

## **Twyford and Thorpe Satchville Annual Parish Meeting**

### **Chairman's Report**

#### **Twyford Village Hall**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 202021**

**7.30pm**

This past year, (April 2020 to March 2021), has seen major changes to the way the Parish Council has conducted business. Zoom meetings have been held for all council business in line with government guidance. This new way of working has been a major learning curve for all. It has also meant that requests for work to be undertaken by Leicestershire County Council and Melton Borough Council have taken longer to complete as most staff at these councils have been working from home. Leicestershire County Council are still pursuing their proposal for a unitary authority for Leicestershire at the expense of borough councils even though the likelihood of this being allowed to happen is receding. This takes up officer time that could be better spent fixing problems around the county.

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. 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 fifteen planning applications, ten from Thorpe Satchville and five 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 10 applications for planning permission. 1 new build four bed roomed property, (approved). 1 extension application, (approved); 2 new barn applications, (approved); 2 applications, TPO's, (both approved); 1 application for new build (already completed with material amendments, (refused); 1 material amendment, (refused, withdrawn); 1 application for variation of conditions, (approved) and 1 application for sub-division of property, (awaiting decision).

#### **Twyford**

There have been 5 applications for development during the past year. 1 new build application linked to a previous application for partial demolition of property, (approved); 1 application for conversion of an outbuilding, (approved); 1 application for erection of a carport and store, (refused) and 1 variation of conditions, (approved).

Enforcement – The Parish Council 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.

Two further cases of possible enforcement have been reported to Melton Borough Council who are investigating:

- a. One possible breach of planning regulations at JohnOGaunt and one possible breach at Thimble Hall.

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.

## 2. Internal and external audits.

The Parish Council continues to be financially resilient. The internal audit was ranked as good [without qualification], there were two recommendations - both accepted & actioned. 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. 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.  
Four Apple iPads were purchased at a cost totalling £1316 for parish councillors to use only for council business and to comply with GDPR.

## 5. Introduction of the GDPR.

The new General Data Protection Regulations have forced a rethink on how the parish council stores data. All councillors now have a new email address linked to the council and data is stored securely. A review of the way the council stores data will be carried out annually and the GDPR policy updated if necessary.

## 6. 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. There

are still some gulleys that require further work, these have been placed on the county council's list of to do jobs. These are – Bakers Lane, Thorpe Satchville and Tilton Road, Twyford.

The Environment Agency is to carry out de-silting work on the Gaddesby Brook, by the bridge in Twyford, yet again, sometime during this year. These works have been added to the Environment Agency programme.

The development on land south of Tilton Road is now complete. Nottingham Housing Association have informed the parish council that the work on the footpaths, the road into the site, and the missing wooden railings by the brook will be replaced in May 2021.

The issues around the Fox Inn, Thorpe Satchville are still continuing. It is hoped a resolution to the problems will be found in 2021.

## 7. Finance

The parish council was forced to raise the precept for 2021 – 2022 to pay for iPads for councillors. This is for one year only. The precept, it is hoped, will return to a lower level for 2022 – 2023.

The Parish Council started the financial year, 2020 – 2021, with £8575 and ended with £7636 mainly due to purchase of iPads. Other general financial activity has been approved by internal auditor.

## 8. 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.

## 9. 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 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. Neither the Police nor the MP, Alicia Kearns have been forthcoming during this period but the sub-committee is hopeful that once lockdown begins to ease, more action can be taken.

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Chairman of the Parish Council, Mick Jones

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Date