

County Councillor Annual Report

This report summarises the activities of the following member of the County Council during

Name of Councillor

Brenda Seaton Thurmaston and Ridgemere Division

1) Electoral Division activities.

Main Activities and the impact during the past year:

My second year as a County Councillor for Thurmaston Ridgemere has been stimulating in its variety, challenging in its delivery and satisfying in its successes.

My Ward Thurmaston Ridgemere covers Barkby, Barkby Thorpe, Beeby, South Croxton and Thurmaston. Although these areas are very different in their population and their landscape there are similarities such as social services, education and transport links.

South Croxton

Last year I identified a real need for improved play facilities for South Croxton and was pleased to draw together the Parish Council with the Rural Communities Council and funds from Charnwood Borough Council to start the process off to plan, design and fund a new play park.

The travellers site on South Croxton Road where two permanent units and three temporary units have been given planning permission still haunt the residents. The planning permission also includes a day room and hard standing. This remains to be a development that requires close monitoring by Charnwood.

On the 18th May this year I attended the Annual County Rally hosted by the Young Farmers on Flaxlands Farm with the newly appointed Chair of the County Council, Pam Posnett MBE and the Lord Lieutenant Michael Kapur OBE. I was impressed with how well the event was managed and thoroughly enjoyed all the entries' to the many different competitions i.e. toilet seat decorating, best fried breakfast, cake decorating, moving hat bales between trailers and shovelling quarry waste through a hole.

Barkby and Barkby Thorpe

I attend the Parish Council meeting as often as I can but the meetings are held on the same night as Thurmaston Parish Council meetings. I do however meet with CEG (commercial Estates Group) along with Owen Bentley representing BABTAG and Councillor Hugh Asher. Although BABTAG, Thurmaston Parish and Barkby and Barkby Thorpe objected to the size of this development we realise that we have to be involved with the planning that protects the character of Barkby/Barkby Thorpe, reduce demands on services that could affect Thurmaston residents and ensure that the road systems are given high consideration.

Phase one is due to break ground in September and comprises of 604 homes which is slightly more than originally planned however the trigger of 575 remains the same to trigger the southern link road. Talks are still ongoing between CEG and Leicester City regarding the land put aside for the road and I am assured talks are progressing but I am not holding my breath.

Beeby

The governance of Beeby Village is by a Parish Meeting and not a parish council and has just over 100 residents. My main and still my only involvement with Beeby is reporting fly tipping and potholes and white lining, I would welcome any contact from the residents but as yet I have not been made aware of any issues.

Thurmaston

Thurmaston remains the most demanding village due to its physical size, population, schools, varied employment opportunities and challenging transport links. Fumes on Earls way remain an issue, as well as parking on Church Hill Road. I am still waiting for details as to the promised crossing on Barkby Thorpe Lane. Eastfield School's parking issues are still there and always will be however I supported their application for enforced parking restrictions that are supported by a camera car dedicated to school parking. However I considered that the restrictions did not go far enough and managed to secure double yellow lines on the junction with Highway Road and Red Hill Lane. Following the success of Eastfield school I have encouraged Church Hill schools to also apply.

After boundary changes the planned houses will ALL be in Thurmaston and the new development planned for the east of Barkby Thorpe **Road** later this year will be called Thorpebury in the Limes, Thurmaston. .

Engagement with the Council, other statutory bodies and public utility companies (Water, Gas etc) about services in the area

I did hold a surgery at the old school coffee morning on the first Saturday of the month but found that I was not visited and although I enjoyed the coffee and cake I have decided my time was better spent in running environmental projects around the village. These events are well attended by volunteers. I have the honour of being the Mayor of Charnwood and will be attending up to 500 engagements this year so I have stepped down to Vice Chair of Children's and Families and I also serve on the joint Health Scrutiny Committee. This year I have been asked to sit on the Nicholson Memorial Trust. Thurmaston is also served by three Charnwood Borough councillors, of which I am one, and enjoy a close working relationship with them.

Priorities for the immediate future are:

School parking at peak times is an enormous problem within Thurmaston and to a lesser but just as disrupting to village life in Barkby.

2) Council Activities

Committees you serve on at County Hall

Joint Health Scrutiny
Children and Families (Vice Chair)

Local committees/Outside Bodies

Thurmaston Parish Council
Charnwood Parish Council

Other bodies – School governors/community and charity organisations etc

Thurmaston Action Group
Thurmaston Events Team
British Legion remembrance day committee

3) Learning and development:

All Member Briefing – Safeguarding
All Member Briefing GDPR

Social Media

Twitter BrendaClrseaton

Signed by Councillor Brenda Seaton

Date 01/07/2019