but I have asked the highway authority to speak to both the developers in Anstey to see if they can limit the amount of HGV's coming to their sites during the closure period. Just though you should know in case we have additional traffic travelling through Newtown, but no HGV's should be using that route.

### Cabinet Changes

Following the sad death of County Councillor Ernie White in January, there has been some changes made to the Cabinet at Leicestershire County Council. Pam Posnett CC will be taking over the Health and Wellbeing portfolio and new to the Cabinet is Louise Richardson CC who will take over the Equalities, Communities and Rural Affairs portfolio. I have also been promoted to Vice Chairman of the Children and Families Overview Scrutiny Committee.

### Council Tax

The Budget proposals go to full Council tomorrow. The proposals are to raise the Core Council tax by 2.99% following the change in the referendum principle for 2018/19 announced as part of the Local Government Finance Statement. This will raise an additional £2.7m. The Adult Social Care precept will rise by 3% in 2018/19 and reduce to 1% in 2019/20.

### Early Years Review

Leicestershire County Council (LCC) launched a consultation on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 until 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018 to consider how they look after children from 0 to 19 years old. LCC are proposing to bring together four services: Children's Centres, Supporting Leicestershire Families (SLF), Youth Offending Service (YOS) and Information, Support and Assessment teams into a Family Wellbeing Service. The services tackle problems at an early stage and by preventing problems growing, help to reduce the need for the police or social care to get involved. The new service would:

- Support vulnerable children aged 0-19 and their families
- Run from 15 buildings across the county – a reduction of 25, including 24 children's centres – and include support delivered in people's homes and other community venues.
- Reduce costs by £3.8m. This is made up £1.5m of council budget reductions and £2.3m from the council, partners and the Government, which might not be able to continue if Government funding for the Troubled Families Programme is ended.

The plan is to keep 15 'Hub and Spoke' centres open across Leicestershire. LCC have said that front line services will continue and more work will be done in families' homes rather than in centres. Any group work that is needed will mean families travelling to their nearest 'Hub and Spoke' centre. The Sure Start Centre in Anstey is on the list for closure.

To find out further information, please go to the website: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/earlyhelp> or telephone: 0116 305 3416

**7. Report by Borough Councillor David Snartt** – David reported that County had revisited the figures from the previous speedwatch undertaken by volunteers on Roecliffe Road and 45% had found to be speeding. They were now going to arrange for the camera van to visit once a suitable site could be found.

*Parking Enforcement, Newtown Linford.*

*Following the Public Meeting in the Village Hall, I have been in correspondence with both the County Council and Borough Council about what, in my view, were the difficulties and issues with illegal on-street parking within the*

*village. This, I believe, needs effective enforcement to be carried out, especially at peak times when the weather is fine and sunny.*

*After my report on this subject in last month's Your Local, I have received an e-mail from a resident living in a nearby village who outlined why she does park within the village when visiting Bradgate Park, I thought I would share it with you. 'Further to your report in the Local magazine regarding parking in Newtown Linford, I think it might also be useful to consider how Bradgate Park is used and the causes for the problem parking in the village. As a local resident I like to use the park on a regular basis, but I will only usually be able to stay for an hour at the most. As parking fees at the park are priced for the whole day this makes the charges unrealistic for the type of usage I have for myself and others. I know it is of the utmost importance that some free or reasonably priced short stay parking is always available'.*

*I did refer to this issue at the Public Meeting, as being the possible root cause of the escalation of vehicles parking on the village roads, Until the last two years, I have never seen so many vehicles parked all along Bradgate Road sometimes right to the Parish boundary and beyond. This can occur even when the Bradgate Park car park is relatively empty. I have also corresponded with the Director at Bradgate about my thoughts on the consequences of only a full day parking charge. The response I received was somewhat disappointing. Therefore, I have asked that this is an item on the agenda at the next Trustees meeting and a response given so that I may communicate the outcome to local residents.*

*I have also put forward a question to the Charnwood Full Council Meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> February, asking the Leader of the Borough Council to take this issue up with the County Council to have effective enforcement for the village of Newtown Linford, recognising the number of visitors to Bradgate Park and the increasing number of vehicles parking illegally on the village roads. In my view, this problem has increased since the Bradgate Park Trust changed to only all-day parking charges within their Newtown Linford car park.*

*Traffic Management, Newtown Linford.*

*After the Public Meeting, I noted the comments and possible solutions that came forward about the recent parking consultation conducted by the County Council.*

*There is a growing highway safety issue on Bradgate Road, which came across very strongly during the meeting. After the meeting, I was sent videos taken by a resident showing disturbing driving practices along this stretch of highway. Drivers of vehicles were mounting the kerb and driving at speed along the footway for some distance. This is totally unacceptable behaviour, especially as this footway is used by young people and families living in this area of the village. This is the consequence of the visitors to Bradgate Park parking their vehicles, I am told, to avoid parking charges as stated above.*

*I have forwarded the information and videos to the Police, I see this as a major priority to achieve a resolution to this problem, before there is a serious accident involving pedestrians. The Police have responded stating: The Police will be meeting with the County Council to discuss what options, if any, are available to us with a view to remove or to minimise the problems illustrated on the videos.*

*I will continue to press for a satisfactory solution to this unacceptable position. As I said at the Public Meeting, to do nothing is not an option, as there are further issues right across the village. These, in my opinion, also need to be addressed by a total village solution, but after seeing the latest videos, I do believe there is a priority to resolve the current driver practices along Bradgate Road.*

*Charnwood Armed Forces Breakfast Club.*

*You may recall, I made reference to this Breakfast Club in a previous report. This takes place at the Toby Carvery, Loughborough from 9.30am to 11.30am every second Saturday in the month. I attended the February one which*

*was the first anniversary of the Breakfast Club. You may have seen this as the TV cameras from BBC local news were in attendance. I was delighted to see local ex forces residents attending after seeing my report in Your Local, I am sure they enjoyed the occasion. Joan and I certainly did, reminiscing with people who were serving in the same location in Cyprus back in the 1960's. If any serving members and families or ex members would like more information, please e-mail [victoria.coomber@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.coomber@charnwood.gov.uk)*

*Charnwood Now.*

*Charnwood Borough Council has launched a new e-mail bulleting service, 'Charnwood Now', and residents are being encouraged to sign up. The new service will be a way to keep residents informed about what's going on at the Council and give news that might affect residents living in areas of the Borough, especially if it involves them in some way. The new bulletin service means that the Council can contact residents quickly and easily to let them know about everything from events to services or even changes to bin collections. It is easy to sign up and residents can unsubscribe from the service whenever they want. If you would like to be kept up to date with what's going on at the Council go to [www.charnwood.gov.uk/charnwood\\_now](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk/charnwood_now) to sign up.*

*Commonwealth Day 2018.*

*I have received this information from the Lieutenancy Office.*

*We Celebrate Commonwealth Day every year on the second Monday of March. The theme that has been chosen for this year is: Towards a Common Future.*

*The Lord Lieutenant, Lady Gretton, who is the Queen's representative for Leicester and Leicestershire invites young people to enter her Commonwealth Competition by thinking about what brings people together from different countries and cultures to become friends.*

*Please submit a short story, a poem, a drawing or painting which celebrates friendship across cultures. You can use a pen, a computer or a paint brush. The competition is open to children in two categories, up to 7 years and 7-11 years. Lady Gretton will hold a special reception at County Hall for the winners and their families or carers when she will present certificates and prizes.*

*Please note that the maximum size for entries is A3. Entries can be posted to: The Lieutenancy Office, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester. LE3 8RA. or e-mail [Lieutenancyoffice@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Lieutenancyoffice@leics.gov.uk). The closing date for entries is 22 April 2018. Please do remember to include your name, age and school or home address and a contact number or e-mail, every entry will receive a certificate signed by the Lord-Lieutenant.*

*I would be delighted if young people from my area entered the competition and were recognised at the special reception. Good luck.*

*Copy of submission to full Council meeting of Charnwood Borough Council*

*On-street Parking Enforcement, Newtown Linford.*

*Madam Mayor,*

*Firstly, may I thank the Lead Member for her understanding with this matter which is causing considerable distress to village residents, especially with highway safety issues in mind.*

*Because this Council are the contractors it is the Borough Council's vehicles that are seen by the public administering the process. Therefore, it is this Council who the residents look to for an effective resolution to this issue.*

*By the number of penalties issued in 2017 it is plain to see there is an issue with illegal parking. Despite the level of the current enforcement there are significant issues that still exist at peak times, especially Sunday afternoons when the weather is fine and sunny.*

*I would be grateful if the Lead Member in her discussions with the County Council raises the following items.*

*I believe there is a need for effective enforcement at weekends, especially on Sunday afternoons 2pm-3pm when the weather is fine and sunny. Not asking for extra resource but targeted at specific times when visitor numbers to Bradgate Park are at their peak.*

*Understand how current rotas are assigned to Street Wardens and which Council is responsible for making sure they are carried out for maximum effectiveness.*

*Ask that the County Council raises the issue of only all-day parking charges at Bradgate with the Trustees, which, in my view, contribute to the problem.*

*If Councils continue to support more tourism within Charnwood we need to understand the impact on local residents, especially villages like Newtown Linford, which is the host village to one of the most visited attractions in the East Midlands.*

*I would be grateful if the Lead Member would give detail on the outcome of her discussions with the County Council, I believe local residents need to know how the Councils are working to overcome the current unacceptable situation.*

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

**a. follow up from Public Meeting:** - the Chair was pleased to note that over 90 residents had attended and shown such enthusiasm for improving the parking issues in the village. Councillor Taylor said she believed that County did now appreciate that this village has a serious problem. Once the speed checks with rubber bars across the road are completed the three-pronged recent Consultation will be tweaked and put out for reconsultation. The time length will be shorter. Peter Tydesley and Councillor Taylor confirmed that Bradgate Park Trust would not have to pay any further fees for the reconsultation when it goes out.

**b. update on village working group -** The Councillors agreed that those residents who had volunteered to form a village working party would now be approached to arrange a preliminary meeting to introduce themselves. Once the consultation was out of the way then County would be approached to implement their offer to address the working party and setting out what their requirements will be for holistic measures for the entire village such as RTO's with cones, parking schemes etc.

## **9. Planning issues:**

a. P/18/0103/2 two storey extension at 249 Markfield Lane plus P/18/0106/2 erection of one bungalow to rear of 249 Markfield Lane. The Councillors discussed both these two applications for the same resident, Concern was expressed over the application for a new bungalow. The Council's submission will be prepared for submitting to Charnwood.

**Tree matters:** - Tree Warden Brian reported that he had no issues with the following

- a. P/18/0378/2 4 conifers in the park
- b. P/18/0355/2 Maple trees at Bracken Hill
- c. P/18/0160/2 2 conifers at 63 Main Street

**10. Bob Bown Memorial Field:** - Following the recent inspection by HAGS and discussion at the January Council meeting, the Clerk had instructed Peter Haddon to carry out the maintenance work that he was able to do. The Councillors confirmed that the HAGS quotation for £1188.60 for the mechanical work was acceptable and instructed the Clerk to set this in motion. Both sets of work will be carried out as soon as the weather has stabilized.

**11. Village Magazine:** - The clerk reported that the annual donation for the running of the village magazine had been made.

**12. Parish Council Website:** - Pam and Tara are making changes to the Website to provide for the Public Meeting and working party matters to be inserted. Copies of the presentations and submissions had already been inserted. Residents wishing to make further comments can submit these to Pam for insertion.

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

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

a. the matter of signage by the entrance to Lingdale Golf Club was raised. This is on the boundary of Newtown Linford and Woodhouse Parish Councils. It was believed not to be well signed. The Councillors agreed they would support Woodhouse Parish Council regarding this. It is believed that the outcome arranged by Woodhouse is that the Club is erecting its own sign by the entrance warning of the dangers.

b. The Chairman signed the Service Level Agreement with Leics. CC. All of the Parish Council's lamps are still suitable for maintenance by County in 2018. In the future the Parish Council will need to consider converting the lamps to LED. Some of these had already inadvertently been converted by LCC.

**15. Cemetery:** - Malcolm Brewin has cut the roadside hedge in time for the bird nesting season. He has also removed the old fencing between the new and the old part of the cemetery in readiness for putting in the car park and new pathway. Brian Anderson has planted the Woodland Trust saplings and has two large Oak trees donated by Councillor Snartt to plant once he has found a way to transport them. Peter Haddon will repair the shed wall that was burnt once the weather improves. The new signs have been ready for some time but the weather is still unsuitable for concreting these and moving the large wooden existing sign. The Clerk will meet Ian ?surname? on site once the weather improves. A resident had asked for a yellow flowering shrub to remain near her husband's grave.

**Churchyard** - The monies raised by the Friends of Charnwood Forest to pay for the tree carving has left sufficient to purchase a new copper beech for the churchyard in place of the felled deceased tree. Discussions are taking place for the best position bearing in mind it cannot go too near the previously infected roots that are still under the ground. Some members of All Saints Church have asked if the stump can be cut down any further. Clerk to investigate.

**16. Bradgate Park Trust:** Peter Tyldesley dealt with questions from the Councillors who still have concerns over drystone walling being repaired incorrectly. Peter says that the boundaries have never been drystone walling but have been repaired incorrectly in the past. He stated that all works had been carried out after consultation with the necessary heritage organisations.

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

**18. Correspondence:** a letter from a resident concerning what he thought to be change of procedure for writing to County Hall was discussed and explained further by Councillor Taylor. Clerk to reply to resident.

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

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

TT	Village Magazine	650.00
TT	Leicester County Council - street lighting year ending 2017	3085.03
TT	Clerk's February salary	1021.20
TT	February Broadband	47.00
TT	4 <sup>th</sup> cut 2017 SC Maintenance	1305.00
TT	Cartridge Save 4 cartridges	135.63

<b>Bank Balances</b>	<b>@ 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018 current 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b>	<b>3,560.09</b>
	<b>Reserve 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b>	<b>46,344.56</b>

**21. Dates of next two Parish Council Meetings.** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June commencing 7.15 p.m. **Please note amended meeting date**