

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

A word from the Chairman of Groby Parish Council – Cllr. Jim Coley

Parish Council Office  
Village Hall  
Leicester Road  
Groby  
Leicestershire, LE6 0DQ

## Opening Times

### Mondays

11.00am to 2.00pm

### Tuesday s

11.00am to 2.00pm

### Wednesdays

11.00am to 2.00pm

### Thursdays

12.30am to 3.30pm

### Fridays

10.00am to 12.30pm

## Outside these times by prior appointment

Parish Council meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7.00 pm in the Council Chambers within the Village Hall.

Planning Committee meetings are held every two weeks, usually on a Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm.

## Forthcoming Meetings

### December

1st Full Council Meeting  
3th Planning Committee  
17th Planning Committee

### January 2015

8th Finance Meeting  
12th Full Council meeting  
14th Planning Meeting  
28th Planning Meeting

### February

3th Full Council Meeting  
12th Planning Meeting

All meetings are  
Open to the Public.



## Well, Christmas is almost upon us!

I'm one of those people who think Christmas all starts a bit too early so when the Groby Christmas street lights came on before the date we had agreed in Council it was a bit of a surprise to us all!

Apparently a new contractor was installing the lights and Leicestershire Highways hadn't re-set the timers, hopefully by the time you read this it will be after the OFFICIAL switch on date of 1<sup>st</sup> December and we will all be enjoying Groby's festive lighting at the right time.

## Groby Library

We now have some of the further news we had been waiting for following the Scrutiny Committee's report on December 19<sup>th</sup>. If you feel like some bedtime reading on the subject there are some lengthy documents on the LCC website here:

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=39961#mgDocuments>

On the basis of the previous consultation within the Village, Groby Parish Council has made a statement of intent to LCC that we (the village community) wish to retain Groby Library as a community library in one form or another.

The bones of how the recent reports and changes affect Groby are as follows:

- The running costs of the Groby library costs are now estimated at £19.90k per annum.
- The support from LCC will taper off over the 7 year period starting from year 2 so that at the 8 year point the Community will be paying most of the running costs for the library which is provisionally estimated up to £30k p.a.
- The Book Costs (the cost to the Library of "buying/hiring/obtaining" the books which are loaned out – currently £4,599) are to be supported for 5 years and then "looked at" which then may or may not be removed from the support costs and put upon the community.

Those communities opting to support the retention of their local library will begin funding their libraries in the early summer of 2015 (June 2015 is the estimated date) which means that the net cost for Groby for the rest of the year would be the £16.5K we had estimated back in May when we conducted our survey, though the cost for the following years would be higher than estimated. The more detailed running costs will be not available to us for a few more weeks.

## **As you will see, these changes are significant!**

As you may remember GPC conducted a survey in the Spotlight on what the community wanted to do in the way of supporting Groby Library and at that time we used the best figures we had available. The results of that survey showed that 98% of those who responded in favour of residents/ratepayers paying a sum of about 50 pence per month per household as an additional levy on the parish precept in order to maintain the Groby Library much as it is today. The figure to achieve the finances for supporting the Library in the year 2015/16 has not changed significantly from our earlier estimate but the following years' Precept will now have to be increased year-on-year by approximately an additional 1.5% in order to achieve the requisite funding needed to meet the ongoing costs to the LCC libraries department.