

Clerk's Report
April 2025

1. The Parish Council agreed in September 2024 to go ahead with the purchase of a Grillo mowing machine (equipment able to handle the rough terrain on Thorpe Meadows for the extending public access project). It was agreed to make a Section 106 funding application towards the cost and if this was unsuccessful then the purchase would be made from Reserves as this is a key piece of equipment in delivering the extending public access project. Unfortunately the application was declined by the Planning Obligations Monitoring Group on 20th March 2025 as they felt it did not fit the given criteria and therefore the equipment has now been purchased from Reserves. The initial price quoted and agreed by Council was £5,500 but we have achieved a reduction on that price to £4,894 ex VAT including the ramps needed to safely move the equipment on and off Council vehicles.
2. Removal of the tree in the river is scheduled for 13th/14th May 2025.
3. Other tree works are being progressed.
4. Groundworks have taken place at the Cemetery, including levelling off and re-seeding and preparing the entrance area for turfing. An update and photographs will be provided as work progresses.
5. Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust visited Little Meadow at Thorpe Meadows on 7th April 2025 and provided recommended stocking levels and advice for maintenance.
6. LVH accessibility kitchen doorway widened. New fire door on rear of building and ramp scheduled for next few weeks.
7. Phase 2 external cladding, insulations and replacement windows scheduled for 21st July with a two-week closure. This is the least disruptive time to close the building as we have many term time only users who are not in over the summer period. Alternative arrangements for hire at the Parish Centre have been offered to those affected by the closure.
8. Appraisals will be planned over the coming weeks.
9. The Vice Chairman and I attended the Chairs and Clerks Meeting at Blaby District Council on 1st April 2025. The local government reorganisation and devolution were main topics alongside some other useful input from LRALC.
10. Connecting Narborough have produced another interesting and informative leaflet called "Connecting the Pastures" which suggests different walking routes between The Pastures and the Village. We have offered to host this on our website and input the background information, as we did for the previous leaflets.
11. I attended the Flood Drop In Session at Blaby District Council Offices on 27th March 2025, organised by Leicestershire County Council. Representatives from various flood agencies were in attendance to speak to the public and offer guidance. I spoke to our local Resilience Officer and he has offered to arrange a public session for the benefit of our residents and will forward some dates.

Julie Whitehouse
Clerk

09.04.25