

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Darren Tilley - Executive Officer & Town Clerk

Braunstone Civic Centre, Kingsway,
Braunstone Town, Leicester LE3 2PP
Tel: (0116) 2899270 Fax: (0116) 2824785 (24hr answerphone)

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF PLANS AND PARTICIPATION

1. The Planning Applications can be inspected at the offices of Blaby District Council to whom representations should be made and they are also available Blaby District Council's website at www.blaby.gov.uk under Planning Application Search
2. A list of the applications to be considered by the Town Council's Plans & Environment Committee are listed on the Town Council's website www.braunstonetowncouncil.org.uk under Planning & Environment Services, Inspection of Local Planning Applications.
3. The applications will be considered by the Braunstone Town Council's Plans and Environment Committee, which may make its own observations and forward them to the relevant Planning Authority.
4. Braunstone Town Council and Blaby District Council have introduced procedures to enable applicants, objectors and supporters to speak on applications brought before their relevant Committees.

11th December 2014

Dear Member

The next meeting of Braunstone Town Council's Plans & Environment Committee will be held Thursday **18th December 2014** at **7.30pm** for the transaction of the business as set out below and your attendance is requested.

Yours sincerely,



Executive Officer & Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Disclosures of Interest

To receive Disclosures of Interest (not previously disclosed) in respect of items on this Agenda:- i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, ii) Other Interests (Non-Pecuniary)

3. Public Participation

Members of the public may make representations, give evidence or answer questions in connection with items included on the agenda (Standing Order 13f and 75). At the discretion of the Chairperson the meeting may be adjourned to give members of the public present an opportunity to raise other matters of public interest.

The time allowed for each member of the public to make representation, give evidence, or ask questions will be restricted to 3 minutes. Where there is a group of members of public wishing to make the same representations, present the same evidence or ask the same questions, the group must appoint one representative to speak on their behalf and he/she will be restricted to within 3 minutes.

Public participation sessions will be ordered by the Chairperson as part of his/her role in presiding over the meeting and conducted in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.



QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL

4. **Report of the Meeting held 20th November 2014**
To receive the Report of the Meeting held on 20th November 2014 (Enclosed)
5. **Planning Applications – To Note the Action Taken Under Delegated Powers**
RECOMMENDED: That the action taken under Standing Order No.71(c) in forwarding observations to Blaby District Council be approved (Enclosed)
6. **Planning Applications**
To agree observations on planning applications received (Enclosed)
7. **Planning Applications received since the Distribution of the Agenda**
A revised list of planning applications to be circulated at the Meeting.
8. **Planning Decisions**
To receive the following planning decisions from Blaby District Council (Enclosed)
 - a) 14/0782/1/PX Land north of 68 Radford Drive. Erection four bungalows with associated parking and amenity space (revised scheme)
 - b) 14/0783/1/PX Land north of 10 Radford Drive. Erection of 4 bungalows with associated parking and amenity space (revised scheme)
9. **Leicestershire County Council Highways Consultation**
To receive a draft response to the National Highways & Transport (NHT) satisfaction survey Parish Consultation. (Enclosed) the consultation can be found at:
<https://scorelink.econtrack.co.uk?5cc979fa3dac4328be42df0e960f0c70>
10. **Parish Clerks' Highways News**
To receive a copy of the Council Council's Highways News for Information (Enclosed)
11. **Annual Report Questionnaire – Proposed Actions/responses to Survey comments 2014**
To receive the results from the Annual Report Questionnaire relevant to the Committee and consider proposed Action/Responses to the issues raised (Enclosed)
12. **S106 / Developer Contributions Update**
To receive a verbal report on recent changes to the National Policy Framework affecting Section 106s, and to receive for information the list of current requests for developer contributions in Braunstone Town (Enclosed)
13. **Footpath From Watergate Lane to Footpath W9 off Staplehurst Avenue**
To receive an update on progress with the application for a Definitive Map Modification Order.
14. **Update on 3 Narborough Road South**
To receive a press release dated 3rd December 2012 from Blaby District Council regarding the progress on 3 Narborough Road South (Enclosed)
15. **Financial Comparisons**
To receive the Financial Comparisons from 1st April 2014 to 30th November 2014 (Enclosed)

16. **Estimates 2015/2016**

- a) To receive a Statement of Expenditure for 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014
(Enclosed)
- b) To receive a list of capital projects to recommend to the Policy & Resources Committee for inclusion in the 2015/2016 estimates. (Enclosed)
- c) To recommend a budget to the next meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee (Enclosed)

17. **Termination of the Meeting**

NOTE:

CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime & Disorder implications of all its activities and to do all that it can to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area.

EQUALITIES ACT 2010

Braunstone Town Council has a duty in carrying out its functions to have due regard to:-

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and;
- foster good relations between different groups

To ensure that no person receives less favorable treatment on the basis of race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT of the PLANS & ENVIRONMENT MEETING

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Mr G Sanders (In the Chair), Miss A Ambrose, Miss S Betts, Mr J Dodd, Mrs I Whailing, Mr W Wright.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr D Tilley, Executive Officer & Town Clerk, Miss J Leech, Assistant Executive Officer (Admin)

APOLOGIES: Mr R Berrington, Mr S Maxwell, Mr D Widdowson.

1. Disclosure of Interest from Members

There were no disclosures by Members of any Disclosable Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests

2. Public Participation

In accordance with Standing Orders 16f and 70 the meeting was adjourned to give an opportunity for members of the public present to raise matters of public interest for the purpose of making representations, giving evidence or answering questions.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

3. Report of the Meeting held on 16th October 2014

The Report of the Meeting held on 16th October 2014 was taken as read and signed by the Chairperson.

4. Planning Applications – To note the Action Taken Under Delegated Powers

RESOLVED: That the action taken under Standing Order No.71 (c) in forwarding the following observations to Blaby District Council be approved:-

14/0946/1/AY Mitchells and Butler. Harvester, Meridian Leisure. Display of 4 internally illuminated post sign and 2 non illuminated awnings (8 in total). The height of the illuminated signs, hours of use and level of lighting should be in accordance with the District Council's Lighting Policy and restricted so as not to (a) be of nuisance to nearby residents and/or road users in terms of glare or (b) create unnecessary levels of lighting or light spillage. In respect of sign no.7, the Town Council considers the sign to be unacceptable due to considerations of detrimental impact on public safety due to possible distraction of drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, and being in a prominent and conspicuous location. The existing signage for the site is located well away from the main highway and this proposal could set a precedent from other outlets making similar applications.

14/0960/1/PX E I Electrical Installations, Plot 4 Meridian West. Construction of a concrete base and erection of a storage building. No observations.

5. **Planning Applications**

RESOLVED That the following observations be forwarded to Blaby District Council:-

14/0968/1/NMAT Mr A Fryer, 24 Holmfield Avenue East. Application for non-material amendments to planning permission 14/0276/1/HPX. *No observations.*

14/1027/1/HPX 31 Una Avenue. First Floor side extension. *In accordance with the Local Plan Policy T7 replacement of on-site parking facilities should be provided:- dwellings with more than 4 bedrooms – 3 spaces, 3 or less bedrooms – 2 spaces, 1 bedroom flats/bedsits – 1 space. The occupiers of neighbouring properties should be fully consulted in connection with the proposals.*

6. **Leicester Local Plan Issues and Options**

Draft observations on the Leicester City Local Plan Issues and Options consultation document dated October 2014 were received.

RESOLVED

That the following observations be submitted to Leicester City Council in response to the consultation:-

Housing Growth

Braunstone Town Council supports Leicester City Council's existing strategy for new housing, particularly to continue with the planned housing development at Hamilton and Aston Green, and to continue to encourage a mix of uses in inner city regeneration sites.

Accessing the City

As part of its Residential Travel Plan, the developers of the Lubbethorpe Development state that the development proposal will provide opportunities to use modes other than the private car by providing regular and frequent bus services between the site and the City Centre, and in addition, cycle routes will be provided within the site, linking into the existing cycle route infrastructure. The Town Council would support any works to improve public transport links into the City along the A47 and linking into the proposed Lubbethorpe Development, in co-ordination with neighbouring partners. A co-ordinated approach to providing a linked cycleway/footpath from the development to the City would also be supported.

7. **Lubbethorpe Strategic Consultative Board**

Feedback from the Lubbethorpe Strategic Consultation Board Meeting held 30th October 2014 was received. The main issue covered had been the medical facilities in that NHS England was expecting the Lubbethorpe facility to only accommodate 1800 patients, which could impact further on existing neighbouring services. There had also been representatives from the Police and the Fire Brigade present. A significant concern for Braunstone Town residents would be the increase in traffic, in addition to further developments around the Fosse Park area, which could adversely affect the capacity of Junction 21 of the motorway. The Executive Officer & Town Clerk reminded members of a previous scheme proposed by the Highways Agency to create a direct link from the southbound M1 to the M69.

RESOLVED

That at the next meeting of the Lubbethorpe Strategic Consultative Board, Town Council Representatives raise whether there was any future potential for a direct link from the Southbound M1 to the M69, in an effort to reduce traffic flows around Junction 21.

8. **Termination of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

NOTE:

CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 (SECTION 17) – The Council has an obligation to consider Crime & Disorder implications of all its activities and to do all that it can to prevent Crime and Disorder in its area.

EQUALITIES ACT 2010

Braunstone Town Council has a duty in carrying out its functions to have due regard to:-

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and;
- foster good relations between different groups

To ensure that no person receives less favorable treatment on the basis of race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, sexual orientation, age, religion or belief, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity.

These issues were considered in connection with each of the above decisions. Unless otherwise stated under each item of this report, there were no implications.

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PLANS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, 18TH DECEMBER 2014

5. Planning Applications dealt with Under Delegated Powers

14/1015/1/PY Mr C Gilbert – Gillys Sandwich Bar Ltd. 29 Watergate Lane. Change of use of existing unit to a Café/Sandwich Bar (Use Class A3). *Policy S15 of the Blaby Local Plan (September 1999) allows for non-retail uses providing it would not unacceptably reduce the ability of the centre to meet local shopping needs. It should be noted that, should the application go ahead this would lead to 5 out of the 8 outlets being Class A3 or A5 therefore the proposed development would result in an unacceptable proliferation of those classes. This also results in an unsatisfactory relationship with other nearby uses that would be significantly detrimental to the amenities enjoyed by the occupiers of those properties due to considerations of disturbance, hours of working, noise and litter. In particular, the potential increase in vehicular activity would result in an adverse impact on neighbouring properties, again, with the proliferation of Class Use A3 potentially attracting additional custom by those travelling by vehicle.*

The proposal would unacceptably reduce the ability of the centre to meet local shopping needs. These centres are particularly valuable to people who do not have their own transport. The Braunstone Town Parish Plan published in 2013 showed that 50.6% of respondents to its consultation visited post offices at least once a week, whilst an average of 33% visited other local shops at least once a week. Local residents would support alternative uses including: residential, office use (including taxi operators), providing they do not unacceptably reduce the ability of the centre to meet local shopping needs. The Survey demonstrated that there was a need in the local shopping centres for additional Grocery Store, Chemists, DIY Outlet and a Butchers.

No noise or vibration from the operation of the local exhaust ventilation system shall be perceptible in any adjoining property (In the interests of the amenities of nearby occupiers)

6. Planning Applications

14/1037/1/UY 12 – 14 Ayston Road. Application for a certificate of proposed lawful use in respect of a single storey, detached swimming pool building.

14/1047/1/HPX 6 Morris Close, Thorpe Astley. Two storey side/rear extension and single storey rear extension.



Council Offices, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicester, LE19 2EP

**NOTICE OF DECISION ON PLANNING APPLICATION
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

PLANNING PERMISSION

Name and Address of Applicant
 Abraham Property LLP
 5 Harcourt Way
 Meridian
 Leicester
 LE19 1WP

Name and Address of Agent
 Peter Thompson Adt
 49 Leicester Road
 Broughton Astley
 Leicestershire
 LE9 6QE

Part -1 Particulars of Application

Date of Application 20 August 2014

Application No. 14/0782/1/PX

Particulars and Location of Development

Erection of 4 bungalows with associated parking and amenity space. (Revised scheme).

Land North Of 68 Radford Drive Braunstone Town Leicestershire LE3 3DR

Part -2 Particulars of Decision


In pursuance of its powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Blaby District Council **GRANTS** planning permission for the carrying out of the development referred to in PART -1 hereto in accordance with the application and plans submitted, subject to the following conditions:

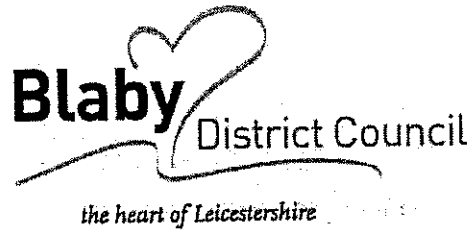
Conditions attached to the planning permission and reasons for those conditions are:-

CONDITIONS

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
2. No above ground construction shall take place until details of the materials to be used on the external elevations and roofs have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the District Planning Authority.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0782/1/PX


 Proper Officer of the Council



3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting the Order with or without modification), no windows/openings/dormer roof additions shall be constructed at any time above ground floor level without the prior permission of the District Planning Authority granted on an application submitted in that regard.
4. Before the development hereby permitted is commenced, details of the finished floor levels of the bungalows shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the District Planning Authority, and the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any subsequent re-enactment with or without modification), no extensions or additions to the bungalows, or the provision of any additional buildings within their curtilages, shall be constructed without the prior permission of the District Planning Authority on an application submitted in that regard.
6. The car parking facilities shown within the curtilage of the site shall be provided, hard surfaced and made available for use before any of the bungalows are first occupied and shall thereafter be permanently so maintained.
7. Before first occupation of any bungalow, the access drive and any turning space shall be surfaced with tarmacadam, concrete or similar hard bound material (not loose aggregate) for a distance of at least 5 metres behind the highway boundary and shall be so maintained at all times.

REASONS

1. To prevent the unnecessary accumulation of unimplemented permissions, to encourage early implementation and to enable the District Planning Authority to review the consent if a further application is made.
2. To ensure that the District Planning Authority can exercise proper control over the materials used and the appearance of the building when completed, in the interest of visual amenity.
3. To safeguard the privacy and living conditions of nearby residents.
4. To safeguard the privacy and living conditions of nearby residents.
5. To safeguard the privacy and living standards of both nearby and future residents.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0782/1/PX


Proper Officer of the Council

6. To ensure that adequate off-street parking provision is made to reduce the possibilities of the proposed development leading to on-street parking problems in the area.
7. To reduce the possibility of deleterious material being deposited in the highway (loose stones etc.)

NOTES TO APPLICANT

1. The development hereby permitted must be carried out in complete accordance with the approved plans. If changes are made to the approved scheme, whether INTERNALLY or EXTERNALLY, the development will not be in accordance with this grant of planning permission, it therefore would not benefit from planning permission and may result in enforcement action.
2. When Central Government introduced changes to the fees to be submitted in respect of planning applications, it also introduced a fee to be paid for the discharge of conditions attached to the permission. The fee is payable in respect of each request to discharge conditions, not for individual conditions. I would suggest that if there are a number of conditions which need to be discharged, they are grouped into one request.

You should keep the decision of the Council in respect of discharged conditions as a fee is now also paid for each request confirming that conditions have been discharged.
3. This grant of planning permission does not authorise any development outside the application site including any foundation, footings, fascias, eaves, soffits, verges or guttering.
4. The applicant is requested to actively ensure that during the construction phase, any disruption to existing residents from either on-street car parking or noise and disturbance is kept to a minimum.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

1. The District Planning Authority has reached its decision taking into account the advice contained within paragraphs 186-187 of the National Planning Policy Framework and, where possible, has worked proactively with the applicants to seek solutions to problems arising in relation to dealing with the planning application.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0782/1/PX

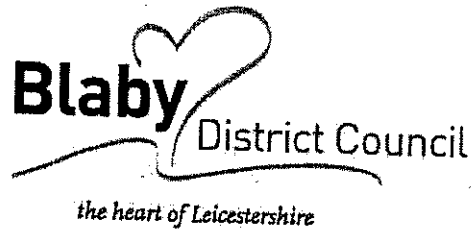

Proper Officer of the Council

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Council Offices, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicester, LE19 2EP

**NOTICE OF DECISION ON PLANNING APPLICATION
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990**

PLANNING PERMISSION

Name and Address of Applicant

Abraham Properties LLP
Maxi House
5 Harcourt Way
Meridian
Leicester
LE19 1WP

Name and Address of Agent

Peter Thompson Adt
49 Leicester Road
Broughton Astley
Leicestershire
LE9 6QE

Part -1 Particulars of Application

Date of Application 20 August 2014

Application No. 14/0783/1/PX

Particulars and Location of Development

Erection of 4 bungalows with associated parking and amenity space. (Revised Scheme).

Land North Of 10 Radford Drive Braunstone Town Leicestershire LE3 3DR

Part -2 Particulars of Decision

In pursuance of its powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Blaby District Council **GRANTS** planning permission for the carrying out of the development referred to in PART -1 hereto in accordance with the application and plans submitted, subject to the following conditions:

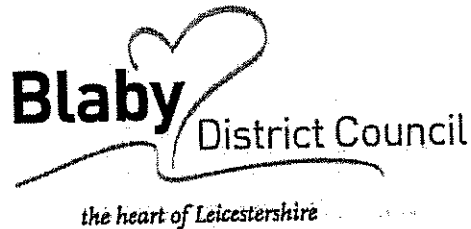
Conditions attached to the planning permission and reasons for those conditions are:-

CONDITIONS

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
2. No above ground construction shall take place until details of the materials to be used on the external elevations and roofs have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the District Planning Authority.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0783/1/PX

Proper Officer of the Council



3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting the Order with or without modification), no windows/openings/dormer roof additions shall be constructed at any time above ground floor level without the prior permission of the District Planning Authority granted on an application submitted in that regard.
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6. The car parking facilities shown within the curtilage of the site shall be provided, hard surfaced and made available for use before any of the bungalows are first occupied and shall thereafter be permanently so maintained.
7. Before first occupation of any bungalow, the access drive and any turning space shall be surfaced with tarmacadam, concrete or similar hard bound material (not loose aggregate) for a distance of at least 5 metres behind the highway boundary and shall be so maintained at all times.

REASONS

1. To prevent the unnecessary accumulation of unimplemented permissions, to encourage early implementation and to enable the District Planning Authority to review the consent if a further application is made.
2. To ensure that the District Planning Authority can exercise proper control over the materials used and the appearance of the building when completed, in the interest of visual amenity.
3. To safeguard the appearance of the development and the privacy and living conditions of nearby residents.
4. To safeguard the appearance of the development and the privacy and living conditions of nearby residents.
5. To safeguard the privacy and living standards of both nearby and future residents.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0783/1/PX


Proper Officer of the Council



6. To ensure that adequate off-street parking provision is made to reduce the possibilities of the proposed development leading to on-street parking problems in the area.
7. To reduce the possibility of deleterious material being deposited in the highway (loose stones etc.)

NOTES TO APPLICANT

1. The development hereby permitted must be carried out in complete accordance with the approved plans. If changes are made to the approved scheme, whether INTERNALLY or EXTERNALLY, the development will not be in accordance with this grant of planning permission, it therefore would not benefit from planning permission and may result in enforcement action.
2. When Central Government introduced changes to the fees to be submitted in respect of planning applications, it also introduced a fee to be paid for the discharge of conditions attached to the permission. The fee is payable in respect of each request to discharge conditions, not for individual conditions. I would suggest that if there are a number of conditions which need to be discharged, they are grouped into one request.

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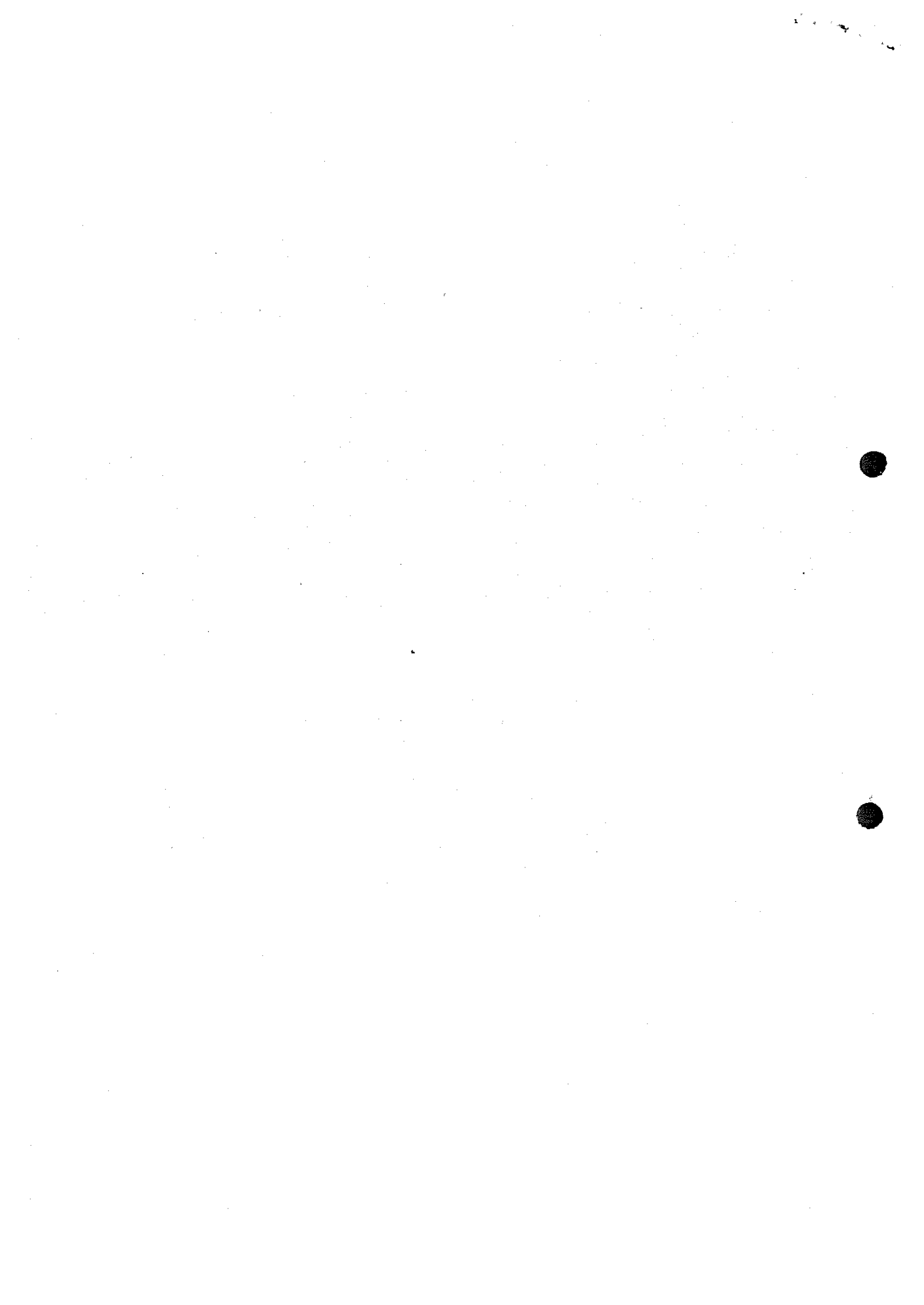
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SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

1. The District Planning Authority has reached its decision taking into account the advice contained within paragraphs 186-187 of the National Planning Policy Framework and, where possible, has worked proactively with the applicants to seek solutions to problems arising in relation to dealing with the planning application.

Date: 3 November 2014
14/0783/1/PX


Proper Officer of the Council



From: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
Circulated to: ALL PARISH COUNCILS
Date: 21 NOVEMBER 2014

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT (NHT) PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

PARISH CONSULTATION

Purpose

To invite Parish Councils to complete the NHT Public Representative Survey.

Background

Since 2008 Leicestershire County Council has participated in the annual National Highways and Transport (NHT) Public Satisfaction survey.

This survey is part of the Council's continuing effort to understand and respond to the needs of its customers. The analysis of the survey results and the ability to trend and benchmark highways and transport services has allowed the County Council to monitor its performance on a number of highways and transport issues at a national and a local level.

The company which oversees the NHT survey, 'Measure 2 Improve' (m2i), also undertakes an additional survey for Public Representatives. The Council has agreed to take part in this survey because it is considered that it will benefit the Council in particular by providing officers with a greater understanding of Parish Councils' needs and priorities for highways and transport services in Leicestershire, particularly at a time of major transformation.

The Public Representative survey is essentially an abbreviated version of the Public Satisfaction Survey, the main differences are that results from the Public Representative survey are not made public, Parish details remain confidential are not retained by the administering company.

The survey is designed to accept one response for each Parish Council so we would ask that, although the questionnaire is best completed by one person, the responses represent the overall views of the Parish Council on the Highways and Transport matters raised in the survey.

To complete the questionnaire please hold CTRL and click the following link, or copy and paste it into your web browser window. If you require any technical assistance please contact Jason Watson on 0116 3058308.

<https://scorelink.econtrack.co.uk?5cc979fa3dac4328be42df0e960f0c70>

I should be very grateful if you could complete the survey by Friday 19th December.

Once completed responses will be recorded and analysed to help support the findings of the public satisfaction survey.

Your support by participating in this survey to help inform the continuous improvement of Highways and Transportation is very much appreciated.

Officers to Contact

Phil Crossland

Tel: (0116) 3057000

Director of Environment and Transport

email: phil.crossland@leics.gov.uk

Jason Watson

Tel: (0116) 3058308

Continuous Improvement Manager

email: jason.watson@leics.gov.uk

Environment and Transport

SURVEY

What's important?

Very Important Fairly Important Not Very Important Not at All
important Don't Know

1.1 Pavements & Footpaths How important, if at all, do you consider good pavements and footpaths?

Very Important

1.2 Cycle Routes & Facilities How important, if at all, do you consider good cycle routes/lanes and facilities?

Fairly Important

1.3 Local Bus Services How important, if at all, do you consider good local bus services?

Very Important

1.4 Local Taxi Services How important, if at all, do you consider good local taxi (or mini-cab) services?

Fairly Important

1.5 Community Transport How important, if at all, do you consider good Community Transport, e.g. Dial-a-Ride & volunteer car schemes?

Fairly Important

1.6 Responsive Transport How important, if at all, do you consider good 'Demand Responsive Transport' i.e. flexible bus services?

Fairly Important

1.7 Safe Roads How important, if at all, do you consider safe roads?

Very Important

1.8 Traffic & Congestion How important, if at all, do you consider low levels of traffic congestion?

Very Important

1.9 Traffic Pollution How important, if at all, do you consider low levels of local traffic pollution?

Very Important

1.10 Street Lighting How important, if at all, do you consider good street lighting?

Fairly Important

1.11 Road Condition How important, if at all, do you consider the roads being in good condition?

Fairly Important

1.12 Rights of Way How important, if at all, do you consider good Rights of Way network (Rights of Way are routes open to the public - such as 'bridleways' and footpaths - which are often in the countryside but can also be found in towns)?

How satisfied are you?

Very Satisfied Fairly Satisfied Neither/nor Fairly Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied Doesn't apply/Don't know

2.1 Pavements & Footpaths Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with pavements and footpaths?

Fairly satisfied

2.2 Cycle Routes & Facilities Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with Cycle routes/lanes and facilities?

Fairly Dissatisfied

2.3 Local Bus Services Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with local bus services?

Dissatisfied

2.4 Local Taxi Services Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with local taxi (or mini-cab) services?

Don't know

2.5 Community Transport Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with Community Transport (e.g. Dial-a-Ride and volunteer cars)?

Fairly satisfied

2.6 Responsive Transport Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with 'Demand Responsive Transport' (i.e. flexible bus services)?

Don't know

2.7 Safety on Roads Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with safety on roads?

Fairly dissatisfied

2.8 Traffic Levels & Congestion Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with traffic levels and congestion?

Very dissatisfied

2.9 Traffic Pollution Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with levels of local traffic pollution?

Very dissatisfied

2.10 Street Lighting Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with street lighting?

Fairly dissatisfied

2.11 Road Condition Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the condition of roads?

Fairly satisfied

2.12 Rights of Way Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the local Rights of Way network?

Fairly satisfied

2.13 Overall Satisfaction Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you overall with transport and highways services?

Neither/nor

3. Most Important to YOU Looking at the same list from Question 2, which three are most important to YOU personally? Please tick ONLY three.

Please select all that apply

- Cycle routes/lanes & facilities Community Transport Demand Responsive Transport Levels of Local Traffic Pollution Local bus services Local Taxi (or mini cab) Pavements & Footpaths Rights of Way Network Safety on Roads Street Lighting The Condition of Roads Traffic & Congestion levels

Traffic and Congestion / Levels of Local Traffic Pollution / Local Bus Services

What's most in need of improvement?

4. Most in Need of Improvement The council has to decide which areas to focus on and how to use its budget to improve transport and highways in the local area. Which three of these do YOU you think are most in need of improvement in your local area? Please tick ONLY three.

- Cycle routes/lanes & facilities Community Transport Demand Responsive Transport Levels of Local Traffic Pollution Local bus services Local Taxi (or mini cab) Pavements & Footpaths Rights of Way Network Safety on Roads Street Lighting The Condition of Roads Traffic & Congestion levels

Levels of Local Traffic Pollution / Traffic & Congestion / Local Bus Services

Pavements and Pedestrian Facilities

Please select an answer

- Very Satisfied Fairly Satisfied Neither/nor Fairly dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied Doesn't apply/Don't know

5.1 Pavement Provision Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the provision of pavements where these are needed?

Neither/nor

5.2 Pavement Condition Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the condition of pavements?

Neither/nor

5.3 Pavement Cleanliness Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the cleanliness of pavements?

Neither/nor

5.4 Pedestrian Signposts Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the direction signposts for pedestrians?

Fairly satisfied

5.5 Safe Crossing points Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the provision of safe crossing points?

This item has been skipped, [click here to unskip](#)

Fairly satisfied

2.3 Local Bus Services Thinking about roads and transport locally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with local bus services?

Fairly dissatisfied

5.6 Drop Kerbs Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with drop kerb crossing points (e.g. for pushchairs or wheelchairs)?

Fairly satisfied

5.7 Clear Pavements Thinking about the local area, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with pavements being kept clear of obstructions (e.g. parked cars)?

Fairly dissatisfied

Condition of Roads and Pavements

Very Satisfied Fairly Satisfied Neither/nor Fairly dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied Doesn't apply/Don't know

6.1 Road Surface Condition How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the condition of road surfaces locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.2 Road Cleanliness How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the cleanliness of roads locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.3 Condition of Road Markings How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the condition of road markings (e.g. white lines) locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.4 Condition of Road Signs How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the condition and cleanliness of road signs locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.5 Street Lighting Provision How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the provision of street lighting where this is needed?

Neither/nor

6.6 Speed of Repair to Street Lights How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the speed of repair to street lights locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.7 Speed of Repair to Roads/Pavements How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the speed of repair to damaged roads and pavements locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.8 Quality of Repair to Roads & Pavements How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of repair to damaged roads & pavements locally?
This item has been skipped, [click here to unskip](#)

Fairly satisfied

6.9 Maintenance of Highway Verges How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the maintenance of highway verges, trees and shrubs locally?

Fairly satisfied

6.10 Weed Killing How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the weed killing on pavements and roads locally?

Fairly dissatisfied

6.11 Provision of Drains How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the provision of drains along the sides of roads locally where these are needed?

Fairly dissatisfied

6.12 Keeping Drains Clear and Working How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the keeping of drains clear and working locally?

Fairly dissatisfied

6a Potholes and Damaged Roads Still thinking about the local area, would you say that compared to a year ago there are more/fewer or no change to the number of potholes and damaged roads?

Fewer

Enforcement/Obstructions

Please select an answer

Very Satisfied Fairly Satisfied Neither/nor Fairly dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied Doesn't apply/Don't know

7.1 Potholes and Damaged Roads How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council deals with potholes and damaged roads?

Fairly satisfied

7.2 Obstructions on pavements How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council deals with obstructions on pavements?

Neither/nor

7.3 Keeps Roads Clear of Obstructions How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council keeps roads clear of obstructions such as skips/scaffolding etc.?

Fairly satisfied

7.4 Illegally Parked Cars How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council Deals with illegally parked cars?

Fairly dissatisfied

7.5 Cold Weather Gritting and Snow Clearance How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council undertakes cold weather gritting (salting) and snow clearance?

Fairly dissatisfied

7.6 Information on Cold Weather Gritting How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way the Council provides information to residents on cold weather gritting (salting) and snow clearance?

Fairly dissatisfied

7.7 Overgrown Hedges How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council cuts back overgrown hedges obstructing the highway or hiding road signage?

Fairly dissatisfied

7.8 Mud on Road How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council deals with mud on the road?

Doesn't apply

7.9 Abandoned Cars How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council deals with abandoned cars?

Don't know

7.10 Flooding How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how the Council Deals with flooding on roads and pavements?

Fairly dissatisfied

Issue: November 2014


 Leicestershire
County Council

Parish Clerks' Highways News

Welcome to the November edition of the Parish Clerks' Highways newsletter. We will use this newsletter to provide you with updates on highways maintenance, reporting defects and the Customer Service Centre.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Next year's grass cutting
- Highway maintenance funding spend
- Salt bin update
- Budget cuts in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)
- Winter preparedness
- Highway forums
- News for your Parish
- Useful contacts / Stay up to date

Next year's grass cutting

In the last newsletter, it was clarified that the Highways Management Group had asked all parish councils to express any interest that they may have in carrying out the urban grass cutting in their own area. This was on the basis that Leicestershire County Council was prepared to allocate to parish councils the same level of funding per cut that was provided to the outgoing Highway Works Alliance contractor (Lafarge Tarmac) for a minimum of five cuts per season.

Any parish council that was interested in this offer was at liberty to consider funding as many extra cuts as it wanted to undertake locally, above what will become the standard level of service for Leicestershire. In reality, not as many parish councils have chosen to enter more extensive discussions on this opportunity as expected.

The current situation regarding those parish councils that have indicated a desire to cut the grass, no desire to cut the grass and are still deliberating over the offer available is set out in the following table. **If Parish Clerks believe that the information set out in that table is incorrect, please contact Debbi Payne via email at parishgrass@lelcs.gov.uk by 30 November 2014.**

However, the point has now been reached at which the county council needs to determine how urban grass cutting will be undertaken in Leicestershire, other than where parish councils have stated their desire to cut the grass themselves. The contract with Lafarge Tarmac ended on 31 October 2014 and, as a consequence, a number of Lafarge Tarmac personnel transferred to the county council's employment.

The county council is now considering how best to deploy these new employees on general environmental maintenance during the rest of 2014/15 and for 2015/16 onwards. As many of them will have worked on the contract since it was established at the beginning of 2008, they have a lot of valuable local knowledge which the county council is keen to retain so as to ensure the best possible grass cutting service is available next year, albeit with fewer urban cuts.

However, with extra parish councils cutting urban grass in Leicestershire from 2015 onwards, the 2014 grass cutting routes will need to be considerably altered so the county council is now starting to reconfigure those routes to make best use of the resources available. Also, with the end of the Highway Works Alliance, much of the equipment used during the contract will be replaced, particularly to make sure the mowers can cut through much longer grass in urban locations than in the past.

	Yes	Still considering	No	
Charnwood	Hathern	Syston	Shepshed	Thurmaston
	Burton on the Wolds	Barrow	Woodhouse	Barkby Thorpe
	Wymeswold	Cossington	Newtown Linford	Barkby
	Thurcaston & Cropston	Ratcliffe on the Wreake	Anstey	East Goscote
	Sileby		Birstall	
	Mountsorrel			
	Rothley			
	Seagrave			
	Queniborough			
North West Leicestershire	Castle Donington	Hugglescote	Ellistown and Battleflat	Lockington & Hemington
	Breedon on the Hill	Swannington	Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	Long Whatton & Diseworth
		Heather	Ashby de la Zouch	Kegworth
			Whitwick	Belton
			Charley	
Melton	Clawson, Hose & Harby	Barkestone, Plungar & Redmile	Stathern	Kirby Bellars
	Knossington & Cold Overton	Broughton & Old Dalby	Sproxtton	Ab Kettleby
	Belvoir	Burton and Dalby	Garthorpe	Grimston
		Eaton	Freeby	Gaddesby
		Hoby with Rotherby		
Hinckley and Bosworth	Groby	Markfield	Barlestone	Cadeby
	Ratby		Newbold Verdon	Sutton Cheney
			Peckleton	Market Bosworth
Harborough	Lutterworth	Scraptoft	Billesdon	Fleckney
	South Kilworth	Thumby & Bushby	Kings Norton	Arnesby
	North Kilworth	Houghton on the Hill	Tugby & Keythorpe	Misterton with Walcote
	Husbands Bosworth	Kibworth Harcourt	Goadby	Catthorpe
	Tur Langton	Kibworth Beauchamp	Burton Overy	Dunton Bassett
	Stoughton	Claybrooke Magna	Nevill Holt	Lubenham
	Great Easton	East Norton	Drayton	Laughton
	Horninghold	Frolesworth	Bringham	
	Shearsby	Glen Parva		
		Gumley		
		Hallaton		
		Mowsley		
		Smeeton Westerby		

Please note: The above table does not include Blaby district or the parish councils within it as Blaby District Council has acted as a sub-contractor to Lafarge Tarmac and will continue to cut the grass in the Blaby district next year and in future years, as it has done since 2004.

Highway maintenance funding spend

As reported in the last newsletter, the National Highways and Transportation (NHT) survey provides independently collected public satisfaction data regarding the state of the roads in Leicestershire and the rest of the country. The results of the 2014 NHT survey are now beginning to emerge and, even though Leicestershire's ranking has fallen from 12th to 14th nationally out of the 78 local authorities assessed, it remains the top performing county council for 'condition of highways'. Interestingly, public satisfaction in the condition of Leicestershire's highways has risen for the first time in six years.

This may be due to quite a mild 2013/14 winter (as there was barely any snow about and the gritters went out 54 times), which has meant that we have seen fewer potholes appear than in the last few years. However, it probably also reflects the fact that central government decided that it would allocate an extra £168 million nationally to local authorities for highway maintenance.

Like every other highway authority, Leicestershire County Council had to submit a Pothole Fund Application Form, stating how it sets about maintaining the local highway network, who it works with to achieve this and how much it is participating in the national Highway Maintenance Efficiency Programme (otherwise known as HMEP). At the end of June 2014, the Department for Transport advised Leicestershire County Council that it was being allocated £2.639 million for 2014/15. This was a larger allocation than the council would ordinarily get if central government was apportioning funds in its usual manner – so this was an indication that the council's approach to maintenance and involvement in HMEP as set out in its submission was regarded positively by those allocating the pothole fund.

Whilst entitled as the pothole fund, the Department for Transport clarified in its award letter that it wanted the funds to be used to either permanently repair potholes or to prevent them from forming in the first place. As identified above, fewer potholes have appeared this year than last so the primary focus has been on preventative maintenance. The timing of the funding is not helpful in that the best time of year to be carrying out remedial works to the highway network is between March and October when there is less chance of adverse weather, when temperatures are higher (as that has a bearing on how long material placed in the road structure will last) and when salt is not laying on the road from our winter maintenance service.

Despite this, a considerable amount of effort has gone into adding highway resurfacing schemes to an already busy programme of work, the amount of patching work has significantly increased and there has been an injection of extra money into joint and crack sealing as well as the county council trialling microsurfacing.

Microsurfacing is a thinner overlay process than surface dressing but appropriate for culs-de-sac and other locations where power steering can otherwise pull apart freshly laid surface dressing. Both microsurfacing and surface dressing are key preventative maintenance techniques that basically seal the top surface of the road to eradicate water ingress (as this is what causes potholes to form) with the chippings providing improved grip and skid resistance – extending the life of the road by ten years at a time.

It is currently unclear what extra sporadic one-off funding central government may allocate in future years. All-Party Parliamentary Committees, local authorities, the Local Government Association, highway maintenance contractors and other related organisations have all been indicating to the government that uncertainty over funding levels for highway maintenance prevents robust decision-making over how to carry out highway maintenance and management.

However, central government currently seems intent on continuing to drastically local government's revenue budgets but offer additional one-off funding through a competitive (and therefore costly) process with no guarantee of success for bidders. Unfortunately, this means that the ability of the county council to maintain its highway network at the current standard in future years will be extremely difficult.

Salt bin update

- There are currently 708 salt bins which the county council have placed around the various parishes (see table below for split).

Blaby	20
Harborough	159
Hinckley & Bosworth	119
Charnwood	173
Melton	85
North West Leicestershire	130
Oadby & Wigston	22

- 17 new application requests were approved and new bins were being put in place during October (making a total of 725 salt bins)
- The majority of the existing 708 salt bins are currently full of a mix of untreated salt and grit. Any bins that are not full of salt will be filled with salt/grit mix during October/November
- Requests for salt bins to be re-filled can be made via the Customer Service Centre on 0116 305 0001 and will be re-filled when resources are available
- All salt bins remain in situ all year round
- The current Salt Bin Policy has recently been re-written and is awaiting formal approval. These proposed changes will come into effect for next year. This will provide an option to parish councils to provide, maintain and fill their own salt bins on public highway at locations those parish councils consider necessary but the county council believes are not essential and not meeting its criteria
- There are approximately 153 bins around the county which are non-LCC bins but, with the introduction of the new policy, there is every likelihood that this number will increase.

Budget cuts in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

During 2013, the county council undertook some wide-ranging public consultation to identify where residents and businesses in Leicestershire thought that there should be some budget reductions to achieve £110 million savings between 2013/14 and 2017/18. Highway maintenance and winter maintenance were two areas that the consultation suggested should be more heavily protected against budget cuts than other service areas like grass cutting and street lighting. The council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) therefore reflects this consultation response.

The revenue budget for highway maintenance in 2014/15 is £10.4 million. This sum covers the cost of road and footway defect repairs, drainage, illuminated signs, road markings, vehicle safety barriers, public rights of way, grass and hedge cutting, forestry, street lighting (and associated electrical energy costs) and winter maintenance. At the start of 2015/16, the revenue budget will reduce to £8.2 million and, by the start of the 2017/18 financial year (the last year of the current MTFS), it will fall to £5.4 million – i.e. almost **half** of what is available this year.

Achievement of these savings will be extremely challenging. There will be fewer urban grass cuts, a move towards energy-saving LED lights for street lighting, fewer illuminated signs, less improvements to the public rights of way network, less renewal of hedges and a greater shift to preventative maintenance. There is a programme of service reviews in place as well at the moment, looking to place even greater emphasis on optimised ways of working which, over the course of the MTFS, is expected to yield the necessary savings.

Each year, the county council receives a capital allocation associated with its Local Transport Plan (LTP), comprising two elements: structural maintenance and integrated transport. The structural maintenance element is used for major renewal of the highway infrastructure and covers the cost of resurfacing, reconstructing, major patching and surface dressing of roads and paths, bridge maintenance and street lighting improvement work. The integrated transport element is used for road safety, speed reduction and traffic management schemes, provision of facilities for cycling and buses and road improvement schemes.

Given that there is a duty to maintain the highway network but no such duty exists for improvements, it was considered that there should be a gradual migration of the integrated transport funding to increasingly cover the reductions in highway maintenance revenue budgets (i.e. the £5 million reduction referred to above). To illustrate this point, would you build a conservatory or extension to your house if the house itself was in disrepair or even falling down? However, central government has decided to reduce the county council's integrated transport allocation for 2015/16 to £2.73 million from a 2014/15 allocation of £4.93 million – a reduction of 45% - with that money being redirected as Local Growth Fund for major schemes identified in the Strategic Economic Plan – compiled locally by the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership. So the opportunity to plug the highway maintenance revenue gap with integrated transport funding (which will essentially be needed to match-fund the Local Growth Fund schemes) has virtually disappeared.

The removal of a substantial proportion of the integrated transport block in this way essentially means that, unless funded by new development and growth, road safety, speed reduction and traffic management schemes will be few and far between. It also means that, unless there is a significant injection of funding provided on a steady basis by government, the county council will be extremely hard-pressed to maintain the highway network in today's condition into the future.

If you wish to understand more about the council's overall financial situation, particularly for 2018/19, it is worth referring to the Cabinet report of 19 September 2014 which can be found at:

[http://politics.lelcs.gov.uk/Published/C00000135/M00004190/AI00038989/\\$4mtfsupdate.docA.ps.pdf](http://politics.lelcs.gov.uk/Published/C00000135/M00004190/AI00038989/$4mtfsupdate.docA.ps.pdf)

Winter preparedness

It may feel like we all have a while before winter fully takes hold but autumn is already upon us.

The county council has a website offering a user-friendly winter gritting map. It allows people to search by road, postcode and view types of road.

There is also a Get Ready for Winter website full of helpful advice about all winter weather-related matters. Highlights include:

- What we are doing to prepare
- A new myth-busting section
- Frequently asked questions
- Advice on clearing snow
- Tips on keeping warm and well and looking after neighbours and relatives

For more information, visit: www.leics.gov.uk/gritting or www.leics.gov.uk/winterweather

As last year was wet rather than icy, the county council gritters only had to treat the highway network 54 times last winter compared to the 99 treatments during the 2012/13 winter. This was equally reflected in the amount of treated salt that had to be spread on the roads – down from 19,700 tonnes in 2012/13 to 6,300 tonnes in 2013/14. It is difficult to predict what level of response will be required this winter, though, but the salt barns contain 18,500 tonnes of treated salt in readiness.

There was therefore no real cause to review the established 17 gritting routes that were in place in 2013/14 that comprise 45% of the overall highway network. However, there has been further consideration of the gritting routes with a particular emphasis given to the priority 3 routes (P3) which make up a further 30% of the network but are not shown on the aforementioned winter gritting map (as it would be difficult to clearly interpret). These P3 routes are now more clearly defined so that, in the event that snow does lie on the ground for any sustained periods of time in this or any future winters, there are clearly defined routes to be followed rather than trying to provide a haphazard coverage of roads on a list in any one area. Given that a number of the roads assigned P3 status are narrow and thus difficult to access by our large gritters, these are unlikely to form part of the defined P3 routes but would be treated in a different way.

All that aside, the county council is ready for winter!!

Highway forums

The next forums are:

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>
Charnwood	Committee Room 2 Committee Room 1 Committee Room 1	7 January (4:30pm) 2 June (4:30pm) 16 September (4:30pm)
Blaby	Council Chamber	12 January (4:30pm) 4 June (4:30pm) 22 September (4:30pm)
Hinckley & Bosworth	De Montfort Suite	19 January (4:30pm) 9 June (4:30pm) 29 September (4:30pm)
Oadby & Wigston	Council Chamber	27 January (2:00pm) 7 July (4:30pm) 15 October (4:30pm)
Melton	Council Chamber 1 Room TBC Room TBC	5 February (4:30pm) 15 July (4:30pm) 20 October (4:30pm)
North West Leics	Council Chamber	10 February (4:30pm) 21 July (4:30pm) 27 October (4:30pm)
Harborough	Council Chamber	5 March (time TBC) 28 July (time TBC) 3 November (time TBC)

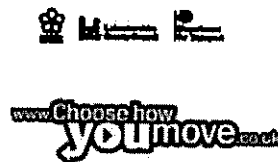
Please check the website for more information and for any changes to the dates of the meetings
www.leics.gov.uk/highwayforums

News for your parish

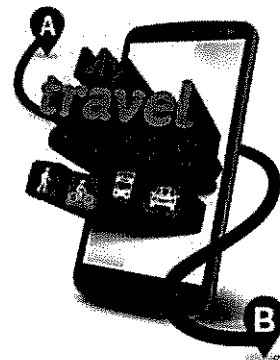
Travel made easy - plan your journey with our new website

The Choose How You Move website is now available to residents of Leicester and Leicestershire.

Why not make your journeys enjoyable, healthier and hassle-free? With the help of the Choose How You Move online journey planner, getting from A to B has never been easier. It identifies all available options, the best routes, shows the expected distance, approximate journey time and even a calorie counter.



Visit our website for travel information in Leicester and Leicestershire



It is also smartphone and tablet compatible making it easier for you to access your travel options whilst you're on the move.

Explore the possible options and see what a difference it could make to your travel around the county.

For more information, visit www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk and get planning today.

School Crossing Patrols

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS NEEDED NOW

Join us today www.leics.gov.uk/lollipop or call 0116 305 7233

Leicestershire County Council

The banner features a background of several 'STOP' signs with a pedestrian symbol in the center. The text is bold and clear, with the Leicestershire County Council logo on the right.

Tackle road safety head on and keep your communities safe. Vacancies are now available across Leicestershire for School Crossing Patrollers.

Leicestershire residents can increase their earnings by taking on a few extra hours a week to ensure the safety of children travelling to and from school in their local community.

Patrols will be provided with:

- Full training and uniform
- £6.44 per hour
- Paid school holidays

For more information and a list of vacancies available, visit: www.leics.gov.uk/lollipop or call the Road Safety Education Team on 0116 305 7233.

Composting at home

Take advantage of the low prices of home compost bins on offer to Leicestershire residents*.

They help you to:

- create free nutrient rich compost to help your plants and vegetables grow
- be more environmentally friendly by sending less food waste to landfill

The compost bins are available in two sizes and, if you buy one, you get a second half price**:

- 220 litre - costing £12.98
- 330 litre - costing £14.48



Delivery is £5.99 per order.

To place an order, visit: www.getcomposting.com or call 0844 571 4444.

For composting advice, visit: http://www.lesswaste.org.uk/index/composting/home_composting or email wasteprevention@leics.gov.uk

**Open to Leicester City and Leicestershire residents only*

***Offer is limited to 2 subsidised compost bins per household*

Contact Details

We would be pleased to hear your ideas for content in future newsletters. If you would like to make any suggestions, or have any questions relating to the stories in this edition please contact cscfloormanager@leics.gov.uk. The next issue will be distributed in February/March 2015

Customer Service Centre

- Phone: 0116 305 0001
- Email: highwayscustomerservices@leics.gov.uk
- Website: www.leics.gov.uk/highways or online via any web enabled mobile phone at <http://lookinglocal.gov.uk>

Quick Links:

www.leics.gov.uk/highwayforums

www.leics.gov.uk/highways

Follow us on Twitter [@LeicsCountyHall](https://twitter.com/LeicsCountyHall)

Get email updates – www.leics.gov.uk/future



BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

PLANS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 18th DECEMBER 2014

ANNUAL REPORT QUESTIONNAIRE – PROPOSED ACTIONS/RESPONSES TO SURVEY COMMENTS 2014

On 9th October 2014, Citizens' Advisory Panel considered the results of the Annual Survey 2014 and considered a response to the comments.

There were 23 responses and the following satisfaction results relate to areas for which the Plans & Environment Committee are responsible.

PLANS & ENVIRONMENT SERVICES	Very Satisfied %	Satisfied %	Dissatisfied %	Not aware of this service %	Do not this service
Street Seats and Notice Boards	13	52.2	21.7	4.3	4.3
Representation on Planning Applications	13	21.7	13	8.7	34.7

The following comments relate to areas for which the Plans & Environment Committee are responsible. The Committee is asked to consider and approve a proposed action/response.

The Community

Comment	Action/Response
It is ridiculous there is no footpath (the shortest route between two areas) from Mossdale Meadows to Aldi area of Thorpe Astley.	The Town Council seeks to promote long term sustainable transport options both in a local context and within the wider context of further development, e.g. Lubbesthorpe. Individual schemes need to provide both benefit to the local community and the wider area and need to be judged within the context of crime reduction as well as sustainable transport. Public footpaths are the responsibility of Leicestershire County Council. The Town Council is not in a position to fund the cost of providing this.
Need waste bins next to street seats, rubbish dropped nearby.	We will forward the comment to Blaby District Council.
Seats required at bus stops especially Henley Crescent.	The seats were removed to address anti-social behaviour issues and in a recent consultation there was general support for not replacing them.

Parks and Open Spaces

Comment	Action/Response
Holmfield Park - more litter picking and control of dogs needed, dog owners taking dogs into gated area, more Council staff needed to keep an eye on things.	Explore signage and preventative measures as part of the Holmfield Park Playground improvements. Work with local organisations and business to reduce litter in the area.

Consultation

Comment	Action/Response
No notice taken of local peoples comment when planning applications are going through.	We undertake to represent local people as much as possible and welcome their local knowledge and perspective in these matters, to assist Plans and Environment Committee meetings contain a Public Participation session. The Town Council, in submitting comments, particularly objections, and the District Council when determining applications, must base these purely on planning material considerations.
Planning applications - you have real powers to fight for local people.	

Town Council

Comment	Action/Response
Too much fly posting on the notice boards makes the official notices in-noticeable.	A notice setting out what the notice board can legitimately be used for to be developed and pinned to notice boards around the town. When official notices are put up, unofficial notices should be removed. Consideration to be given to the merits of using "closed" and "cancelled" stickers on unofficial notices.

Other Services

Comment	Action/Response
Recycling and general local amenities are very poor.	We will forward the comment on recycling to Blaby District Council. Concerning local amenities, the Town Council will consider where it can play a role in maintaining, promoting and improving these.
Lack of pavements and basic clearing.	Respondent commenting on question "What is your overall opinion of the performance and services provided by Braunstone Town Council". The respondent indicated "Dissatisfied". Unsure if there is a specific issue/area. Since the respondent was anonymous, it is not possible to seek further clarification.

BRAUNSTONE TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS REQUESTED FOR OPEN SPACE PROVISION
PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 2014

Application No.	Address of Application	No. of dwellings	Decision	Outcome
10/0986/1/PX	31 Fishpools	1	Withdrawn	
11/0731/1/PX	31 Fishpools	1 (attached dwelling)	Consultation closing date 27 th October 11	
11/0731/1/PX	31 Fishpools	1 (attached dwelling)	Amended plan received 24/01/12	Approved 18 th July 2012 Prior to first occupation of final dwelling (as yet development not completed)
10/0835/1/PX	32 The Glade	1	Approved	No s106 Agreement asked for by BDC as part of conditions. the applicant submitted a Unilateral Undertaking prior to the application being determined to provide an open space contribution of £3,896.88 prior to the first occupation of the new dwelling. Following meeting of 27/10/11 a letter was sent to BDC indicating that it should be noted as part of the planning application process that the contribution had been obtained and that the Town Council should have been consulted on the use of the monies within the area.
10/0811/1/PX	Adj 2 Fishpools	1	Refused	
11/0122/1/PX	Adj 2 Fishpools	1	Refused	
11/0668/1/PX	Adj 2 Fishpools	1 detached (revised scheme)	Approved 01/11/11	No s106 Agreement asked for by BDC as part of the conditions.
13/0303/1/PX	Adj 2 Fishpools	1 x 3 bedroom		BTC Requested £3,896.88 commuted sums – did not specify park in planning observations £3,896.88 received by Blaby District Council 27/8/13 IL met with BDC Mathew McConville 20/11/14 – provided with application form to submit a request for £3,896.88 towards Holmfield Park Project.
11/0135/1/PX	The Beeches	16	Approved	That the application be approved subject to a S106 Agreement requiring the applicant to provide 100% 'affordable housing'. Therefore no financial contribution made.

11/0125/1/PX	3&5 Cobbett Road	1	Withdrawn		
13/0281/1/PX	24 – 34 Evelyn Road.	Erection of 2 blocks each containing 4 one bedroom flats and associated parking and amenity space.	Refused		
14/0782	Land North of 68 Radford Drive	Erection of 4 bungalows with associated parking and amenity space (revised scheme).	Approved 3/11/14	As at 21 st November 14, £5,845.32 secured by bdc but will not be received prior to application. BTC cannot submit an application until after money received by BDC. Need to monitor progress of building works	
14/0783	Land North of 10 Radford Drive	Erection of 4 bungalows with associated parking and amenity space (revised scheme)	Approved 3/11/14	As at 21 st November 14, £5,845.32 secured by bdc but will not be received prior to application. BTC cannot submit an application until after money received by BDC. Need to monitor progress of building works	
13/0503	Land to south of Valley Drive	Erection of apartment building for provision of eight 1 and 2 bedroom flats,	Approved	BDC requested £15,387 from developer. Trigger point being at occupation of first dwelling. IL met with BDC Mathew McConville 20/11/14 who provided with some guarantee that he would support an application from the Town Council for the funding towards its parks (initially anticipated that Holmfield Park but subject to change) Need to monitor progress of development	

14/0810/1/PX	Land North of 8 Bidford Road	Erection of pair semi-detached dormer bungalows	As at 21/11/14 pending consideration	BTC observations 18/9/14 requested s106 contribution be sought – in minutes to be allocated to Shakespeare Park.
14/0823/1/PX	Land to East of 24-34 Evelyn Road	Erection of two pairs of semi-detached dormer Bungalows	As at 21/11/14 pending consideration	BTC observations 19/9/14 requested s106 contribution be sought – in minutes to be allocated to Holmfield Park.

PLANNING OBLIGATIONS AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

The Blaby District Local Development Framework PPG17 Study highlights gaps in access to Open Spaces / Children's Play Areas, etc in Braunstone Town.

In accordance with the above Policy the following planning obligations should be secured:-

(25 or more dwellings) Open Spaces must be provided on site in accordance with adopted policies.

OR

(1 – 24 dwellings) Braunstone Town Council formally requests the following financial contributions to improve and enhance existing Open spaces. (1 bed dwellings £1,461.33; 2 bed dwellings £2,435.55; 3 bed dwellings £3,896.88; 4 bed dwellings £4,871.10)

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

A previously boarded-up property in Braunstone Town that had once been a beacon for vandals, squatters and rats, has been brought back into use.

Blaby District Council sold 3 Narborough Road South to local developers Teresa and Nathan Evans. The couple who own Brown and Green Ltd have since refurbished the house and new tenants have moved in.

Teresa said: "We tend to look for properties that are a bit different and unusual, that have history and offer a challenge. This house certainly ticked all those boxes. We were aware it had been derelict for a long time, and were surprised that despite this the property was in a relatively good condition from a structural point of view.

"We had to use a flashlight to look round it as the house had been boarded up, and there were some rooms that we were unable to go into. Lots of it was untouched with old furniture and 1950s wallpaper, and we've managed to salvage some of the original features such as three of the fireplaces."

The house became the Council's property through the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order in June this year.

Cllr Guy Jackson, portfolio holder for Neighbourhood and Environmental Services at Blaby District Council, said: "This former eyesore was simply standing empty and was having a detrimental effect on residents. It's fantastic to see the property part of the community once again, and returned to a habitable condition."

Blaby District Council has a pot of funding available to bring empty properties back into use. The maximum amount of funding available per property is a grant or (0% interest) loan of up to £10,000 dependent on circumstances and subject to inspection by a council officer.

The funding is available to address disrepair issues and redecoration at the property, and bring the property up to a let-able standard.

For more information visit www.blaby.gov.uk/emptyhomes, email emptyhomes@blaby.gov.uk or call the grants and loans department on 0116 272 7536.

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