

Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Annual Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report

Twyford Village Hall

Tuesday 17th May 2022

7.00pm

The Parish Council conducted business using Zoom meetings for the first part of the year, this being in conformity with government guidance not to hold public meetings or meetings where individuals would gather, this being contrary to Lock-Down Regulations. Public meetings were resumed in September 2021 and have continued since.

With many county council and borough council employees now permitted to continue to work from home, there have been difficulties reaching the correct people to get answers to questions or activate requests re parish council business. Having spoken to MBC Planning several times, the Chairman now hopes that the correct systems are in place to enable all things to move forward as before the pandemic

Leicestershire County Council and the borough councils are now working together to enable the county and borough councils to draw down government funding for projects through the Levelling up Fund etc. This is a new era in cooperation.

Again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues on the Parish Council for their help, support and vital input over the previous year, especially Mr P Challoner, the Clerk. I would also like to extend my thanks to those officers of the Borough Council and the County Council who have still been working under very difficult circumstances.

1. Planning Applications

Over the past twelve months the Parish Council has dealt with fourteen planning applications, seven from Thorpe Satchville and seven from Twyford. Most have been approved, both by the Parish Council and the borough council without objection and have been given permission to proceed.

The applications are as follows

Thorpe Satchville

There have been 7 applications for planning permission. Three of the applications related to Hermitage Farm, Klondyke Lane; 1 new build single storey three car garage, 1 new equestrian building and 1 application for offices, stores and stables (all approved). 1 application was for an extension on a property with grey cladding (approved). 1 application for replacement of red facing tiles with grey plastic cladding (approved); 2 applications related to a TPO, (1 application approved and 1 refused). The application for sub-division of property, lodged in 2020/ 2021 was approved by Government Inspector on appeal.

Twyford

There have been 7 applications for development during the past year. 1 for noise insulation related to a new cider barn (approved), 1 new build carport for a previously approved new property (approved), 1 application for demolition of old barns and conversion of stone barn to

form a new annexe (unknown), 1 application for change of use from agricultural to mixed use of agricultural and equestrian/paddock (unknown), 1 application for demolition of existing garage and shed; and erection of one and a half storey garage with single storey link at the side and single storey extension at the rear of the house (unknown), 1 application for segregation of site to enable annexe of a property to become a three bedroomed dwelling with its own access (unknown), 1 application for dropped kerb to give access to a field (unknown), and 1 application for a proposed new garage (withdrawn).

Enforcement – Removal of a mobile home from land without planning permission at John OGaunt. The Parish Council have approached Melton Borough Council again over this matter and are still waiting to see if the borough council will implement the enforcement notice that requires a resident to remove a mobile home from land without planning permission at John OGaunt and desist from using it as living accommodation.

A further case of possible enforcement has been reported to Melton Borough Council who are investigating: A possible breach at Thimble Hall that was then converted into an application (outcome unknown).

The application for the development of Home Farm, Twyford is still active. It is hoped that this can be progressed at some point during the next twelve months.

The development of the barns on the bend of Tilton Road, Twyford, has not progressed and therefore it looks as though this site will remain an eyesore for the near future.

The council have looked at the possibility of delivering a Neighbourhood Plan to cover the parish. It was felt that at this time, there was insufficient interest from locals to move this project forward. It is to be noted that the Neighbourhood Plan is community led.

2. Internal and external audits.

The Parish Council continues to be financially resilient. A new style internal audit was carried out by associates from LRALC. The report was ranked unqualified, meaning there were no issues raised through the audit process. There are four recommendations to be actioned and implemented but these are advisory.

There was no external audit during the last twelve months, the clerk claimed an exemption.

The council extends its thanks to the clerk, Mr P Challoner for all his hard work both in compiling the paperwork for audits and also for his unstinting work carried out throughout the year on behalf of the council.

3. Allotments

All fourteen allotments were allocated during the financial year and used by nineteen people. Again, these need monitoring closely to ensure the Parish Council does not become liable for the lost income.

4. Garage Parking Space

The Parish Council has once again derived income from a small portion of land between the village hall and bordering the B6047. It is hoped that this will continue into 2022/ 2023.

5. Purchases and donations

Donations were made to the following organisations over the past twelve months:

St Michaels Church – Annual Donation - £130

St Andrews Church – Annual Donation - £190

Citizens Advice - £25

Purchases of the following were made during the last twelve months;

A new battery for the defibrillator at Thorpe Satchville, £186.

6. Introduction of the GDPR.

The new General Data Protection Regulations have been embedded and all councilors are now using their new email address linked to the council. The data is now stored securely on the iPads supplied. A review of the way the council stores data will be carried out annually and the GDPR policy updated if necessary.

7. Local Infrastructure

The Parish Council has again this year had to deal with blocked gulleys/ drains; the county council have been notified and responded to our requests for work to be carried out. All gulleys can be reported as in good working order after extensive work on some, carried out by Leicestershire County Council Highways Department.

The Environment Agency did not carry out the planned work as promised to de-silt the Gaddesby Brook, by the bridge in Twyford, during 2021/ 2022. These works have been added to the Environment Agency programme for this year, 2022/ 2023.

The issues around the Fox Inn, Thorpe Satchville are still continuing. It is hoped a resolution to the problems will be found in 2022. The new owners of the Fox are currently awaiting feedback from a local landowner.

8. Finance

The Parish Council was forced to raise the precept for 2021 – 2022 to pay for iPads for councillors. The precept has reduced for 2022 – 2023 from £9800 to £9000.

The Parish Council started the financial year, 2021 – 2022, with £7636.55 and ended with £9302.01. (It is to be noted that the first precept payment is made in April and that expenditure in April is heavy). Other general financial activity has been approved by the internal auditor.

There is still an outstanding charge for a new lamp post at the top of Church Lane, Thorpe Satchville that was replaced in August 2021. This outstanding bill amounts to over £1000.

The council is required by law to carry a contingency in reserves in the event of catastrophic event.

9. Policies

Throughout the year policies have been put in place to ensure the council is compliant with regulations. The GDPR policies were established and posted on the Parish Council website as was the Code of Conduct for Parish Councils. Each policy was approved by the council and this action is contained within the relevant minutes.

10. Council sub-committee

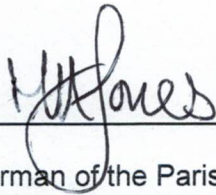
During the year, a council sub-committee was formed consisting of the Chairman and Mrs Caroline Baker of Thorpe Satchville. The purpose of the sub-committee was to look at and deal with the speed and noise generated by motorcycles and cars as they pass through both villages. Mrs Baker contacted all parish councils along the route of what is known as the Rutland TT and enlisted their support for action to be taken.

The Police are now involved and occasionally monitor the speed of vehicles through Thorpe Satchville.

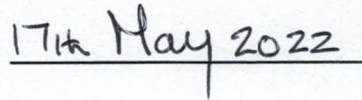
Nothing has been heard from the MP Alicia Kearns.

The Parish Council has applied to join Speedwatch with a view to carrying out speed surveillance within both villages.

Unfortunately, Mrs Baker left the village and therefore the council is looking to second a new person to the role.



Chairman of the Parish Council, Mick Jones



Date