

# The natural environment



◆ Horse chestnuts in Conker Field

The built environment and spaces should also harmonise with the natural environment. Ironically, rather than the village killing off the natural environment, the reverse is the case. The wide variety of wildlife and nature around Rearsby is concentrated on the village itself. Its surroundings have much less diversity.

The area from Manor Farm around to Wreake Drive – including Bog Lane, the convent grounds and Conker Field – is a long corridor of semi-wild grassland with tree and shrub cover, grasses, nettles etc. It merges with gardens to give a wonderful wildlife habitat. Brookside too and the woodlands on the south east side of the Melton Road add to our natural area and encourage wildlife.

## Trees, hedgerows & wild flowers

Rearsby is rightly famous for its trees for which we can thank the foresight of our predecessors. We have ash, cedars, elms, horse chestnuts, oaks, pines, sycamores, silver birch, willows, yews, beech, giant redwoods, spruce. We have retained a good number of them despite unsympathetic developments and the ravages of Dutch Elm Disease. There are a number of spinneys in the village such as the one bordering Conker Field and Station Road. Many trees have preservation orders on them such as those in properties on Gaddesby Lane.

Hedgerows are important both as part of our historic, managed landscape and as a reservoir for wildlife. We have a number of hedgerows (hawthorn mainly but also

some elder, laurel and bramble). Some are of degrading quality – such as at the bottom of Station Road near Brookside – chiefly due to poor hedgerow management such as over-zealous trimming with modern mechanical cutters.

Daffodils now line the Melton Road in spring as part of the Marie Curie Cancer Care ‘Rearsby Field of Hope’ initiative.

A number of wild flowers delight Rearsby residents in and around the village. These include the following examples.

### Wild flowers

Bindweed	Lady Smock
Bluebell	Ox Eye Daisy
Buttercup	Plantain
Celandine	Ragged Robin
Clover	Ragwort
Common Sorrel	Red Campion
Cow Parsley	Red Dead Nettle
Cuckoo-Pint	Redshank
Daisy	Snowdrop
Dandelion	Teasel
Deadly Nightshade	Thistle
Groundsel	Vetch
Hedge Bindweed	Wild Pansy
Honeysuckle	Willowherb



➤ *Fungi*



➤ *Hedgerows on north side of village*

## Wildlife

The point about Rearsby itself being a haven for nature is well illustrated by the wildlife that thrives here. This is despite some losses of insects and invertebrates. The following all have habitats in the village.

### Birds

Blackbird	Great Spotted	Magpie	Sparrowhawk*
Blackcap*	Woodpecker*	Marsh Tit*	Spotted Flycatcher
Blue Tit	Great Tit	Mistle Thrush	Starling
Bullfinch*	Greenfinch	Nuthatch*	Swallow
Carriion Crow	Green Woodpecker	Pheasant	Swan
Chaffinch	Heron	Pied Wagtail	Swift
Coal Tit	House Martin	Redwing*	Tawny Owl
Collared Dove	House Sparrow	Robin	Tree Creeper*
Dunnock	Jackdaw	Rook	Wood Pigeon
Fieldfare*	Kingfisher*	Seagull	Wren
Goldfinch	Long Tailed Tit	Song Thrush	

### Butterflies & moths

Brimstone	Painted Lady
Comma	Peacock Butterfly
Common Blue Butterfly	Red Admiral Butterfly
Common Moth	Ringlet
Holly Blue	Small Blue Moth
Hummingbird Moth	Small Copper
Large White Butterfly	Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly
Orange Tip	Small White Butterfly

### Bats

Brown Long Eared
Pipistrelle*

### Insects

Blue Tailed Dragonfly	Large Red Dragonfly
Cockchafer	Mayfly
Common Wasp	Pond Skater
Dragonfly	Red Tailed Bumble Bee
Gall Wasp	Water Boatman

Mammals

Badger	House Mouse
Brown Rat	Mink
Common Shrew	Rabbit
Fox	Short Tailed Vole*
Grey Squirrel	Stoat
Harvest Mouse*	Weasel*
Hedgehog	

Reptiles

Adder*
Common Frog
Common Toad
Grass Snake*
Great Crested Newt*
Slow Worm*

Those with an asterisk against them are rarer finds than the rest.

➤ Visitor admiring Packhorse Bridge



The settlement pattern

- 10 Developers should note that the historic centre of the village including the areas bounded by parts of Melton Road, Mill Road, Brook Street, Brookside and Church Lane define the settlement pattern and should not be altered by inappropriate development affecting traditional spaces, shapes, and styles.

Spaces

- 11 Developers, landowners and builders should note the importance of space in our village, and not make changes which affect the spatial characteristics of Rearsby adversely. This includes the restricted spaces appropriate to the terraced cottage environment on Brook Street, Church Lane and Melton Road, and the open green spaces around the brook. They should note that the nature of these spaces includes the spaces between buildings and the spaces provided by roads and footpaths.
- 12 Developers, landowners and builders should not develop the village park or playing fields as they are valuable amenities as well as important open areas.

The natural environment

- 13 The Parish Council should identify objectives and targets for tree, hedgerow, grassland, ditch, pond and wildlife management to assist and complement the Charnwood Biodiversity Action Plan.
- 14 The village tree warden – with support from the villagers and Parish Council – should identify sites which are priorities for tree planting and implement an appropriate tree planting programme. ‘Appropriate’ should relate to species of planting including local indigenous species, geological considerations, and the impact on other parts of the natural environment.
- 15 Landowners and farmers should be encouraged by Charnwood Borough/Parish Council to address the poor state of some of our hedgerows such as those on the Melton Road towards East Goscote and those at the bottom of Station Road near Brookside. They should be repaired appropriately to replace lost previous growth or cover gaps, and left to grow to a reasonable height where possible – 1.8 metres or higher, or 1.5 metres where shading and visibility are key factors. They should be trimmed on a three-year rotation system unless road safety is an issue, and managed in a way that encourages wildlife.
- 16 Landowners, farmers and householders should help to preserve and manage Rearsby’s semi-wild areas and wildlife habitats such as the spinneys and Conker Field.
- 17 Landowners and farmers should help to preserve and manage semi-wild grassland such as in the Bog Lane area, and prevent their development.
- 18 Landowners and householders should consider planting flowers in appropriate areas such as along the main road. Flowers should be appropriate in terms of location, local provenance and their effects on biodiversity.
- 19 The Parish Council should inform farmers and landowners about grants for preserving local wildlife habitats and grants for hedgerow management.

< GUIDELINES  
The way the village looks



# BUILDINGS & LANDMARKS

The visual appeal of Rearsby is enhanced considerably by its individual buildings and prominent landmarks. There are many listed buildings, particularly in the conservation area, and some sympathetic new developments. Ugly buildings exist as well of course. The centre part of Rearsby is a conservation area.

Red brick (handmade in some cases) is particularly prominent in the village (some blue brick also exists). Other distinctive features include the steep pitching of roofs, imposing chimneys in many shapes and sizes, a variety of gable ends and windows, sawtooth and chequered brick patternwork waist high and under eaves, and high red brick walls with varying types of coping. Stone is less noticeable but features in the base of old houses and walls, and the church and packhorse bridge. Cobbles front the stable at No 1801 Melton Road.

## Listed & distinctive buildings

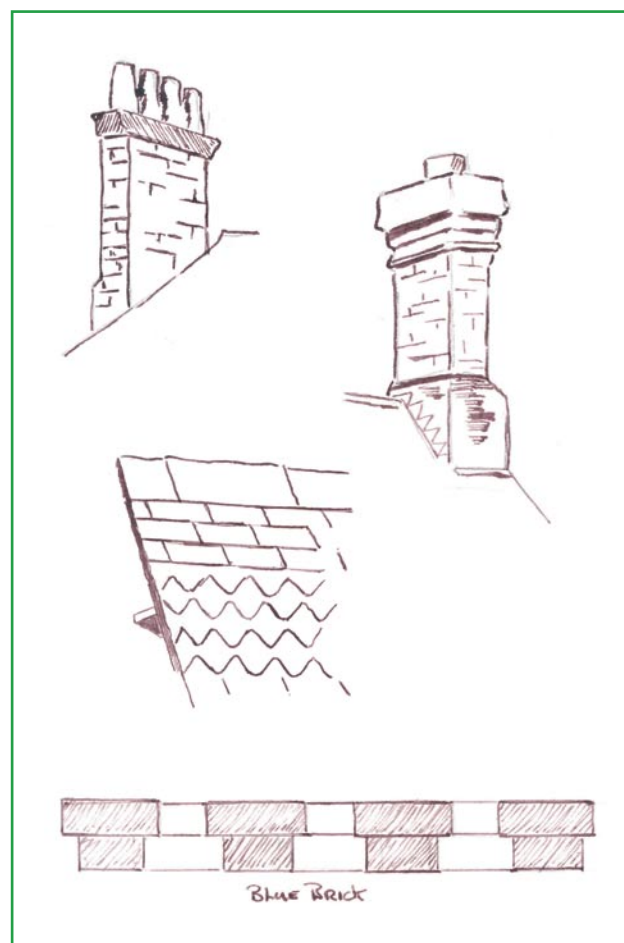
There are around 20 listed buildings in Rearsby many of them on Mill Road.

### Houses

Cromwell supporter Major William Hubbert built the oldest surviving dwelling in Rearsby in 1661 – Rearsby Old Hall at 2 Mill Road. A Grade II\* listed building, it is a rough cast render over brick with a Welsh slate roof to front and rear wings and Swithland slate to rear of main range. Ye Olde House at 8 Mill Road has some claim to being the oldest dwelling with its Jacobean timber-framed appearance and prominent date 1613. It was actually reconstructed from old materials by master builder Sir Frank Craven in 1934. It has a Swithland slate



◆ Rearsby Old Hall



roof and rests on a cobble plinth. Interesting features include 40 different heraldic devices in the many mullioned windows, a metal embellishment to the rear which is thought to come from Waterloo Bridge, and an original well. Other original wells can be found in Rearsby such as at 1845 Melton Road which also has an original sump pump.

18th century houses on Mill Road are found at Nos 12 and 30-32 Mill Road (No 32 was the site of the old Methodist Chapel). They are brick – note the small brick size – on granite rubble plinths with Welsh slate roofs. No 12 has a distinctive central door with a carved lion in the porch canopy. A pump on the rear wall is dated 1784. They have all been heightened in the 19th century.

Also early 18th century is Charlotte Cottage at 5 Brook Street, a particularly attractive street with its close-knit, traditional looking cottages. No 5 is brick on a rubble plinth with a plain tiled roof. It has a 6-panelled door in moulded wood case and attractive 2, 3 and 4-light windows.



➤ Hill Rise Cottages, Melton Road  
➤ Ye Olde House



Melton Road boasts Hill Rise Cottages, a row of five symmetrically arranged estate cottages in Tudor-Gothic style dated 1862. They are brick with a tiled roof with decorative fish-scale bands. There are seven bays in all with outer and centre projecting gables. Each gable has some tumbled brickwork and there's a stone shield in the apex. The initials WAP appear referring to Rearsby landowner William Ann Pochin.

Also on Melton Road, the white stucco over brick, former rectory is an imposing presence. Dated circa 1820, its symmetrical five-bayed facade over three storeys is distinguished by the variation of its windows which differ in size and appearance on each level. It has a Welsh slate roof, as does No 1792 Melton Road which features 16-light sash windows with panelled shutters and gauged brick heads.

Other distinctive buildings in Rearsby, all rather large, include the 19th century Rearsby House, Rearsby Grange and Church Leys House. Rearsby Mill and Mill House are prominent features of the skyline dated 1825, brick with Welsh slate roofs. Worthy of mention also are a series of cottages on Melton Road opposite the Wheel pub, the Wheel pub itself and Horse & Groom, the Victorian Methodist Chapel on Melton Road, the ivy-clad No 27 Brookside (site of the former Rose & Crown pub), the School and Schoolhouse, Rearsby Station, and the fine brick terraced cottages where the Post Office is now situated.



➤ Rearsby School and Schoolhouse

## Farm buildings

Mill Road also boasts some listed and distinctive farm buildings. Manor Farm in particular is well endowed. The farmhouse is dated 1753. It is brick on cobble and moulded brick plinth with a Welsh slate roof. It is an L-plan shape with 2½ storeys. The main range of three bays has a 6-panelled door with overlight and a 3-light casement window to each side with single opening lights. Some 19th century outbuildings are to its right. Also a Manor Farm, there is a pigeon house dated 1753 (brick on rubble plinth with Swithland slate roof and brick coped gables) and a large brick barn from the early 18th century though heightened in the 19th century.

Rearsby House Farm boasts a large brick barn dated 1715 (with some 19th and 20th century rebuilding) and a former stable now a barn with early 18th century core.

Also on Mill Road, there is an 18th century brick barn on a granite rubble plinth with Swithland slate roof known as 'Malt House'. It is the old hop-drying loft of the former Benskins brewery.

A brick dovecote with a Swithland slate ridge roof dated 1754 has been ingeniously integrated into No 6 Brook House Close. Another converted dovecote can be found on Mill Road.

➤ Manor Farm





## Sympathetic developments

The integration of old and new, the blend of space and construction, the link between nature and the landscape, an element of stylistic variety are key features of good building design in a village context.

A role model for sympathetic development is the group of houses situated in Brook House Close. Sited in the grounds of the original Brook House, the houses have been well integrated with most of the rest of the original situation. Farm buildings such as a stable at No 3 and dovecote at No 6 have become parts of the fabric of the house. You see brick, tiles and window frames in colours which reflect Rearsby's past, ie red, grey and black. Slates have been reused most notably in the terraced buildings fronting Brook Street which replaced Brook House. The houses are a mix of bungalows and three and four-bedroom detached, and are positioned openly around a large space and yet at angles which optimise their private aspect. They are all different shapes and sizes (a typical Rearsby characteristic) but not so different as to look out of place. A high brick wall with stone, gabled coping and brick, coped buttresses (part of the old gardens) forms a satisfying rear boundary for some. House Martin nests hang precipitously on some of the houses.

Developments in other areas have also been sympathetic fitting in unobtrusively with Rearsby characteristics. Less sympathetic are developments which in scale, use of materials, styles, shapes, layouts and colours pay scant attention to Rearsby's traditional character and appearance.

➤ Dovecote in Brook House Close



## Walls & fences



➤ Mud wall round Manor Farm

Walls and fences define the way a building or area is separated from the space around it.

Rearsby is well off for walls. The highlight is the listed, 18th century 'mud' wall which runs around the side of Manor Farm at Mill Road and again alongside the path to Rearsby Mill. It is made from earth and straw on a rubble plinth topped with pantiled coping. It is partially rendered over brick repairs, and is falling into disrepair.

High red brick walls stand out too such as those in and around the Mill Road, Brookside, Brook Street and Melton Road axis. The wall in front of the Old Hall is listed and dates from the 18th and 19th centuries. The churchyard has some fine brick walls with gabled coping. Rearsby House Farm also has a fine high brick wall at the back of the houses on Mill Road.



Metal and wooden fences and gates also feature in the village though to no great distinction (apart from kissing gates). A mesh partition bordering a part of the park is particularly offensive.

➤ Rearsby's brick walls



## Landmarks

Three notable ‘constructions’ complete the Rearsby scene – one large, one medium, one small. Namely, St Michael and All Angels Church, the Seven Arch Packhorse Bridge and the Blue Stone.

### St Michael & All Angels Church

The most visible of Rearsby’s landmarks is St Michael and All Angels Church – a Grade II\* listed building. The church as we know it today was started in the 13th century. It took two centuries to complete and was heavily restored in the 19th century which explains its rather inharmonious appearance.

The plan of the church is that of a typical small parish church, with a west tower, aisled nave, rectangular chancel and south porch. Various building materials have been used in its construction such as ironstone (chancel), grey limestone (tower) and red Mountsorrel granite (facing of the nave and clerestory walls). It has a leaded roof. Sandstone and granite rubble feature as well.

The first stage of the church was the south arcade of four bays. One of the windows in the south wall has some stained glass with a statuette of St Michael positioned on the mullion. The north arcade appears to be 14th century. The chancel is dominated by the three perpendicular windows with their four centred arches. Externally the chancel is supported by two French buttresses, typical of the 14th century. The perpendicular style tower was the final part of the church to be completed. It is crenellated with four crocketed pinnacles.

It now supports external lighting to highlight it at night (part of a village millennium project).



▲ The Blue Stone  
◆ St Michael & All Angels Church at night



▲ The Seven Arch Packhorse Bridge

### Seven Arch Packhorse Bridge

The Seven Arch Packhorse Bridge is a focal point of the village. It is largely granite rubble with brick. Its date is uncertain, though the architectural historian Nikolaus Pevsner called it ‘certainly medieval’. It was probably constructed as we see it today in 1714. The village constable of the time, Robert Harrison, kept an account of work done on it. He has left his mark there; above one of the arches is the inscription ‘RH 1714’. It has recently been renovated thanks to Leicestershire County Council and English Heritage.

### The Blue Stone

Rearsby’s ‘Blue Stone’ – a large irregular shaped block of stone – has been around the corner of Mill Road and the track to Rearsby Mill since anyone can remember. Over the years it has been used as a meeting place, and legend has it that John Wesley preached there after visiting Hoby.



▲ The Blue Stone

◆ St Michael & All Angels Church at night



**Building materials**

- 20 Developers and builders should consider the importance of red brick in new developments as it most of all reflects Rearsby's building heritage. This should not preclude using other heritage materials such as blue brick, traditional render and rubblestone.
- 21 Developers, farmers, householders and builders should prioritise reusing existing building materials to maintain continuity with the past because they are sustainable and because they preserve local distinctiveness.
- 22 Developers, farmers, householders and builders should, where appropriate, utilise traditional roofing materials in redevelopment such as Swithland slate, Welsh slate, and clay pantile.

**Architecture & style**

- 23 Those responsible for new commercial or residential buildings, alterations and renovations should take into account the importance of the following stylistic features in Rearsby buildings:

- steep pitching of roofs
- imposing chimneys in different shapes and sizes
- variety in gable ends and windows
- sawtooth and chequered brick patternwork waist high and under eaves
- high red brick walls with varying types of coping.

Architecture should reasonably reflect the shapes, sizes, patterns, layouts and colours of adjoining buildings. Pointing should reflect original style, thickness and material.

- 24 Building architects and designers should be encouraged to provide detailed statements and drawings of how their development integrates with its surroundings.
- 25 Planners should note that large developments and estates in a uniform 'modern style' are inappropriate for Rearsby as they clash with our distinctive but varied architectural and stylistic heritage. They are also inappropriate for the scale of our village and its relationship with its environment.
- 26 Building architects and designers should note that any affordable housing – where a need is identified by the village – should not mean design which is inappropriate to our rural setting.
- 27 Villagers should be amenable to innovative building design and practice where this is sympathetic to existing buildings and is responsible.

**Conservation**

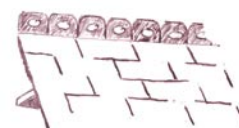
- 28 Farmers should preserve and creatively reuse old farm buildings, encouraging good design and careful siting of any new agricultural buildings.
- 29 The Parish Council should bring to the attention of the Borough Council any buildings or structures they think should be listed to protect them from destruction, dilapidation, or unsympathetic development or alteration. They could encourage the Borough Council to carry out a 'buildings at risk' survey to ensure repair and preservation.
- 30 The Parish Council should bring to the attention of the Borough Council the condition of:
- the mud wall at Manor Farm and along the Rearsby Mill path
  - the old farm buildings on the Melton Road opposite the Wheel and the old barn near the school on Brookside
  - the two-arched brick bridge over the brook in the allotments
  - the brick/granite rubble wall at the top of Brook Street.

All these structures are becoming dilapidated and are in need of repair.

- 31 Developers, householders and builders should aim to preserve our distinctive brick walls with their traditional coping such as the one surrounding Brook House Close.
- 32 The Parish Council should identify the type and level of funding available for heritage projects under the Local Heritage initiative. This could include the development of a Village Trail. Additional funding could be found under Vital Villages once a Parish Plan is developed.

## < GUIDELINES

### Buildings & landmarks





# ROADS & PATHS

## ➤ A quiet Melton Road



➤ Gaddesby Lane  
➤ Bog Lane



## Roads

The Melton Road linking Leicester and Melton is the communication lifeblood of the village. Unfortunately, it also brings heavy traffic, fumes, dirt and noise. The local village school in Rearsby is adjacent to the A607 and has to keep its windows closed most of the time due to noise and fumes from the current volume of traffic. Some properties along the road have frontages less than 1.2 metres from the kerb edge. The exit roads onto the road are dangerous due to poor visibility and speeding traffic. The projected bypass will return this road back to a quiet, rural traffic-calm state that hasn't existed since the 18th century! It will also reunite the south east side of Rearsby with the rest of Rearsby.

Light years away from the character of the Melton Road is an old drover road called Bog Lane which goes from Mill Road over the brook, down the side of Manor Farm to the convent. Once tree-lined, it has sadly become dilapidated and is in need of restoration. Once restored, it will provide a wonderful addition to the natural environment on this side of the village.

Rearsby's leafy-lined approaches have a friendly and welcoming appearance. Too often new avenues, lanes and closes are at the expense of trees and hedgerows and make the village look stark and urbanised. Station Road with its intermittent overhead canopy, hedgerows, grass verges, open-fronted gardens and single pavements is a good model of the friendly Rearsby. It exits onto the Thrussington Road where a raised pavement is a sudden surprise connecting Rearsby and Thrussington. Gaddesby Lane too has a pleasant aspect.

## Footpaths

Rearsby is well endowed with footpaths complete with appropriate stiles, signposts and kissing gates (though some are in need of repair). Walks exist in all directions with the Leicestershire Round passing through, via Hoby to the north east and Ratcliffe to the west. The Leicestershire Round is a very valuable asset as a tourist and leisure facility, not just for Rearsby but for all Leicestershire people, and must be protected.

## ➤ Natural earth footpath near church







➤ *Farm track leading to Rearsby Mill*

Natural earth footpaths are arguably best, though there may be some conflict between the needs of walkers and those just needing a passageway as the condition of natural paths deteriorates in bad weather. Unfortunately, designated walkways where stone chippings and tarmac have been laid such as the passageway on the Leicestershire Round off Mill Road and the path through Conker Field can become unsightly through animal fouling. This is less of an issue with a natural footpath. A little footpath on the north side of the brook leading to a passageway onto Church Leys Avenue strikes the right note.

The footpath to Rearsby Mill is a particular attractive walk with bushes and trees flanking you on both sides, open aspects to Church Leys House and the railway line, and a dramatic entrance to the mill itself. The Brooksby path also boasts excellent views.

One problem with the open footpaths is the ploughing of fields where a footpath crosses or ploughing right up to the hedge where a footpath runs along. This is particularly evident on the Leicestershire Round towards Thrussington Mill. Another problem is lack of upkeep such as the passageway from Wreake Drive on this same path and the passageway from Melton Road to Brookside.

## Street furniture & utilities

Street furniture and utilities would win few votes in a village beauty contest. Modern amenities and utilities are essential of course, but lack of sympathy with our village character seems to be the norm rather than the exception.

Lampposts are particularly inappropriate for a rural setting in an off-grey metal or off-brown concrete colour. Traffic signs and bus stops have similar tendencies to urbanise. Station Road is a case in point.

Metal railings are also generally inappropriate such as the ones flanking the road and brook in Brookside, which have concrete supports and scaffold rails. The wrought iron railings on the Church Lane side of the packhorse bridge create a better impression (they were supplied by English Heritage). The railings separating both sides of Brookside across a footbridge near the school are more conducive as opposed to those on a bridge near the entrance to Manor Farm which leadenly fail to inspire. The footbridge before the junction of Station Road and Brookside has two sets of rusted railings on concrete posts. A pity, considering the road bridge at the same spot has fine, cast iron railings with brick supports and stone tops (though they don't match).

Utilities too are tactless. A gas sub-station on the junction of Station Road and Church Leys Avenue makes little attempt to hide its ugliness, and a fence on Grange Avenue around a sub-station is unfortunately not high enough to conceal its blandness. At least a public sewer vent pipe next to Station House is painted green, though in other respects represents the sort of rudeness we're not looking for. A phone box in the modern style on the Melton Road does not do as well as an old red one would have, and intrusive telegraph poles add to the overall impression of unsympathetic utilities.

➤ *Cast iron railings on Station Road*





Noticeboards are prominent in the village and perform their duty assiduously if not particularly stylishly. There are some wooden benches around the park area but a few more would be an asset to the village such as in the field at the back of the village hall.

#### Gas sub-station



#### Roads

- 33 Leicestershire County Council should give due attention to traffic calming measures on the Melton Road which have a rural character once the bypass is in place – rather than just using traditional traffic calming more appropriate to an urban setting.
- 34 Developers, farmers, landowners and householders should ensure that the leafy approaches to Rearsby from Gaddesby, East Goscote, Thrussington and Brooksby are preserved and enhanced. This should include appropriate repair of hedgerows and planting of trees.
- 35 Householders should maintain the open-fronted aspects of their gardens which border roads and their grass verges
- 36 The County Highways Authority should pay more attention to village character and appearance in road design. They should discourage as far as possible the use of urban style materials inappropriate to a rural setting.

#### Paths

- 37 Everyone should respect legal rights of way. Farmers should not plough across designated footpaths or go right up to the hedge where a footpath exists. This includes the Leicestershire Round across the railway line towards Thrussington Mill.
- 38 The Leicestershire Round must be maintained and protected as an asset for everyone in Leicestershire.
- 39 Manor Farm, the Pochin Estate, the Parish Council and other interested parties should discuss the issue of Bog Lane with a view to maintaining it as a traditional village walkway, preventing development there, and restoring it. Restoration could include the reinstatement of the footbridge over the brook.
- 40 Leicestershire County Council should preserve paths, stiles and kissing gates and keep them in a state of good repair.

#### Street furniture

- 41 The Parish Council should draw up a style statement for street furniture and utilities, in consultation with Charnwood Borough Council, to encourage a style which is appropriate to our village setting. This to include bus stops, bus shelters, lampposts, street signs, utility sub-stations, telegraph poles, telephone boxes, traffic signs.
- 42 The Parish Council, as part of their style statement, should favour a colour scheme for street furniture and utilities which is appropriate to a rural setting such as black or green.
- 43 The Parish Council should encourage Leicestershire County Council to provide street lighting which avoids glare and faces downwards.
- 44 The Parish Council should ensure railings are not of the concrete and scaffolding type. They should encourage Leicestershire County Council and English Heritage to provide the type of railings that are conducive to a rural setting such as the black iron railings bordering the bridge. They should try to get the railings along Brookside replaced with more appropriate ones.
- 45 The Parish Council should encourage the County Highways Authority to replace the footbridge railings at the junction of Station Road and Brookside with some that are more appropriate to their setting.
- 46 The Parish Council should ensure noticeboards are wooden and maintained in a state of good repair.
- 47 The Parish Council should provide more wooden benches in appropriate locations such as the park and the football field.

#### Utilities

- 48 The Parish Council, as part of their style document, should try to ensure utility providers camouflage unsightly gas and electrical sub-stations, place unsightly cables underground (where feasible), and make sewer pipes and vents unobtrusive.

### < GUIDELINES

#### Roads & paths