

**BLABY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE ESTATES & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
To Be Held in the Oakfield Room, Blaby Civic Centre
at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 7th December 2021**

PRESENT: Mr M Wareham (Chairman),
Mr P Akroyd, Mrs M Broomhead, Mr P Muton, Mrs S McFadden, Mrs S Skeemer,
Mrs S Clifton (Admin Assistant) & Mrs V Jepson (Manager).

EC.724 **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence are received from Cllr Ms Bolton & Cllr Ms Arya, the reasons for which are approved.

EC.725 **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 P Muton	Burial Rights	Personal
Mrs S Skeemer	Burial Rights	Personal

EC.726 **3. TO CONSIDER ENDERBY ROAD ALLOTMENTS**

a) Blaby Allotment Society

All members have been issued with correspondence received from the Blaby Allotment Society dated the 27th October 2021 the report is noted, and a response has been sent to the chair of the Blaby Allotments Society.

b) Allotment Member Insurance

Allotments are a place to enjoy but they also have many potential hazards, Blaby Parish Council have now taken the decision to enter a public liability policy scheme that will cover allotment tenants, family and friends whilst on site at the same time as the tenant, against claims that may arise from neglect. Employees, volunteers, and contract workers will also be covered. Any wrongful acts including tenant disputes will be covered under this policy.

AGREED: The cost of the policy will be added to the tenant's annual yearly rental and confirmed in the renewal invite, the cost is £3.00 per tenant.

c) Proposed Letter & Documents

Members approved the letter and documentation which is to be sent to all allotment tenants.

d) The National Allotment Society

All members have been issued with a letter from The National Allotment Society with regards to their annual General meeting and conference which is to be held in Colchester on Saturday, 18th June 2022.

e) Plots

On the waiting list there are 3 x Blaby Residents and 38 x non-Blaby Residents but currently there are no vacant plots.

EC.727

4. TO RECEIVE MANAGERS REPORT

All members have been issued with a copy of the managers' report: -

a) The Crescent

The work has been completed to the damaged surfacing at The Crescent play area.

b) The Crescent – Hedge Cutting

Enquires from a resident of The Crescent has been made about the hedge being cut around the play area of the park.

We are currently awaiting a quotation from the Councils usual contractor.

c) Streetvibe

From week commencing the 15th November 2021 until the 16th December 2021, Blaby District Council are commissioning Streetvibe around the village, they will be out doing detached sessions from 4pm to 7pm each week and will attend the parks and precinct.

EC.728

5. TO REPORT UPDATE ON THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON EVENT

a) Christmas Light Switch On

Members thought the event was very well attended and the lights once again look lovely.

AGREED: Arrange a de-brief meeting to include Rockstar Marketing during January 2022.

b) Carol Singing

Members considered the Carol signing event which is due to be held in the precinct on Christmas Eve.

AGREED: Consider this matter at the December Full Council meeting.

EC.729

6. TO CONSIDER 2022 EVENTS

• **The Queens Platinum Jubilee**

4-day Bank Holiday – Thursday, 2nd June – Sunday, 5th June 2022.

At the July 2021 Estates & Community committee meeting it was agreed to hold the Parish Councils annual summer event on Saturday, 4th June, which is the Queens Platinum Jubilee bank holiday weekend.

Due to other organisations holding their event on the same day and it being a bank holiday members agreed to cancel the Councils proposed event for Saturday, 4th June 2022.

AGREED: Hold the Councils annual summer event at Oakfield Park on Saturday, 6th August 2022.

AGREED: The manager is to liaise with Blaby District Council and enquire if they are planning an event to celebrate The Queens Platinum Jubilee and request that they put flags up around the village.

- **Summer Fun Day**

AGREED: Arrange a meeting in January 2022 to discuss the Summer Funday.

- **Christmas Light Switch On Event**

AGREED: Arrange a meeting in January 2022 to discuss the 2021 Christmas Light Switch on event.

- **Christmas Eve Carol Service**

As Christmas Eve 2022 is a Saturday members have agreed the Carol Singing event will be held on Friday, 23rd December and not Christmas Eve.

AGREED: Arrange a meeting with Jean Smart in the new year to discuss the 2022 carol singing event.

EC.730

7. TO REPORT UPDATE ON THE GREEN FLAG MYSTERY SHOP AWARD

All members have been issued with a copy of the Green Flag Award Mystery Shop Assessment report where we have been awarded a Green (Highest) standard.

Members wish to congratulate the ground staff for their hard work in helping the Council achieve the highest standard green flag award.

EC.731

8. TO REPORT UPDATE ON THE LOTTERY APPLICATION – SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

An application has been submitted to the National Lottery Community Fund for the Summer Holiday club to be ran again during 2022 by Finding Fitness after the great success of the 2021 event.

EC.732

9. TO CONSIDER QUOTATION RECEIVED FOR NORTHFIELD PARK CCTV

A quotation has been received to install 4 IP cameras at Northfield Park, these will be transmitted back to the Parish Council office to view at a total price of £1,451.11 + VAT

RESOLVED: Accept the quotation priced at £1,451.11 + VAT to install 4 IP cameras at Northfield Park.

AGREED: Seek quotations for a trench to be dug from the toilet block to the old swimming pool for ducting to be installed.

AGREED: Add this item to a future committee agenda once quotations have been received.

EC.733

10. TO CONSIDER BLABY CEMETERY

a) Memorial Fee Enquiry

An application has been received for an additional inscription for a memorial which has been erected without prior approval as the memorial mason submitted the application to the incorrect parish council.

An invoice has been raised for the erection of a memorial at a cost of £75 but the memorial mason is querying the cost as when they erected the memorial the fee was £50, and they are requesting they only pay £50 and not £75.

DECLINE: Members declined the request for the Parish Council to reduce their fee as the error was the memorial masons and not the Parish Council so a fee of £75 is required to be paid by the memorial mason.

b) Ashes

On the 28th October Ashes were found to be scattered on top of a grave in the old part of the Cemetery, as ashes are not permitted to be scattered on the graves these were removed on the advice from the Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management who said: -

“As the ashes aren’t buried or interred, they won’t be classed as such and therefore won’t require an exhumation licence or faculty in order for them to be removed.”

On receiving this information, we contacted the family and explained that the ashes would need to be removed from the grave, the ground staff removed the ashes and replaced them in the scattering of ashes area at Peace Meadow as requested by the family.

c) New Burial Ground

The manager has approached CDS Cemeteries & Crematorium who have extensive knowledge and experience in designing and developing innovative new Cemeteries across the UK.

They have in house planners, designers, environmental consultants, and drainage engineers are focused on providing a single point of contact throughout the project to ensure a seamless experience from inception to completion.

The manager has requested costings from the company to start working on the development of the new cemetery land.

AGREED: Add this item to a future agenda when more information has been received.

AGREED: Invite a representative from CDS Cemeteries & Crematorium to a future Estates & Community committee meeting.

EC.734

11. TO CONSIDER VILLAGE CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

Benches & Fosse Fox

Members have been issued with an image showing the suggested locations in Johns Court for the new benches and the Fosse Fox, any suggestion is subject to permission from Highways.

The bench style is concrete, and the wood is an exotic wood which is naturally weather resistant, and brush painted to a walnut colour.

AGREED: Members are happy with the proposed locations for the Fosse Fox and the new benches.

Fascia & Litter Bins

Blaby District Council are hoping to get permission to paint the fasciae around the precinct and the litter bins will also be replaced.

AGREED: Committee members have requested if the fasciae could be replaced with plastic?

Planters

Members are asked if additional planters are required around the village? The proposed locations for additional planters to be installed is near to AJ Nail Spa & Beauty Salon in the precinct and on the corners of Cross Street (outside the Black Horse public house & the Indian Restaurant).

AGREED: Members are happy with the suggested locations for the 3 new planters.

A request has been submitted from a resident of Leicester Road for a planter to be installed on the pathway opposite Blaby Print, the resident is happy to sponsor the flowers for this planter.

AGREED: Request an additional planter is installed on the corner of Leicester Road opposite Blaby Print.

RESOLVED: Request a sponsorship of £25 per year for a 10 year agreement, this is to be paid in a one-off fee of £250 by the resident of Leicester Road.

Wayfinding Signs

The current wayfinding finger signs are in white, it is proposed these are replaced with new wayfinding signs in green and gold to match all of the other street furniture.

As Leicestershire County Council, Highways currently own these signs, if replaced, they will need to be adopted.

AGREED: The Parish Council is not prepared to adopt the replacement wayfinding signs as members feel these signs are the responsibility of Leicestershire County Council.

Bollard Plaques

It has been reported that the plaques on the bollards are unsavable. There are many plaques missing, and a lot of the others are damaged in some way.

Blaby District Council have been unsuccessful in finding someone who can replicate them, they are made of a rubber type material, but the plan is to remove them and fill and sand the bollards.

The bollards will be painted green with gold highlights where the bollards are banded so they look smarter than just green on its own.

DECLINE: Members are not happy for the rose and tomato plaques to remain on all of the bollards.

Bench

Members have been issued with a photograph of the proposed replacement bench for the one outside McColl's Newsagent.

Blaby District Council plan to remove the plaque from the existing bench and put it on the new one.

DECLINE: Members are not happy with the suggested replacement bench for outside McColl's Newsagents.

AGREED: Members feel any new or replacement bench should all be in keeping with the surrounding village and should be replaced with the concrete and exotic wood which is also better for the environment.

EC.735

12. TO CONSIDER DEFIBRILLATOR DONATION REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from the Chairman/Treasurer of Wigston Youth Football Club with regards to a donation request towards a defibrillator to be installed in the key room at the rear of the Oaks Community Room.

Members considered the request but feel as the room is only accessible to organisations with a key to the building this defibrillator is not accessible to everybody using the park.

AGREED: Members agree to supply the power necessary for the machine to be charged but feel a donation cannot be given as the device is not able to be used by the general public.

EC.736

13. TO CONSIDER 2022/23 BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS & POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS

All members have been issued with a copy of the Estates & Community committee budget document for their consideration.

<u>BLABY PARISH COUNCIL</u>	
Description	Recommended Budget 2022/23
<u>ESTATES & COMMUNITY</u>	
Allotment - Maintenance	£500.00
Allotment - Skip Hire	£0.00
Allotment - Competition	£0.00
Allotment - Rent	£850.00

Cemetery - Maintenance	£2,500.00
Parks, Street Furniture & Play Equipment - Maintenance & Inspection	£12,000.00
Equipment - Maintenance	£1,000.00
Grass Cutting - Parks & Cemeteries	£6,500.00
Floral Displays - Hanging Baskets & Planters	£3,000.00
Litter & Dog Waste Bins	£250.00
Blaby Topic - Distribution (3 copies)	£3,500.00
Events	£70,000.00
Tree Surveys / Tree Works	£0.00
Grants / Donations	£0.00
Noticeboards	£2,500.00
Total Estates & Community	£102,600.00

RESOLVED: The Estates & Community Committee budgetary requirements are agreed for 2022/23.

EC.737

14. CORRESPONDENCE: -

a) Hedge on Hospital Lane

Members have been issued with correspondence from a local resident with regards to the hedge along Hospital Lane.

During November seventy hawthorn hedging plants were planted along Hospital Lane by a couple of local residents and it is hoped they are able to do twenty-five more within the next few weeks.

The plants have been watered and they have been made noticeable by adding bamboo canes.

RESOLVED: Write a letter of thanks and purchase 3 x £10 Jenno's vouchers for the 3 volunteers who have undertaken this work on behalf of the local community.

EC.738

15. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER ISSUE OF AGENDA - None.

EC.739

16. CHAIRMAN'S TIME

Thank you all for attending.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.15PM