

**BLABY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE ESTATES & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
Held at Blaby Civic Centre, 22-24 Leicester Road, Blaby at 7.00pm on
Tuesday, 27th August 2019**

PRESENT: Mrs S Skeemer (Chairman),
Mr P Akroyd, Mrs M Broomhead, Mr Harding, Mr Muton, Mr M Sheikh, Mrs V Jepson
(Manager) & 4 x Parishioners.

EC.399 **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence are received from Ms Bolton & Mr Harbot the reasons for which are approved.

EC.400 **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.401 **3. TO CONSIDER ENDERBY ROAD ALLOTMENTS**

a) Assets of Community Value

All members have been issued with a letter received from Blaby District Council's Property & Assets Service Manager confirming our application for listing of an assets of community value for the Enderby Road Allotments has been successful for another 5 years.

The following items have been received from the Blaby & District Allotments & Gardens Society for members consideration:-

b) Noticeboard

Members considered a request received from the Blaby & District Allotments & Gardens Society with regards to purchasing a noticeboard for inside the allotments.

AGREED: Add this item to a future Estates & Community committee agenda once the container has been installed and the allotment shed has been demolished.

c) Celebrations - 100 Years of Blaby Allotments

On the 10th October 2019 it will be 100 years since Blaby Parish Council secured a tenancy for land from Trinity College, Cambridge, to provide allotments for the residents of Blaby.

The Blaby & District Allotments & Gardens Society will be marking the occasion with a day of activities on Sunday, 29th September, from 12.00 noon, the event will be for tenants and invited guests only and will not be open to the general public.

Leicester Mercury and BBC Radio Leicester will be reporting on the event and they will judge the competitions which have been organised.

A booklet will be produced containing photographs of the event and of times past, they will also be having a scarecrow competition, a produce competition, a treasure hunt for the children and a raffle.

A donation towards these planned competitions is requested.

RESOLVED: £50.00 is to be donated to the Blaby & District Allotments & Gardens Society for the 100 years of Blaby allotments celebrations.

The Society would also like to borrow from the Parish Council our gazebo and crowd barriers or parking cones.

AGREED: Members are happy for the Blaby & District Allotments & Gardens Society to borrow the Councils gazebo and 6 parking cones for this event.

AGREED: Members of the society will confirm who will be responsible for collecting and returning these items to the Parish Council.

d) Boundary Fence

There has been reports of recent shed break-ins and that behind plot 8 of the allotments there is a pile of discarded vegetation that has been dumped over the fence.

AGREED: These issues will be investigated at the next allotment inspection.

AGREED: A site meeting is arranged for 10am on Saturday, 7th September where all members of the Council and the allotments are invited to attend.

e) Inspections

The first allotment inspection was carried out on the 9th July where 10 weedy letters were issued.

AGREED: The second allotment inspection is to be carried out on Saturday, 7th September.

From the inspection it has been brought to our attention that there are several ponds on the allotment. There is no mention of ponds in the current rules and regulations.

AGREED: This matter will be investigated at the next inspection and site visit.

f) Allotment Competition

AGREED: Members have agreed that due to the time scale there will be no allotment competition this year.

g) Community Allotment

It has been confirmed the Community Allotment group have been successful in getting some volunteer help from the staff at Fosse Park Asda, there will be between 30 - 40 staff volunteering on this local project which is hopefully due to take place mid-September.

h) Purchase of Land

At a previous committee meeting the allotment society enquired if the Parish Council could purchase the allotment land. It is confirmed the allotment land is not up for sale so there is no opportunity to purchase the land.

EC.402

4. TO RECEIVE & CONSIDER TREE SURVEY REPORTS

All members have been issued with a copy of the tree survey reports and quotations for the works required to be carried out at Oakfield Park, Northfield Park, Mill Lane Cemetery, Latimer Close and Lutterworth Road War memorial.

QUOTATIONS FOR WORKS SUGGESTED

<u>Oakfield Park</u>	<u>Northfield Park</u>	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>Latimer Close</u>	<u>Lutterworth Road Memorial</u>
194 trees were surveyed.	72 trees were surveyed.	221 trees were surveyed.	32 trees were surveyed.	1 tree was surveyed, and no further action is required.
<u>Findings</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Findings</u>	
27 trees requiring attention	16 trees requiring attention	35 trees requiring attention	3 trees requiring attention	
Total = £1,708.00	Total = £2,952.00	Total = £1,649.00	Total = £280.00	Total = £0.00

RESOLVED: Accept the tree survey quotations received for Oakfield Park, Northfield Park, Mill Lane Cemetery, Latimer Close and Lutterworth Road War memorial at a total price of £6,589.00.

EC.403

5. TO CONSIDER CHRISTMAS 2019

A meeting was held on Wednesday, 21st August with the manager and the newly appointed Christmas contractor, members have been issued with photographs of the approved 3-year lighting scheme.

RESOLVED: A 3-year Christmas lighting and electrician scheme has been approved with a total estimated cost at £90,600 + VAT, with this year's cost estimated to be £31, 297+VAT.

The price is an estimate as there are still some design decisions to be made and this may bring the cost down, the estimate is based on the most expensive display options.

Included in the costs are:-

- Wall bracket testing for all 4ft artificial Christmas trees
- Remove redundant cabling and replace with new cabling
- Check power sources
- Replace catenary wires
- Install new tails for the Christmas lights
- Supply and install all lights
- Electrician to attend the switch on event and to re-programme the timers

Additional costs to be considered:-

Traffic managements and Highways permit is required to be organised for the installation and de-rig.

RESOLVED: Accept the Traffic Management quotation of between £1,000 - £1,500 + VAT to install and de-rig this year's Christmas lights.

Hire of a Cherry Picker for installation and the de-rig of Christmas lights priced at £1,000 + VAT

RESOLVED: Accept the quotation of £1,000 + VAT for the hire of a cherry picker for the installation and de-rig of this year's Christmas lights.

Members have been issued with a copy of the 50% deposit invoice priced at £15,648.50 + VAT, the balance is to be paid after installation is completed and working.

RESOLVED: Accept and pay the 50% deposit invoice priced at £15,648.50 + VAT.

EC.404 **6. TO CONSIDER SOCIAL EVENTS WORKING PARTY MEETING DATE**

AGREED: A social events working party meeting is arranged for 10am at the Civic Centre on Tuesday, 3rd September.

EC.405 **7. TO CONSIDER THE CRESCENT PLAY AREA**

Members have been issued with correspondence received from a local resident with regards to the access gate leading into the Crescent Play Area as the gate is not accessible for a wheelchair and some pushchairs.

AGREED: Seek quotations for a replacement wheelchair friendly gate.

EC.406 **8. TO CONSIDER PLAYGROUND SITE VISIT DATE**

AGREED: A playground site meeting is arranged for 5pm on Tuesday, 3rd September 2019 meeting at Oakfield park.

AGREED: Re-issue all the independent playground inspection reports to all members for their consideration before the site visit.

EC.407

9. TO CONSIDER OAKFIELD PARK CAR PARK

Members are informed the grid near to the entrance of the Oakfield Park car park has been damaged, the car park works are under guarantee and the necessary repair works will be carried out after the school holiday and will take 1 – 2 days to complete, the car park will be closed whilst this work is being carried out.

Maintenance Programme

The contractor has submitted a quotation for a maintenance package to be put in place where the contractor would remove any weeds brush the gravel back into place and top up any low points and compact the whole area, this will assist in helping to keep the car park in a good condition, the cost for this maintenance package is £1,586.00 + VAT.

RESOLVED: Accept the quotation received priced at £1,586.00 + VAT for a 1-year maintenance package.

AGREED: Consider this item again in a year's time.

EC.408

10. TO CONSIDER NOTICEBOARD REQUIREMENTS

At a recent full council meeting it was agreed to consider purchasing a noticeboard for Scouting Way.

AGREED: Purchase a notice board to be situated at Scouting Way, the same size and glassed front as the once situated on Western Drive.

AGREED: At the site meeting members will consider the notice boards location.

EC.409

11. TO CONSIDER MEMORIAL TREE REQUEST

A request has been received for a memorial tree to be planted in the grassed area along the front of Northfield Park.

AGREED: As the grassed area along the front of Northfield Park is not owned by the Parish Council this request is to be passed to Leicestershire County Council for their consideration.

AGREED: If the request to Leicestershire County Council is denied members may consider the option to plant the tree on Northfield Park if required.

EC.410

12. TO CONSIDER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS:-

a) National Federation of Cemetery Friends

A new edition of the federation's book 'Saving Cemeteries' is now on sale priced at a discounted price of £7, including postage and packaging.

The book has been fully revised and updated for 2019 with a wealth of new information and many new photographs, contacts and reading recommendations.

RESOLVED: Purchase a copy of the 'Saving Cemeteries' book priced at £7.00 which includes postage and packaging.

EC.411 **13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER ISSUE OF AGENDA**

a) Volunteer Litter Picking

A Blaby Volunteer Litter Picking day has been arranged for Sunday, 29th September, photographs of the volunteers and the rubbish collected are to be taken on the day.

AGREED: Posters advertising the litter picking event are to be displayed on the Councils noticeboard, website and facebook page.

EC.412 **14. CHAIRMAN'S TIME.**

Thank you all for attending.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.25PM