

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE THURMASTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2011 AT 7.30PM IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

PRESENT:

Councillors: M D Lowe (Chairman)
N Bedder S R Brown
S Coomb C Davies
R Davies D de-Carteret Pochin
K W Dent D Gartside
P S Harley D J Hill
S D Hill D Maguire
P S Newman
A Smith J S Smith
C A Wooding

ALSO PRESENT: The Clerk, The Deputy Clerk
PC Porter
9 members of the public

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Councillors: Mrs B J Seaton

Resolved: Reasons given for apologies were accepted by the Council.

2. Disclosure of Interest (in respect of items on this Agenda)

None.

3. Chairman's Report 2011:

Ladies & Gentlemen

The Council has successfully completed its fourth and final year of this term, which has been an extremely busy year.

Precept: The Parish Precept was set at £306,616.00 for 2011/2012. This is an increase on last year's precept but is necessary due to increased costs associated with the opening of the ASDA Centre and extensive maintenance program required for the new pitch in its first year. Staff costs have increased due to extra staff required due to increased bookings in Elizabeth Park, but this will be reflected by the additional income

generated and should have a positive impact on the precept next year. Additionally, the Parish has suffered a lot of vandalism including the ASDA Centre, Elizabeth Park Centre, Play areas and theft total cost of repairs and replacements is in the region of £5K.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the three Committees for all their hard work during the past year.

Memorial Hall and Cemetery Committee

The Memorial Hall continues to be well utilised every weekday by several well established groups, covering various activities including dog training classes, Line dancing, Karate.

Thurmaston Village Pre-school, continues to run weekdays in term time.

Thurmaston Senior Citizens Library: thanks again to Mrs. Willis and her assistant Jan.

The Memorial Hall has benefited from a program of refurbishments in this year, including new kitchen units, new boiler, new toilet doors and new front entrance doors, and interior decoration. The railings surrounding the war memorial have been painted and the war memorial will be cleaned and inscriptions re-gilded this year

The Cemetery:

The Committee has worked hard in conjunction with Bellinger Landscape Architects to create a design for the new Cemetery extension. Draft plans were presented to the Council last month and detailed colour plans were displayed in the cemetery Chapel on Saturday 2nd April for consultation. Comments have been invited from residents of Beverley Close. Additionally, Dedication of the Memorial Boards of Thurmaston men killed in the 1st World War originally situated in the Primitive and Wesleyan Chapels in the village together with the laying up of Royal British Legion Standards took place in the Chapel.

Leisure Centres and Parks Committee

Moving on to the Leisure Centres and Parks Committee:

Artificial Turf Pitch:

Elizabeth Park benefitted from the installation of 3G rubber crumb football pitches on the site of the former tennis courts. Funding was provided

football foundation with a grant of £19,500K and £81,000K 106 contribution from Charnwood Borough Council.

The pitches were official opened on Saturday 7th August by the Chairman of Leicestershire FA and the Mayor of Charnwood. A football tournament took place including children with disabilities, followed by a medal presentation for all children involved.

The pitches have been a huge success, all weekday evenings are fully booked and we have a waiting list of teams for any regular slots which become available. The income to date from the pitch hire is in the region of £12K.

Elizabeth Park Sports Centre:

Elizabeth Park Sports Centre has seen an increase in function hire this year, especially for wedding receptions due to the success of the drapes. There are only few weekends available this year and we have taken 3 wedding bookings for 2012.

With the support of the committee, the Centre Staff have successfully organised a number of multi sports days and craft days, during the school holidays. These proved to be a real success last year and many children have returned to book again this year. Sessions have been organised for the Easter holiday, which are almost fully booked, before they were advertised!!

Garden Street Recreation Ground is a popular meeting place for local young people, and there have been less reports of anti-social behavior on the park over the last year.

ASDA Park:

The reconstruction of the pitch is now complete and is a fantastic facility for the village. Thurmaston Magpies Juniors are currently using the pitch and changing facilities and Thurmaston Boxing Club are using the pavilion 3 evenings per week. We received enquiries from a running club and a cricket team and hopefully will continue to develop the facilities on site to accommodate as many activities and sports as possible.

The Environmental Committee:

The Environmental Committee have been very busy again this year continuing to address environmental problems such as highway maintenance issues and traffic congestion issues particularly in the Barkby Thorpe Lane area around ASDA and the Shopping Centre and A607 traffic island.

