

16 November 2023

Report by County Councillor Neil Bannister

1. I have spoken with the Police about speeding issues in the village, particularly along Frolesworth Road. I am pleased to report that the police are going to be undertaking speed checks in the village both before and after Christmas. I have asked for a bid to be made to the Road Safety Partnership for the speed camera van to also be deployed in the village and I understand that the local police beat officer may be asked to make assessments for suitable locations.
2. During late October and early November, I attended the public examination of the Planning Inspectorate of the Tritax Symmetry application to build a rail freight interchange at Hinckley near to Junction 2 of the M69 and Burbage Common. This proposal is on a massive scale and has huge highway, traffic, transportation, and environmental impacts not just for the immediate area but for many miles around. Broughton Astley will be impacted if this development proceeds. I have spoken against the proposal at the County Council and have supported the Petition against the Proposal, attending No. 10 Downing Street when the Petition was presented by local and County Councillors on the 17 October 2023. The Secretary of State will determine the application sometime in mid to late summer in 2024 and I will update the Parish Council of the progress of this application.
3. There is currently an LCC consultation taking place on the future of the County operated Recycling and household waste sites in the County. Our local tips are something that affects our lives -maybe not daily but on a frequent basis. Owing to cost pressures the County are considering options which include closing some named waste sites and/or reducing the opening hours. Fortunately, neither Lutterworth or Whetstone appear to be under any immediate threat but if you wish to know more or take part in the consultation, please visit the LCC website and click on community engagement to find the consultation. The consultation ends on the 24 January 2024.
4. Speaking of consultations, I would also like to draw the Parish Council's attention to the NHS LLR integrated Care Board's Public Consultation on proposed improvements to health services in Lutterworth which includes options for utilising the Feilding Palmer Hospital as a local diagnostic centre. This consultation is now open and runs until the 14 January 2024. If you wish to learn more or participate in the consultation, please visit the website at haveyoursaylutterworth.co.uk.
5. Finally, I wish to pay tribute to former County and District Councillor Bill Liquorish, who passed away on the 3 November. Bill was a tireless worker for his community in Broughton Astley and will be sadly missed by the great many who knew him. Bill was also a big supporter of the Broughton Astley Conservative Club and during his time as Chairman of the Club's committee drove forward many improvements to the Club. I am especially indebted to Bill, who I counted as a good friend, for his support and knowledge, as he helped me in my roles as both a District and County Councillor. Bill was quite ill as he neared the end of his last term as one of the District Councillors for

APPENDIX A

Broughton Astley - this was an illness he carried with much courage and no complaint. My sincere condolences are extended to his family.

6. As ever, happy to receive enquiries from members and residents on my contact details:
Neil.Bannister@leics.gov.uk
Telephone 0791 488 9008

Report by District Councillors Dann and Grafton-Reed

1. The statement of Common Ground (SOCG)

Whereby the District is being asked to take a proportion of the City Councils unmet housing need has still not been decided. A decision is likely to be made at the Full Council on the 11th of December.

2. I am sure you already know of the passing of Bill Liquorish. Bill served for many years as a District and County Councillor. He served as Chairman of the District Council and was also Chair of planning for a few years. Bill also served as a JP and in his earlier years was a Chairman at Whetstone Parish Council.

His family have organised a private funeral on November 22nd followed by a wake at his beloved Conservative club, where he served for many years as Chairman.

Bill had not been too well of late, but we should remember the sterling work he did for residents over many years.

3. Still awaiting outcome of the appeals against the refusal for housing development, land off Broughton Way.
4. The Parish should have the detail of the Annual Parish Liaison meeting, to be held at the Symington Building on the 23rd of November 6.00 for 6.30pm.

Report by District Councillor Mark Graves

1. At the last Full Council Meeting It was proposed by the Council Leader, and seconded by the Conservatives, and supported unanimously to again delay the vote on whether to sign up to the SOCG (Statement of Common Ground) which is likely to mean accepting 123 extra houses into the district per year from Leicester City, which it cannot accommodate building.
2. This decision is forced onto the District Council by the National Government through a series of actions in recent years, not least of which was the decision by Robert Jenrick MP to arbitrarily add a further 10,000 homes onto the already excess number of 8,000 that Leicester stated it did not have the land to build. So, 18,000 extra homes have been forced into the Leicestershire Districts and Boroughs and 7 Conservative Councils have already accepted the overspill number, with Blaby DC accepting 4,000 extra houses above their own targets. Only 2 Councils have not yet signed.
3. It is therefore ironic that the MP for Harborough is making a desperate bid to go against all legal and professional advisors, to demand that Harborough DC do NOT accept the Leicester overspill housing, forced upon it by his own government. In the last fortnight, a Kings Counsel legal opinion was sought which concluded it was

"arguably irrational" not to sign up to the SOCG because of considerable advantages that it brings to the district.

4. The considerable advantages refer to the ability of Harborough District to write and have approved a new Local Plan in only 2-3 years, which should heavily regulate where housing developers can, and cannot, add housing estates. Imagine if the current Local Plan were deemed so out of date that 5 massive new housing estates were approved around the edges of Broughton Astley, one after another. This is a real possibility if there was no up-to-date Local Plan to control development.
5. Therefore, the Council coalition is acting responsibly, and STILL receiving information almost every day, and plans to make a final decision on this matter on 11th December.
6. Under the previous administration, Harborough DC have overbuilt by an average of 400 houses per year within our District for the last 4 years. So, 123 overspill is less than one third of the recent overbuilding.

District Councillor Worrell - informed Members of the development approval at 33 Dunton Road with the additions of discharge notices.

Parish Managers Report – November 2023

Premises Officer Sick Leave

Glen is now on long term sick leave due to having had an operation, he has been signed off for 6 weeks, taking us up to Christmas with just one Premises Officer.

This will impact on the staffing salary budget as we will be paying sick pay as well as extra hours for the covering Premises Officer.

Levelling Up

The planters have now been delivered and discussions have taken place with BAVG about planting them up, they have offered to provide individuals to do the initial planting and look after the planters going forward with regular weeding etc.

The bench and notice board are still to be delivered and installed, we are awaiting confirmation of a date from HDC.

Office Christmas Closure

The Parish Office will close at 1pm on Friday 22 December and reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2023 at 9am. During this time telephone calls will be monitored on a regular basis should an emergency arise.

Damage to Allotment Fencing

A quote from RTC Fencing, the company that originally installed the fencing has been received to replace the damaged panels and posts, the cost is £598.00 + VAT. They have arrived on site to start work today.

Remembrance Day

Despite the wet weather there was a good turnout for the parade and Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial.

I would personally like to thank Jo Deacon for all her hard work in putting together the many elements that are required to put on this event. A debriefing session will be held shortly with the key participants which will hopefully make next year's event run even more smoothly.