

The Rothley Centre, 12 Mountsorrel Lane, Rothley, Leicester, LE7 7PR
Normal Office Hours: Monday to Friday 09.00 to 11.00am
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Newsletter No 6 April 2019

Rothley Parish Councillors and the committees they sit on are: -

Andrew Brettle- Planning
Claire Cole - Open Spaces
Mike Ferguson - Staffing,
Buildings/Premises,
Health/Safety
Roger Gross - Finance, Staffing,
Planning,
Buildings/Premises,
Health/Safety
Graham Hall - Finance,
Open Spaces
Percy Hartshorn - Finance,
Planning,
Buildings/Premises
Steve Mitchell - Finance,
Open Spaces,
Health/Safety
Barry Simons - Finance,
Staffing,
Planning,
Buildings/Premises,
Open Spaces
Douglas Sutherland - Staffing,
Planning,
Buildings/Premises,
Open Spaces,
Health/Safety
Christine Watts -
Buildings/Premises

Administration

Rothley Parish Council staff include: -

Parish Clerk - Gail Newcombe
Deputy Clerk - Pam Armstrong
Admin Assistant - Bev Eldridge
Caretaker - Jennifer Cornish
Caretaker - Bernadeta Skubala
Caretaker - Andrew Hodgson

Primrose Hill

In May this Charles Church development off West Cross Lane will transfer into Mountsorrel following a boundary review undertaken by Charnwood Borough Council. Despite a petition objecting to this, signed by 97% of Primrose Hill residents, Charnwood chose to ignore residents in these 150 households which after May, will be within the parish of Mountsorrel.

Rothley Parish Council is making every effort to ensure that their play area promised by Charles

Church is satisfactorily in place before they leave.

We wish all residents of Primrose Hill well for the future.

Air Ambulance Textile recycling bank



We have been informed by the Air Ambulance Service for the East Midlands that the yellow clothing recycling cabin, based at the top of The Rothley Centre car park, had a total of 2,251 kilograms of textiles placed in the cabinet during 2018. In monetary terms this funded 6 lifesaving helicopter missions. Bearing in mind that each flying mission costs £1,700 the donations raised over £10,000. We have been asked by the Air Ambulance Service to pass on their thanks to the people of Rothley.

Charles Church outstanding community commitments.

Bridge over Rothley Brook
Residents will be aware that as part of the application to build the housing and the new school Charles Church had agreed, as part of their planning submission, to construct a bridge over Rothley Brook from the bottom of Town Green Street playing fields to a large field at the bottom of Brookfield Road.

Rothley residents along with Rothley Parish Council all want to see this feature completed so that local children can use this as a safe route to school.

This development should have taken places over a year ago but currently the issue is a matter of dispute between the contractor Charles Church and the planning authority, Charnwood Borough Council.

Lord Macaulay's Walk

The restoration of this historic route from area around the slip road off the A6 (Loughborough

Road) to the track/footpath through the golf course was promised as part of their planning application and the work is well behind schedule but following meetings with representatives of Charles Church some progress is being made. Part of the route at the top of Farmers Way has now been planted up with over 70 oak trees and the pathway has been cleared. We are now lobbying for the walk to be completed and then the footpath will be adopted by Leicestershire County Council who will maintain it.

Grass areas and playgrounds.
RPC is currently pressing the developer for the grass areas on all Charles Church developments and two play areas at Saxon Drive and on Warren Way to be released into the care of the parish council. This is well overdue and once these areas are adopted the grass will be cut on a regular basis and the play areas inspected weekly. Rothley Parish Council is also pushing for the roads to be adopted by other local councils (Borough / County) so that road cleaning contractors can sweep the streets and empty litter / dog bins on a regular basis.

Primrose Hill play area (off Baum Drive)
Charles Church has been very slow to install this planned and promised play site for children. The parish council have made very strong representations to the developer to improve the quality of the grass in conjunction with play equipment being installed because the ground is, in the opinion of Rothley Parish Council, unsafe due to extensive amounts of rubble and stones on the surface.

Work has now commenced on the installation of play equipment in mid-February and we are currently pressing for this work to be completed as soon as possible including the regrading of the grass area.

Engaging with Charles Church to ensure that their community commitments are completed, has been a frustrating and very lengthy process. Rothley Parish Council is committed to continued monitoring and lobbying in order that this village gets what it was promised.

Local elections May 2019



Local elections take place this year on Thursday May 2nd.

On this date there will be elections for the borough councils (Charnwood) and parish councils (Rothley) and voting for both elections will be at the Rothley Centre, Mountsorrel Lane, Rothley.

Note that residents in Cropston will vote at the Schoolroom at the rear of Cropston Chapel Vestry, Station Road, Cropston whilst those living at Thurcaston vote at The Harrison Room, All Saints' Church, Anstey Lane, Thurcaston.

Rothley Parish Council is comprised of 10 councillors and therefore should there be more than 10 candidates standing an election will take place.

Local residents wishing to stand for a place on Rothley Parish Council must submit the appropriate nomination papers (obtained from Charnwood Borough Council) by Wednesday 4th April 4.00pm to: -

Charnwood Borough Council
Electoral Registration Officer
Council Offices
Southfield Road
Loughborough LE11 2TR
For further information and enquires use the following: -
01509 632593
electoral.services@charnwood.gov.uk
www.charnwood.gov.uk

Mountsorrel Lane play area improvements

Rothley Parish Council asked four playground companies to provide quotes for improving the facilities at this play area. After reviewing the quotations and responses from the public following a display in the library Rothley Parish Council have decided to award the contract to Wicksteed. These pieces include a 'you and me' swing where parents can sit opposite their young child rather than stand and push. This will be part of a swing unit that will have other types of swings.



Other pieces include a rocking horse, balance beam, wobble plank, clatter bridge and log traverse (as part of a trail) a low-level swirl roundabout, a four way see saw, some picnic seating, a small pagoda and a musical item. Several of the pieces will be suitable for children with physical disabilities. The work is planned to be installed in April. The Parish Council is also looking to level the middle of the field at some stage in the late spring or early autumn. This will enable some sports markings to be marked out.

The money to pay for these improvements will come from S106 funds which are paid over to the community by building developers in order to improve local facilities to meet the needs of an ever increasing population.

Precept

The Parish Council's budget for 2019/20 is £188,000. This compares with around £170,000 for 2018/19 once the income from the Rothley Centre is added – readers may recall that Rothley Parish Council took over responsibility for the Centre from the Rothley Centre Management Trust during last year.

As always, the 'precept' (the Parish Council's share of your Council Tax) makes up the greater part of our income - £132,000 for 2019/20 compared with £122,000 for 2019/20. In recent years we have been able to rely on an increased precept because of the newly built and occupied houses in the Parish. This increase will not be as much as we hoped in 2019/20 because Charnwood Borough Council's Governance Review last year decreed that the Primrose Hill development at the northern end of the Parish would become part of Mountsorrel from April 2019. The contribution to the precept from around 150 houses will therefore go to Mountsorrel rather than Rothley.

There will inevitably be a small increase in the contribution of each household to the precept in 2019/20. Our 'tax base' (the number of households contributing to the precept) will be 2,106 so the average increase per household will be around £4.75 per year – less than 10p per week.

Parish Council expenditure for 2019/20 will be approximately as follows: -

Salaries	36%
Admin & operating costs	7%
Open spaces	23%
Village Hall	7%
Cemetery	4%
Street Lighting	2%
Rothley Centre Running Costs (largely offset by lettings income)	14%
Other	7%

Rothley Centre

The Parish Council took over the management of the Rothley Centre last September.

We contacted Charnwood Borough Council with an offer to buy the freehold of the building and car park for the village.

The Borough Council have refused our offer to purchase and we are now arranging another meeting to discuss our options. We have refurbished the ladies and disabled toilets and increased the size of the car park by removing hedging/bushes in an over grown area, which will provide a further 30 car parking spaces. We are looking to refurbish the gents toilets.

Dependent on the second meeting with Charnwood regarding our proposed purchase we will be looking to refurbish the other rooms.

In order to mitigate the loss of the small bushes the council will be planting a number of trees on various sites across the village. The trees have been kindly donated by Goscote Nurseries.

Flood Resilience

A number of councillors and the parish clerk attended a flood resilience course in January and they thought that some of the information would be best shared with the community as this would be useful for every household but particularly for those occupants that live close to The Rothley Brook. By signing up to this scheme residents will receive text messages from the Environment Agency alerting them to flood warnings and alerts for specific, very localised areas.



The service is free and well worth doing. To sign up simply phone 0345 9881188 (this phoneline is open 24 hours a day).

Marion Vincent MBE

Following the memorial service held in September 2018 Marion's family presented Marion's MBE back to the community and the Parish Council which accepted the medal have now mounted her award in the foyer of the Rothley Centre.



The trees which formed a small copse planted in her memory at

Fowke Street, have all been labelled and it is the intention of the Parish Council to have a sign installed at the copse to name it the Marion Vincent Copse.

Dog Fouling



This continues to be an issue which local residents are quite rightly concerned about.

Following representations from members of the public, Rothley Parish Council intend to install two new bins for dog mess, after seeking approval from Charnwood Borough Council. The proposed sites would be at the junction of Loughborough Road and Homefields Lane and the other at the junction of Kiln Garth and the short footpath from Whatton Oaks. Additional bins might also be provided at either end of Bier Way, as William Davis has indicated that they would seek to do this.



The Parish Council would urge any resident who sees irresponsible dog owners failing to pick up mess or if they come across dog fouling to report issues of this nature to Charnwood Borough Council on 01509 634564. Both the Borough and Parish councils as well as responsible dog owners are really keen to cut out this anti-social behaviour especially as it often affects young children or parents with pushchairs.

The current CBC fine for not picking up dog mess is £100

Free doggy bags are available from the Parish Office and so there is no excuse.