



Thurmaston Community Library

As chair of the trustees to Thurmaston Community Centre last week I went shopping at Curry's for two new computers and a printer. I took fellow trustee with me, Matthew Brookes, who could steer me in the right direction. Should we go for a laptop, a tower or one that has the tower built in, new monitors and keyboards or make do with what we already have? In the end we plumped for two Lenovo All-in-One PCs, headphones and an EcoTank printer.

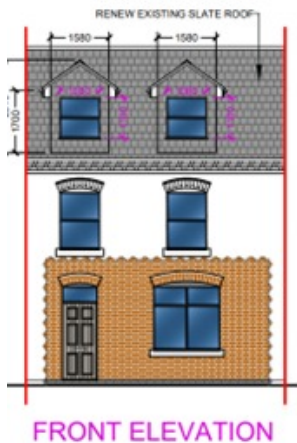
A totally unacceptable eye sore!

When I moved into Thurmaston 45 years ago William Hill the bookies on Melton Road was well established.



I am not sure when William Hill became part of the village street scene, but it was sympathetically converted so that it blended in with the Victorian row of terraced houses. When it was put up for sale, I was saddened by the loss of a business but pleased that it would be converted back into a family home. However, I was dismayed that the application was to convert the terraced house into three flats with a shared outdoor space. I was further dismayed to read that the third floor would have dormer windows.

Only one objection to the dormer windows was made to Charnwood and one to me but, after the plans had been passed. Over the weeks I have popped my head through the frontage, interested to see how this terraced house could be converted



FRONT ELEVATION



REAR ELEVATION

in to three flats. However, when the scaffolding was removed, I then noticed with horror that the bricks that were used could not be more

different from the upper floor and the rest of the row.

The planning conditions clearly states, 'the facing materials to be used in the development shall match as closely as possible in appearance to those of the existing building.'

On further scrutiny of the plans, I contacted planning enforcement with the following comments:

- The plans clearly show a brick arch over the front window and the front door.
- The plans show that the front door is directly below and centred with the upstairs window.
- The plans show that the downstairs window should be of a size and style that is sympathetic to the immediate street scene.
- The steel that runs the full width is still exposed and is level with the brick work so I am unsure how it will assimilate into the building.
- To the right of the upstairs window at sill height there is a circle cut within a cut square that looks as though it will have an external fitting like air conditioning or food ducting.

A potential breach of condition letter has been issued.



A fond farewell to Lynne Wilmott

Since 2016, library volunteers of Thurmaston Library have been supported by Lynne Wilmott. Lynne was also secretary to the trustees and the only person that has single-handedly steered Thurmaston Community Centre since the well-earned retirement of her husband, Tony, last year. Whilst we sort out a workable alternative to Lynne that will eventually involve the Parish Council, she has been helping me understand what needs doing and when to ensure the centre remains an asset to the community. It was one of these 'teaching and learning' sessions where I lured Lynn to the library on the pretext of needing help that she was given a formal farewell and gift from the library volunteers.



By the time this article comes out they will be set up and ready for use to the public FREE of charge for visitors to the library. Printing will be available but there will be a small charge. The library was able to buy these computers following a very generous donation from Qualvis Melton Road.

Rubbish 'filtered' from Watermead Country Park

Jody from Donaldson Filtration on Humberstone Lane contacted me offering some volunteer staff to complete a litter pick in or around Thurmaston.



We settled with meeting on Mill Lane car park one Saturday in April. The weather was very good and I was pleased to see a mixed group of volunteers.

If you would like to arrange a staff volunteer day within the Thurmaston Ridgemere ward for your company, please email me.



If you have any concerns

Facebook 'brendacllrseaton' or 'brendaseaton', telephone/text 07790 083595 or email Cllr.brenda.seaton@charnwood.gov.uk