

Community facilities: Roger (coordinator), Steve.

Objectives:

- To improve the health services and health facilities for the parish.
- To ensure adequate provision of, and improved access to, community and recreational facilities.
- To ensure sufficient capacity for children living in Rothley to access primary and junior education within the parish

Education

a) Schools

The Rothley Church of England Primary School (Academy) is located at Burrow Drive, Rothley, Leicestershire LE77RZ (<http://www.rothley.leics.sch.uk>). The school capacity is 420 children across 14 classes. At the time of writing (Oct 2016) there are 401 children enrolled. The admission policy was changed with effect from the Autumn term of 2016-2017 to bring in a cap of 60 per year group to ensure a maximum of 30 per class.

Prior to moving to its new site on Burrow Drive the school admitted children from out of the catchment area but because of the growing number of families in Rothley it is expected to be full with catchment area children in the future.

When the new school building was first proposed by the planners at Charnwood Borough Council there was a possible option to build four more classrooms on the site. However, funds were not available and the additional classrooms were not built. This is still a possible future option should the demand for places dictate it and if the funds were made available.

There is no senior school in Rothley and students from the primary school go on to schools beyond the parish, as follows:

- Rawlins 34 (Loughborough Rd, Quorn, Loughborough LE12 8DY)
- De Lisle 12 (Thorpe Hill, Loughborough LE11 4SQ)
- Cedars 4 (Wanlip Lane, Birstal, Leicester LE4 4GH)
- Humphrey Perkins 2 (Cotes Rd, Barrow upon Soar, Loughborough LE12 8JU)

Some concern was expressed at a consultation event that the present school is not large enough to cope with the anticipated demand from new housing developments. The planning application for additional housing development in Westfield Lane, now turned down by Charnwood Borough Council, assumed that children would have to go to the primary school in nearby Thurmaston.

b) Other education opportunities.

Rothley has a range of adult educational opportunities provided by a number of local voluntary organisations. There is a branch of the Workers Educational Association, which is based at

Rothley Community Library, who organise a number of courses. As one would expect the village has a range of cultural groups and societies including Rothley History Society, Rothley Heritage Trust, Singing for Fun, Yoga & Pilates groups, Bridge Club. The Community Library plays a part too by holding book clubs, children's courses, film clubs for senior citizens, fortnightly computer support sessions and monthly evening talks during the winter.

Leisure

a) Existing facilities

There are the following indoor facilities:

- **The Rothley Centre** is at 12 Mountsorrel La, Leicester LE7 7PR (see Rothley Parish Council website <http://rothley.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/therothleycentre.html>). The Centre is owned by Charnwood Borough Council and leased to the Rothely Centre Management Trust, a charity set up and supported by Rothley Parish Council to manage the Centre. The Rothley Centre offers community facilities for meetings, weddings, coffee mornings. There are three differing sized rooms available for hire, the larger of which can accommodate up to 200 people with or without bar facilities. There are reduced rates for local residents. The Centre also houses the Parish Council office and provides a small office for the use of local police officers.
- **The Rothely Village Hall** in Fowke Street, Rothley is owned and managed by Rothely Parish Council. The Village Hall offers facilities for children's parties and can be booked through the Parish Council Office. It is the regular venue for daily pre-school and breakfast / after school clubs for primary aged children.
- **The Old School Rooms** at 3 School Street, Rothley, Leicester, LE7 7RA (see www.rothleychurch.org.uk) are owned and managed by Rothley Parish Church. The building is a regular meeting place for youth groups and local health groups. Rooms are available for use by other local groups in return for a donation. The building also houses the church office.
- Rothley has a **Community Library** at Mountsorrel Lane, Rothley, Leicester LE7 7PS (www.rothleycommunitylibrary.co.uk) run by volunteers under the umbrella of a charity supported by the Parish Council. A small space is available for hire for meetings
- **The Baptist Church** is a venue for a range of church based activities as well as the local weekly Food Bank
- **The Royal Oak** pub has a small function room available for hire and sometimes free of charge.

The consultation events indicated support for the community library and suggested that the Rothley Centre was valued by the community and should be developed further.

b) New developments

Following some expenditure of section 106 monies there has been an upgrade of play facilities with the installation of table tennis, basketball, 'skateboarding' type challenging equipment at two play sites(see below 'd'). With the use of further ring-fenced 106 funds, some charity funds and possible grants RPC is looking to provide purpose built changing rooms on the Fowke Street site with the next 12 months.

c) Sports and organised recreation

The village has the following outdoor facilities

- **Tennis courts.** Administered by the Rothley Ivanhoe Tennis Club there six courts one of which is always available for members of the public.
- **Bowls Clubs.** A bowling green and clubhouse is administered by Rothley Bowls Club on behalf of the Parish Council. There is an additional bowls club based within Rothley on the border with Mountsorrel which has been recently refurbished. This is the Soar Valley Bowls Club.
- **Soccer facilities.** There are a number of junior pitches belonging to the Parish Council which are regularly let out to Rothley Junior Imps F.C. There are also playing fields available for community use at the local primary school. Senior soccer facilities including a club house and a senior sized floodlit soccer pitch on the former Rolls Royce Sports & Social Club site.
- **Golf Club.** The highly regarded Rothely Park Golf Club is located in Westfield Lane. The course was first opened in 1912 and is now owned by the Club having been purchased by the members in 1977. The Club runs an academy programme for beginners.
- **Cricket club:** Rothley Park Cricket Club is highly active with teams at junior and senior levels. It is located in a beautiful setting in Westfield Lane adjacent to the Rothley Court Hotel.

d) Open spaces, parks, play areas

There are the following open space areas.

- **Mountsorrel playing fields,** owned by RPC, is an open area for play adjacent to the Library. It has a variety of play equipment for young children and is well used throughout the year.
- **Fowke Street Playing Fields ,** also owned by RPC, is a large playing area marked out with two junior soccer pitches. There is a new storage unit for soccer equipment and a former youth cabin which is available for refreshments etc. There are extensive play facilities for children of all ages at this site, including challenging equipment for

teenagers. The area is extensively used by the soccer club all year round and as a walking spot for dog owners.

- **Town Green Playing Fields**, owned by a local charity and administered by RPC, has an outdoor picnic table, table tennis facilities (all recently installed), as well as play equipment for very young children and an outdoor adult fitness centre. The area is very well used.
- **Bunney's Field**, owned by a local charity and administered by RPC, is a large open space close to the village centre which is well used, particularly by parents and children.
- **Warren Way**: the childrens' play area and the 'kickabout area' are, at the time of writing, still owned by the developer Charles Church but it has been agreed that they will in due course be handed over to RPC.
- **Saxon Drive**: the childrens' play area is, at the time of writing, still owned by the developer Charles Church but it has been agreed that it will in due course be handed over to RPC.

Health

e) Existing arrangements for health

- There is no doctor's surgery in Rothley, the nearest being the Mountsorrel Surgery, 39 Linkfield Road, Mountsorrel, LE12 7DJ (<http://www.hiranicharnwoodsurgery.co.uk>).
- Rothley has a dental surgery at 1 Anthony St, Rothley, Leicester LE7 7PA (no dedicated website).
- An osteopathy service is provided at The Woodgate Clinic, 12A Lazarus Court, Woodgate, Rothley, LE7 7NR (www.osteopathy.org/practice/the-woodgate-clinic)
- The Rothley Pharmacy is at 7 Woodgate, Rothley, LE7 7LL

f) is there a perceived need for other facilities such as a base for visiting health professionals/physiotherapy and other services, which might lead to a request for a site or funding for such services.

Among the most common comments at the consultation events were those indicating a wish for a doctor's surgery or health centre in Rothley.

Questionnaire survey April/May 2017

Schools:

97% of respondents felt that there should always be adequate provision of school places within the parish to accommodate children living in the parish.

Public green spaces:

The key pattern to emerge was that respondents want to see public green spaces protected from future development. The following figures indicate the description of the green spaces and the percentage of respondents who either 'Strongly Agreed' or 'Agreed' that the

location should be protected from development; 98% Playfields at Fowke Street, 97% Play area in Town Green Street, 96% Rothley Brook as a Local Wildlife Site (white-clawed crayfish, otters, veteran trees) and 94% Bunney's Field.

In terms of what aspects of the surrounding rural environment and public green spaces respondents would like to see more of, 83% stated less litter, no fly tipping, 81% landscaping of public areas (e.g. bulbs, hedges, trees) and 80% creation of wildlife meadows and corridors.

Health:

Respondents indicated that it was easy for them/ other members of their household to travel to health services and health facilities in the parish. For example, 95% reported it was 'Very Easy (69%)/ Quite Easy (26%) to travel to the pharmacy.

In terms of booking appointments, 73% of respondents indicated booking an appointment with the dentist was either 'Very Easy (27%) or Quite Easy (46%)' whilst the same figure for the optician was 71%, pharmacy 70% and doctor 68%.

It must be noted however that qualitative comments mentioned issues with long waiting times when phoning for an appointment at the doctors.

List of Open Spaces in Rothley.

Fowke Street playing field.

Childrens play area. 2 junior football pitches used by Rothley Junior Imps Football club. BMX Track.

Mountsorrel Lane area.

Childrens play area. Community Library. Rothley Bowls Club. Rothley Ivanoe Tennis club.

Town Green Street Play area.

Childrens play area. Outdoor Gym equipment.

Hickling Close. Children's play area owned by developer, Charles Church Avalon development.

Manor Holt Close play area built by developer William Davis and maintained privately.

Rothley Sports & Social Club. Large pavilion plus 2 full size football pitches. 99 year lease from Rolls Royce PLC to RPC. Used by Rothley Imps Football club.

Soar Valley Bowls club next to Rothley Sports & Social Club.

99 year lease from Rolls Royce PLC to club trustees.

Island field. Owned by CBC. 1 junior football pitch used by Rothley Junior Imps football club.

Rothley Park. Westfield lane. Owned by Mr A Cooper Southfields Farm.

Cricket ground in centre leased to Rothley Park Cricket Club.

Rothley Park Golf club. Owned by club full 18 hole golf course.

Allotments. 5.5 acres. Leased to Rothley Allotment Holders Association by Rothley Temple Estates.

Cross Green. Owned by RPC.

Town Green. Owned by RPC.

Garland open swathes in between houses. Owned by CBC.

Rothley Junior School. 2 junior football pitches. Owned by School.

Bunneys Field & Donkey Field. Owned by Harry Hames Cottage Charity.