

Brenda Seaton – Annual Report 2022/2023

County Councillor for Thurmaston Ridgemere Division

This Leicestershire County Council Division is made up #from Thurmaston, Barkby, Barkby Thorpe, Beeby, South Croxton and Hamilton Lea within Charnwood

My involvement within my district varies enormously and many of those functions are sensitive but below I have written a few examples of projects I have been able to start, have completed or was able to support others to succeed.

Beeby

Although Beeby has a small population and very rural it is well placed to access the retail shopping centre in Thurmaston and Leicester city. The focal point of Beeby for over a decade was that of a run down and latterly derelict group of farm buildings. These buildings are listed and as such protected by English heritage, but they were in danger of further



deterioration and being lost to the village heritage.

However, after many different planning applications the site is now being sensitively developed to accommodate family homes with localised sustainably sourced power.



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South Croxton

At the centre of South Croxton is the village Hall. The hall is run by a committee and as a response to concerns of rural isolation and recovery from covid the hall regularly hosts coffee mornings plus tea and cake afternoons that are a great success. I have attended and



have seen how important these events are for community cohesion. To the rear of the village hall is a playing field that has extremely poor access and I am very pleased to announce that I have been successful in obtaining full funding for a new access path from a Charnwood grant.

Footpath success!

Over covid the easily accessed footpath at the top of Kings Lane was altered. The siting of a stile restricted users of the footpath plus the unfortunate position of a tree and the way



marker even stopped me from getting over the stile. The landowner did want to open up another entrance, but this would have caused problems with managing a difference in ground levels. After I pointed this issue



out the landowner replaced the stile with a kissing gate.

Highway members fund



The speed activated sign is up and running after a doubtful start plus the dragons' teeth at both main entrances to the village.

Although over the last 6 years I have only received one complaint of speeding on Main Street/South Croxton Road I have experienced traffic going faster than I would

consider as suitable or necessary in a rural village. So

hopefully the speed reactive sign will make a driver think about their speed.



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Thurmaston

The largest village in my district and situated on the edge of Leicester City. Following recent boundary changes Thurmaston will be doubling in size over the next 10 to 15 years.

Highway Member Fund

Work is scheduled for later this year to remove certain grass verges that are constantly parked on and not likely to recover. The two narrow roads identified have housing with no driveways therefore to reduce congestion vehicles must park half or fully on the path.



Duck Pond Lane Junction Improvements

Repositioning of concrete blocks



Litter picking

I continue to litter pick and have managed to gather many volunteers



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Church Hill Bridge

Church Hill Road under the railway bridge floods whenever there is heavy rain in the area. Over the years there has been subtle improvements made like moving network rails fencing back allowing immediate access to the drains and regular planned clearing of the gullies. A geophysical survey has also been completed using GPR (ground penetrating radar) to pinpoint the location of underground utilities. There is no doubt that to improve the flooding considerable work must be done underground and that will cost 10's of £1000's and because the flooding does not impact on homes or businesses, we are very low on the list. The sudden downpours we saw in September did catch out a fair few vehicles



and the poor judgement of the driver usually attracts some humour on Facebook as the car seems to be more than likely BMW's, something to do with air intake.

Because the flooding seems unlikely to be tackled for many years, I have asked for better signage so that drivers are made aware of the

Thurmaston Roundabout

Ever since Costco opened, I have received weekly reports of drivers cutting in to join the lane for Thurmaston village. I live in the village approximately 150m from the roundabout and get 'cut up' daily. However, from my first reporting this to Highways as being a problem to now there has not been a single **recorded** traffic collision, due to vehicles cutting in. This does not mean there hasn't been any collisions but the only time a collision is recorded to highways is if serious injury was an outcome. Because I am a local, I am very aware of the



problem and always check in my side view mirror almost without thinking. When I was informed of the resurfacing, I contacted highways yet again and asked them to reconsider their previous position of denying there was a problem. I am pleased to say they did. The new markings do make me feel safer but will still check!

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Thorpebury

A development of four thousand five hundred houses plus 17 hectares of employment land. The developers are David Wilson, Davidsons, and William Davies. At time of typing around 60 houses are occupied. If you would like more details

www.thorpebury.co.uk



Hamilton Lea



Although the Hamilton Lea, Rainbow Meadow, development is still unadopted by the county council I am in talks with Taylor Wimpey and Encore Estate Management representing Hamilton Lea residents. Grit boxes



are now in place and I have got agreement that the 30 mile speed limit be reduced to 20 .

