

**BLABY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING OF THE ESTATES & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**  
**Held at Blaby Civic Centre, 22-24 Leicester Road, Blaby at 7.00pm on**  
**Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**PRESENT:** Mrs S Skeemer (Chairman),  
Mr P Akroyd, Ms Bolton, Mrs M Broomhead, Mr Harding, Mr Harbot, Mr Muton,  
Mr M Wareham, Miss L Withers (Assistant Manager) & Mrs V Jepson (Manager).

Members are informed of the recent death of Councillor Mr Mohammed Parvez Sheikh who passed away Suddenly on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019, a minute's silence was held. Mr Sheikh was a well-respected and had been on the Parish Council since June 2015.

EC.413      **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
No apologies received.

EC.414      **2. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSAIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following disclosures of interests were made:-

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

EC.415      **3. TO CONSIDER ENDERBY ROAD ALLOTMENTS**

**a) Allotment Inspection**

The second allotment inspection was carried out on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September.

28 first letters were sent out and 7 second letters which gives the tenants one weeks' notice to quit were sent out.

**b) Allotment Site Meeting – Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Members have been issued with a report from the site meeting.

Pathways between the plots are overgrown with fruit bushes, tenants have asked if they are able to push the overgrown bushes/brambles back to the owner's plot - It is suggested that a notice could be put up on the shed advising tenants to push the brambles etc back to the other plot.

**AGREED:** A notice should be put onto the shed.

Should children be allowed in the allotments?

**AGREED:** Members agreed that supervised children should be allowed on to the allotments.

It has been asked if the centre path leading to the top of the allotments could be flattened to allow vehicle access – this was denied as no vehicles should be driving up to the turning circle

**AGREED:** A 'No Vehicles Beyond This Point' sign will be put on to the shed.

It is reported there are ponds on 4 allotment plots.

**AGREED:** All water butts need to be covered all year round. Ponds need to be clean and covered with mesh.

**AGREED:** Add these decisions to the allotment rules and regulations.

### **c) Plot Markers**

It would be helpful to have plot markers put in place on all plots as anybody carrying out the allotment inspections will find it very difficult to know which plot number they are inspecting.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** Metal plot markers are to be purchased for all plots; funds are to be taken from the EMR Allotment saving accounts.

### **d) Allotment Rent**

All members considered the 2020 allotment rent and the following fees are approved:-

**RESOLVED:** No changes to current rent rates.

- 400 sq. yards - £73.00
- 300 sq. yards - £55.00
- 200 sq. yards - £37.00
- 150 sq. yards - £28.00
- Plot 58 - £49.00
- Allotment Hut - £18.00
- Non-parishioner Surcharge - £15.00

EC.416

## **4. TO REPORT UPDATE OF THE CRESCENT PLAY AREA**

On the evening of Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> September The Crescent Play Area was vandalised.

Photographs were added to the Councils Facebook account and a good response was received from most of the community.

Two mums of local girls rang to say the names on the equipment were their daughters, they brought the girls to the office who both gave a verbal and written apology and they did some volunteer litter picking on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September which was arranged by the local police to show how very sorry they are for the damage they have done to the play equipment.

The Council's insurance company have been notified of the damaged caused.

Members considered the following quotations:

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>
Remove all Perspex roof panels and replace with coloured Perspex.  Remove and replace plastic come.	Remove all Perspex roof panels and replace with HDPE plastic roof panels (please note the light will not shine through the HDPE)  <i>Plastic is more hard wearing than the Perspex, but it is not transparent.</i>  Remove and replace plastic dome
<b><u>Total Cost = £2,310.00 + VAT</u></b>	<b><u>Total Cost = £2,520.00 + VAT</u></b>

**AGREED:** The quotations are to be added to the Council's Facebook page with an explanation about where the money is to come from.

**RESOLVED:** Accept quotation number 2 for the repairs to the vandalism at the Crescent Play Area priced at £2,520.00 + VAT.

EC.417

**5. TO REPORT UPDATE ON PARKS SITE VISIT**

All members received a site visit report and considered the following quotations for the work to carried out at Northfield Park:

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>
Lift up existing rubber wet pour and cut into manageable pieces and deposit off site to a licensed landfill that accepts rubber.  Supply & fit pressure treated tantalised timber boards to the perimeter edge.  Supply & Lay Impact Play Carpet IPC 1.5 S in Summer Green over existing area sized approximately 6.3m x 5.1m to comply with BS EN1177	Safety fencing, toilet, HSE paperwork = £408.00  Remove existing wet pour and damaged edgings and dispose off site = £1,320.00  Excavate existing stone and stockpile if suitable for reuse = £60.13  Supply and install pre-cast concrete edgings with concrete ring beam = £962.32  Supply and lay semi permeable membrane over the formation layer in newly excavated areas = £42.90  Supply, lay and compact clean crushed stone to a minimum compacted depth 200mm to bring back up levels using new and existing stone = £785.40

<p>to achieve appropriate critical fall height.</p> <p>Sand fill surface at applicable rate and fix securely at the perimeter edge.</p> <p>Leave site neat and tidy ready to handover to customer.</p>	<p>Supply and install wet pour safety surfacing to the required depth as recommended by the play equipment supplier 50mm = £3,744.00</p> <p>Provide topsoil to infill and regrade areas adjacent to toddler swing and junior swings. Supply and sow grass seed @50g/m2 = £960.00</p> <p>Supply labour and mini digger to investigate cause of sinking/depressions in and around play zone. Day rate = £550.00</p> <p>Contingency Sum for repairs to toddler swing = £5,000.00</p>
<b><u>Total £3,050.00 + VAT</u></b>	<b><u>Total £13,832.75 + VAT</u></b>

**RESOLVED:** Accept quotation number one to carry out the work at Northfield Park priced at £3,050.00 + VAT.

EC.418

**6. TO CONSIDER CHRISTMAS 2019**

Members considered quotations for camels and reindeer before deciding they preferred reindeer to be present at this year's Christmas light switch on event.

<b><u>Quotation 1</u></b>	<b><u>Quotation 2</u></b>	<b><u>Quotation 3</u></b>	<b><u>Quotation 4</u></b>
<p>Reindeer 3 reindeers (2 adults and 1 baby) (12ft x 12ft)</p>	<p>Reindeer 2x head-collar trained reindeer 2x handlers Static sleigh Owl (13 x 10ft)</p>	<p>Reindeer 2x reindeer in harness 2x handler Enclosure (12 x12)</p>	<p>Reindeer 2x reindeer Handlers (18ft x 18ft)</p>
<b><u>£1,295 + VAT</u></b>	<b><u>£1,498.80</u></b>	<b><u>£892.00</u></b>	<b><u>£1,615.00</u></b>

**RESOLVED:** Accept quotation number three for the hire reindeers at a cost of £892.00.

All members considered the following ice rink quotations:-

<u>Quotation 1</u>	<u>Quotation 2</u>
Rink Size: 8m x 8m Times: 1430 to 1730	Rink Size: 9m x 8m 7 hours
<b><u>Total Cost - £2,500 + vat</u></b>	<b><u>Total Cost – £2,395 + VAT</u></b>

**DECLINED:** Due to finances, it is decided an ice rink would not be feasible.

#### Volunteers

Two more volunteers are required to man road barriers on the day of the event.

**AGREED:** Cllr Ms Bolton has volunteered to help.

#### Hog Roast

A hog roast is still required for the event.

#### Items to be discussed at the next Social Events Working party meeting are:-

- Christmas 2019
- Summer 2019 debrief
- Summer 2020 Planning
- VE day May 2020 planning

**AGREED:** The next Social Events Working party meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October at 10:30am.

EC.419

#### **7. TO CONSIDER APPLYING FOR A GREEN FLAG COMMUNITY AWARD**

All members considered applying for a Green Flag Community Award for Oakfield Park.

**AGREED:** The Parish Council will apply for the Green Flag Community Award.

**RESOLVED:** A fee of £329.00 + VAT will be paid for the application of the Green Flag Community Award.

EC.420

#### **8. TO CONSIDER 2020 FAIR – OAKFIELD PARK**

All members considered accommodating Mr Barker's fun fair at Oakfield Park from Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

**RESOLVED:** Mr Barker can use Oakfield Park for his funfair at a cost of £450.00 rent and £50.00 electric contribution, but a retainer fee will be put into place in case of any damage to the park and car park. Rides are to be placed on the grass and caravans on the car park.

EC.421 **9. TO REPORT UPDATE ON HOSPITAL LANE CROSSING**

All members received a report from Leicestershire County Council with regards to their decision to deny installing a crossing on Hospital Lane, they say during weekends and school holidays the crossing would rarely be used and without the School traffic it would not meet the required criteria for a controlled crossing.

EC.422 **10. TO REPORT UPDATE ON WINCHESTER ROAD NOTICEBOARD**

At a previous Estates & Community committee meeting, members considered installing a Parish noticeboard along Winchester Road to incorporate the new Jelson Estate and Scouting Way.

The following quotation has been sourced to purchase a new noticeboard from our original suppliers: -

800mm x 100mm (1 door) wide Post Mounted Notice Board = £1,756.00 + VAT and delivery of £75.00 + VAT.

Leicestershire County Council were contacted with regards to seeking permission to install a notice board along Winchester Road near to the new Jelson and Scouting Way estate's, the Highway's Inspections and Enforcement office has declined the Parish Council's plans.

**AGREED:** A further site meeting is arranged at 5.30pm on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 to consider an alternative location.

EC.423 **11. TO CONSIDER NORTHFIELD PARK & FORGE CORNER CLOCKS**

Both the clock at Northfield Park and Forge Corner are not working.

**AGREED:** Members considered applying to Blaby District Council for a Community Grant towards replacing the clocks at Northfield Park and Forge Corner with self-timing clocks.

These clocks will commemorate VE Day.

**AGREED:** Seek quotations to purchase 2 new clocks.

EC.424 **12. CORRESPONDENCE:-**

**a) To Report Update on Permit Parking along Wigston Road.**

An enquiry has been made for resident permit parking along Wigston Road, this request was sent to Leicestershire County Council and members have been issued with a copy of their reply:-

Firstly, I can advise that when considering residents parking schemes, a set criteria is applied which is based on the following:

- At least 50% of the properties affected have no off-street parking facility
- Residents are unable to park because at least 40% of available kerb space is occupied by non-residents during the normal working day, usually commuters near a town centre or factory premises, who should be using alternative parking that is provided
- There is sufficient on road space to allow at least one vehicle per household for those who wish to participate in the scheme

Whilst we do appreciate that parking by non-residents can be annoying for residing residents of Wigston Road, a permit parking scheme is only used where it would be most beneficial, such as locations where the majority of residents have to park on street, and consequently compete with commuters or shoppers etc. Whilst we agree that it is possible for commuters and shoppers to park in the area, the fact remains that the majority of residents have off-street parking facilities available.

Wigston Road does not meet the criteria required to implement the proposals, and therefore would not be considered for a permit parking scheme.

**b) Volunteer Litter Picking.**

Members are reminded of the Volunteer Litter Picking day which is being held 10am – 12pm on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, meeting in the precinct.

**c) Ball Games**

Blaby District Council Community Safety Partnership have had some leaflets updated with regards to Ball Games in Open Spaces, members have been issued with a copy of the leaflets.

EC.425

**13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER ISSUE OF AGENDA**

**a) Incident in Blaby**

Blaby District Council's Community Safety & Prevention Team Leader has informed the Parish Council that a serious incident took place on Dovedale Avenue in Blaby on the evening of Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 where there was a disturbance in the street involving a group of people.

There is an ongoing community impact assessment and enquiries are continuing regarding those involved.

**b) Santander Discovery Days**

Santander are currently looking for projects in Leicester where a typical team size of between 6 to 20 people can assist, Discovery Days have included gardening, painting, conservation, cleaning, sorting and general helping at organisations for the day.

**AGREED:** The council wish to apply to Santander to have the grounds of the old chapel at the cemetery cleared to then allow members to plant bulbs.

**c) Coffee Morning**

All members considered fundraising by hosting a coffee morning.

**AGREED:** Members will hold a coffee morning later this year with the proceeds going to a chosen charity in memory of Cllr Mr Mohammed Sheikh.

**d) Overnight Crime**

There have been 3 shop breaks in around the local area. Blaby District Council has confirmed they will be working with colleagues and partners to raise awareness with local businesses.

**AGREED:** Members are to discuss the overnight crime in Blaby, including that The Fox & Tiger pub has a late night bar extension in place which members object to and will request that Blaby District Council look into this late licence.

EC.426

**14. CHAIRMAN'S TIME.**

Thank you all for attending.

**MEETING CLOSED: 8:55PM**