

**BLABY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE ESTATES & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
Virtual Zoom Meeting Held at 7.00pm on
Tuesday, 23rd March 2021**

PRESENT: Mr M Wareham (Chairman),
Ms L Bolton, Mrs M Broomhead, Mr P Muton, Mrs S McFadden, Mrs S Skeemer,
Miss S Small, Miss L Withers (Assistant Manager) & Mrs V Jepson (Manager) & 5
Parishioners.

EC.615 **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence are received from Cllr Mr P Akroyd, the reason for which is approved.

EC.616 **2. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR
DISPENSATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following disclosures of interests were made: -

Mrs M Broomhead	Burial Rights	Personal
Mr P Muton	Burial Rights	Personal
Mrs S Skeemer	Burial Rights	Personal

EC.617 **3. TO CONSIDER BLABY TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS**

Members were issued with a list of proposed improvements and photographs of the Blaby Town Centre developments. Any required works are subject to approval from Leicestershire County Council Highways and landlords of privately owned buildings.

After a community consultation was carried out, it was agreed that the street furniture will be painted green with accents of silver. The new benches will be concrete and silver.

AGREED: Blaby Parish Council have agreed to let Blaby District Council change the details on the noticeboards in the village from gold to silver to tie in with the new street furniture. This will be at a cost to Blaby District Council.

AGREED: The new planters to be installed will be box planters, with the addition of three tiered planters. The groundstaff will water these.

There is an information board within a noticeboard in the village centre that has outdated information on. Blaby District Council have agreed to see if they can incorporate an updated information board within their project costs.

EC.618 **4. MANAGERS REPORT**

a) The Crescent

A complaint was received regarding older youths causing anti-social behaviour and vandalising the park. The Police were contacted, and the complainant was advised to contact the Police should an incident like this occur again.

b) Northfield Park

The Council were made aware that the toilet block at Northfield Park had been vandalised with graffiti. The Police were notified but were unable to help due to there being no CCTV. **AGREED:** Members would like a quote to have some professional artwork spray painted on to the side of the toilet block, it is suggested 'Northfield Park' could be included in the artwork.

c) Oakfield Park

There was a theft of a bag and mobile phone around the skate park on the evening of Sunday, 21st March 2021. This incident was reported by the family to the police and we have managed to retrieve the CCTV for the theft.

EC.619

5. TO CONSIDER ENDERBY ROAD ALLOTMENTS

a) Bonfires

We have received several telephone calls from the Senior Technical Officer of Blaby District Council with complaints about bonfires at the allotments.

At our November 2020 committee meeting the following was reported and agreed: -
“**AGREED:** If Blaby Parish Council receive a fine for tenants not complying with the bonfire rules and regulations, tenants of the allotment will be responsible for covering the cost.”

The Manager has asked for the photographs obtained from the complainant, as Blaby Parish Council are happy to assist in rectifying this situation. Without any evidence, the Council are unable to help.

AGREED: Councillors will visit the allotments on a Wednesday or Sunday evening, as per the allotment society's request.

AGREED: The Parish Council are happy to contact the tenants at fault with the correct evidence.

AGREED: All new tenants must receive and sign the allotment rules and regulations.

b) Blaby Allotment Society

All members received correspondence from the Chair of the Blaby Allotment Society, suggesting that Covid-19 permitting, they would like to hold a competition in the summer to promote a feel-good factor, community spirit and to promote the idea of up cycling and reusing items when planting edible and floral displays.

c) Allotment Competition 2021

Members considered if they wanted to run an allotment competition this year.

AGREED: Members wish to go ahead with the 2021 allotment competition. The categories will be the same as previous years and the winner will receive a 50% deduction of their rent, the following year.

The categories are: -

Category 1 - 150 Sq. yds

Category 2 - 200 Sq. yds

Category 3 - 300 Sq. yds

Category 4 - 400 Sq. yds

Category 5 - New Plot

Overall Winner – Jack Churchard Shield

d) Allotment Inspections

The allotment inspections are due to resume in April and end in September for 2021.

Members discussed the option of having one councillor complete all inspections to save any confusion and to provide continuity.

AGREED: Cllr Ms L Bolton will carry out the April inspection alone and report back to the committee should there be any problems.

AGREED: The allotment society have asked to receive inspection dates prior to the inspections taking place.

EC.620

6. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY ZERO WASTE PROJECT

The Council's Action Plan states: "Action Number 4 – To seek options to support an environmental, zero waste community interest company to involve the local community to become more self-sufficient."

AGREED: As the Council allowed EkoJoe to use the allotment and shed space to run their community interest company at a heavily reduced rate, members do not feel they need to offer any additional support at this time.

EC.621

7. TO REPORT UPDATE ON THE WILDFLOWER VERGE SCHEME

At the last committee meeting, it was reported that the requested area for the wildflower verge had been declined. A new suggestion of the Peace Meadow was also declined due to the land not being owned by Leicester County Council.

AGREED: Members do not wish to take any further action at this time.

EC.622

8. TO CONSIDER SUMMER HOLIDAY SPORTS CLUB

Finding Fitness were unable to use their National Community Lottery Fund grant to run free sports holiday clubs for children due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They now propose to hold the holiday sports club between Tuesday 1st June 2021 and Friday 4th June 2021.

AGREED: Members are happy to support Finding Fitness and assist with the advertising.

EC.623

9. TO CONSIDER NORTHFIELD PARK PROJECT

Members were issued with an updated report for the S.106 contributions, which confirms that Blaby District Council are currently holding £45,905.57 of uncommitted S.106 open space funds for the Parish of Blaby.

With regards to the Leicester Lions Rugby Football Club contribution, totalling £58,996.52, Blaby District Council have confirmed that an invoice was raised last year but remains unpaid. They are now actively pursuing this.

AGREED: Members wish to start gaining ideas for the Northfield Park project and have asked that the Manager and Assistant Manager present the committee with their findings.

AGREED: Members are keen to find out if the old swimming pool could be made into a skate ramp.

AGREED: Members would like to see graffiti work on the pipes, following a satisfactory quotation.

AGREED: Look at getting CCTV installed at Northfield Park.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: Use the £15,000 in the EMR Savings Account for Play Equipment towards this project.

EC.624

10. TO CONSIDER THE CONDITION OF OAKFIELD PARK

a) Quotations for the Inclusive Play Area

Members considered the following quotations for replacement to a damaged surface:-

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>	<u>Quotation 3</u>
<p><u>Option 1:</u> Lift up existing Blue wet pour, cut into manageable pieces and deposit off site to a registered landfill. Supply & Lay new Impact Play Carpet only in Blue over the existing base. Sandfill surface at the applicable rate and fix securely at the perimeter edge. NB: existing ground levels edge detail will remain the same. <u>£2,119.00 + VAT</u></p> <p>Option 2: Lift up existing Blue wet pour, cut into manageable pieces and deposit off site to a registered landfill.</p>	<p><u>Option 1:</u> Remove old wetpour surfacing and supply and lay new wet pour surfacing in black only. <u>£4,053.00 + VAT</u></p> <p><u>Option 2:</u> Remove old wetpour surfacing and supply and lay new wet pour surfacing in black with various coloured circles. <u>£6,197.00 + VAT</u></p> <p><u>Option 3:</u> Remove old wetpour surfacing and supply and lay new wet pour surfacing in blue only. <u>£5,052.00 + VAT</u></p>	<p>To dig out and remove 6.5m2 of Wetpour surfacing.</p> <p>To create a new base and level out the areas where required, using the existing edges.</p> <p>To supply and install 6.5m2 of all new EPDM 1 solid colour (blue) Wetpour surfacing at 40mm thick onto the new base. <u>£2,150.00 + VAT</u></p>

<p>Remove existing shock pad, sand and stone base and deposit off site to a registered landfill. Supply & fit concrete plinth inside existing timber boards to enable new carpet to be fixed at the perimeter edge. Import, compact and consolidate new clean angular stone to the area to the correct depth. Supply & Install new Impact Play Carpet IPC 1.5S in Blue including new shock pad and new 10mm-4mm clean angular stone to comply with BS EN1177 and the Minimum Code of Practice. Sandfill surface at the applicable rate and fix securely at the perimeter edge. NB: Existing timber boards to remain in situ due to the resin bonded footpath. Erect/Dismantle Heras fencing £4,110.00 + VAT</p>		
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RESOLVED: Accept quotation number 3 at a cost of £2,150.00 + VAT.

EC.625

11. TO CONSIDER THE CEMETERY CHAPEL RENOVATION PROJECT

The Councils Action Plan states: “Action Number 1 – Carry out the renovation of the Old Chapel.”

AGREED: Members have agreed to add this to the July 2021 Estates & Community Agenda for further consideration.

EC.626

12. TO CONSIDER 2022 CALENDAR

A suggestion has been made for the Parish Council to create a 2022 calendar, to include pictures of Blaby.

AGREED: Cllr Mrs M Broomhead will look into the cost of this.

AGREED: Add this item to an agenda item during 2022.

EC.627

13. TO CONSIDER FLORAL DISPLAY QUOTATIONS

All members have been issued with the following floral display quotations: -

Only one quote was received this year as other companies did not respond or declined to quote due to missing out on the contract in previous years.

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>	<u>Quotation 3</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 x Holestar Planter 670mm Black Contractor Planted 	<p>Declined to quote</p>	<p>Declined to quote</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 x Hanging Basket 430mm Black Contractor Planted • Delivery - £50.00 <p>£2,187.00 + VAT</p>		
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RESOLVED: Accept quotation number 1 at a cost of £2,187.00 + VAT.

The current lamp post structural inspection has now expired, and another inspection needs to be carried out to be able to have the floral display and Christmas lights on the lighting columns. The new inspection will last two years.

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>
<p>NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING OF STEEL ROOTED COLUMNS- HANGING BASKETS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All travel costs • Supply of labour • Inspection Report and Certificate • Type 1-3 inspection with load calculations • Warranty to retest periods <p><u>£925.00 + VAT</u></p>	<p>On site testing of 13 No columns will be charged at one day at site</p> <p>E.O. Structural engineer to carry out calculations to check the column's suitability for additional loading We assume that all the proposed attachments, and column details are of the same type, therefore the calculation cost will be a one off however if the columns vary with respect to size, type and height then an extra over of £100.00 will apply for each variation.</p> <p><u>£1,190.00 + VAT</u></p>

RESEOLVED: Accept quotation number 1 at a cost of £693.75 + VAT for the testing of 13 x lamppost columns.

EC.628

14. TO CONSIDER BENCH QUOTATIONS

Northfield and Oakfield Park both require replacement benches due to the previous ones being broken.

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>	<u>Quotation 3</u>
<p>Designed with comfort in mind, it has a simple yet robust construction and will be a fantastic addition to any garden or patio. Chunky and solid, this garden bench is manufactured from high-quality pressure treated timber to withstand the test of time.</p> <p>*Great value – Fabulous price for a solid wood bench. *Environmentally-friendly - Made from FSC-certified natural timber, you can be sure that the wood used is responsibly sourced. *Easy to assemble - Comes with full instructions and fixings. *Material: FSC-certified solid wood *Self-assembly: Yes *10-year guarantee against rot *Full instructions and fixings included.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£249.00 per bench</p>	<p>This eco-friendly bench will suit any outdoor area thanks to its attractive slatted design, classic brown colour and realistic wood grain effect.</p> <p>*Eco-friendly – Sustainably constructed from 100% recycled plastic previously destined for landfill. *Durable – UV, bacteria and wear resistant that garden bench was built to last. *Classic-design – Manufactured with a classic wood grain effect, this stylish bench makes an attractive statement in any outdoor area. *3-seater bench *Material: Recycled plastic *Colour: Brown *Guarantee: 25 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£269.99 per bench</p>	<p>Strong and durable, this bench is hardwearing and maintenance free. It does not require staining or painting and is UV, bacteria and wear resistant. Thanks to the dense recycled plastic construction, this bench does not splinter, chip or crack. Despite its material, it still boasts an attractive wood grain effect so it looks just like a classic park bench, sure to become a focal point in your outdoor area.</p> <p>*3-seater bench *Material: Recycled plastic *Colour: Brown *Guarantee: 25 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£399.00 per bench</p>

RESOLVED: Accept quotation number 2 at a cost of £269.99 per bench.

AGREED: The bench in quotation number 2 will now be used at all parks and the cemetery moving forwards.

EC.629

15. TO CONSIDER FOSSE FOX AGREEMENT DOCUMENT

The Blaby Town Centre fox will be installed soon as Blaby District Council are incorporating it with the village redevelopment project. We will be kept up to date on the date so we can arrange our insurance cover accordingly.

Members were issued with a copy of the agreement that will need amending to be relevant to Blaby Parish Council.

AGREED: Members are happy to sign the Fosse Fox agreement.

EC.630

16. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER ISSUE OF AGENDA

a) To Consider VE Day – 8th May 2021

The 75th anniversary of V-E Day is on Saturday, May 8, 2021. Members considered if they wished to do anything to commemorate the day.

AGREED: Members wish for a flag to be put on the Civic Centre building.

AGREED: Cllr Mrs S Skeemer will contact the businesses to enquire about them having a flag on their buildings.

EC.631

17. CHAIRMAN'S TIME

Thank you all for attending.

MEETING CLOSED: 8:10PM