



Cllr Ben Taylor

## Fosse Highcross Ward Blaby District Councillors Monthly Report



Cllr Mike Shirley

**October 2023**

### **New business support service**



Businesses across Blaby District now have access to a new, funded, business support programme, the Leicestershire Business Advice Service.

The free support, from expert consultants Exemplas, will include everything from start-up workshops to accelerator programmes. One-to-one advice and more will be available to help businesses at all stages of their journey. Blaby District businesses will be able to access face-to-face appointments with advisors as well as a range of training workshops across Leicestershire. For more details visit: [Leicestershire Business Advice Service](#)

The service is a partnership between the seven District Councils in Leicestershire: Blaby District Council, Harborough District Council, North West Leicestershire District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council, Melton Borough Council and Charnwood Borough Council.

Each authority has funded the project through their allocation of the UK Shared Prosperity Funding. This project has received £83,478 from Blaby District Council.

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### Councillor Activities

During September there have been many training events and meetings attended by one or both of your councillors:

- HNRFI Member Reference Group – 4<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Scrutiny Work Programme – 5<sup>th</sup>
- Blaby District Parishes Group. Hosted by Sharnford Parish Council – 6<sup>th</sup>
- Planning Committee – 7<sup>th</sup>
- Sapcote Parish Council – 7<sup>th</sup>
- Sharnford Plant Show – 9<sup>th</sup>
- HNRFI Planning Inspectorate Preliminary Meeting 12<sup>th</sup>
- LCC Cycling Forum – 13<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Finance without numbers – 14<sup>th</sup>
- Review of Strategic Assets – 14<sup>th</sup>
- Chairman’s at Home Event – 15<sup>th</sup>
- Blaby District Council Cabinet – 18<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Planning Masterclass – Housing – 19<sup>th</sup>
- Sharnford Parish Council – 21<sup>st</sup>
- District Council Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup>
- Joint Consultative Committee Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup>
- Elmesthorpe Parish Council – 28<sup>th</sup>

During October the following training events and meetings will be attended by one or both of your councillors:

- Training – Introduction to Communication & social media – 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Training – Audit & Corporate Governance Committee Workshop – 4<sup>th</sup>
- Planning Committee – 5<sup>th</sup>
- Sapcote Parish Council – 5<sup>th</sup>
- Audit & Corporate Governance Interviews – 9<sup>th</sup>
- Audit & Corporate Governance Committee – 10<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Climate Change Masterclass – 12<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Domestic Abuse Awareness – 18<sup>th</sup>
- Sharnford Parish Council – 19<sup>th</sup>
- Training – Finance & Welfare – 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Training – Affordable Housing – 25<sup>th</sup>

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## News Release

- Big Community Switch – Do you want to go green and save money.
- Boosting the Economy in Blaby District.
- Blaby Village toilets set to open.
- Jobs Fair offers hundreds of work, training, and career opportunities.
- Solar Panel plan & EV Charging for Council Depot.
- Householders save with Solar Together scheme.

## HNRFI Update – Examination Begins & Leader & Portfolio Holder Call for the Application to be withdrawn



**Blaby District Council**  
the heart of Leicestershire

   
Cllr Terry Richardson Cllr Ben Taylor

**Question to the planning inspectorate at the Preliminary Meeting for HNRFI**  
Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023

As a District Council we have always been supportive of appropriate major development as illustrated by the new village being built at Lubbethorpe, the extension to Fosse retail park and the development of Everards Meadows amongst several others.

However, it is essential in such cases that:

1. The determining body have all the information on which to make such a decision.
2. As a democracy residents feel they have been able to make their voice heard after due consultation.

In this case it is clear that:

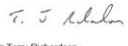

1. The highways information produced by the Applicant that is currently with Leicestershire County Council for consideration is currently incomplete, which means that the impacts of the scheme have not been properly considered and the mitigation required is unknown. I am more than happy to elaborate here on those elements which have not been met, however it must be noted that the County has unanimously and exceptionally passed two formal motions at full Council condemning the lack of the necessary information.
2. Even more importantly the parties who need to make appropriate representation especially ourselves as the Elected councillors and most importantly our residents and businesses must have time to consider such information as part of a thorough consultation. To do otherwise would be to condone a completely flawed consultation process.

In my opinion therefore you are only left with two options namely:

- For the examination not to be formally opened and not to proceed. However, if due to procedural considerations you do open the examination it should be immediately paused whilst the highways position is finalised and appropriate consultation takes place, or
- Request the applicant to withdraw the application until such time as it can be represented in the correct manner.

We are always asked in public life to consider under the Nolan principles how an ordinary person would view any process and on every level this process is incomplete and flawed and I would therefore urge you to request the applicant to withdraw this application.

Signed by the Leader of Blaby DC      Supported by the Planning Portfolio Holder

        
Cllr Terry Richardson      Cllr Ben Taylor

Address: C/O Blaby District Council, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicestershire, LE19 2EP

The Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange will remain in our monthly reports until the final decision is made by the Secretary of State

The Preliminary Meeting was held in public and concerned procedural matters only. Blaby District Council Officers along with the Leader Cllr Terry Richardson & Planning Portfolio Holder Cllr Ben Taylor attended the meeting, where the developers Tritax were criticised by the Planning Inspector for submitting lengthy documents the night before the meeting.

Actions arising from this meeting resulted in 49 points to be answered by the applicant, covering areas missed during the consultation period.

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The Procedural Decision, formally setting the timetable for the Examination including deadlines for receipt of detailed Written Representations and for comments on the Relevant Representations made by other Interested Parties, is detailed below:

Item	Matters	Date
1	Procedural Decision Deadline A	Tues 5 Sept 2023
2	Preliminary Meeting	Tues 12 Sept 2023
3	Issue Specific Hearing	Wed 13 Sept 2023
4	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing	Thur 14 Sept 2023
5	Issue of Examination Timetable	Done
6	Deadline 1 – Receipt of Written Representations etc	Tues 10 Oct 2023
7	Deadline 2 – Any further information required by Inspector	Tues 24 Oct 2023
8	Open Floor Hearing	Mon 30 Oct 2023
9	Issue Specific Hearing – Traffic and Transport	Tues 31 Oct 2023
10	Issue Specific Hearing – Environmental Matters	Wed 1 Nov 2023
11	Issue Specific Hearing – Need and Socio-Economic Matters	Wed 1 Nov 2023
12	Open Floor Hearing	Thur 2 Nov 2023
13	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing	Thur 2 Nov 2023
14	Issue Specific Hearing	Fri 3 Nov 2023
15	Procedural Deadline B – details of Accompanied Site Insp.	Tues 8 Nov 2023
16	Deadline 3 – Updated Statements of Common Ground etc	Tues 14 Nov 2023
17	Accompanied Site Inspections	Wed 15 Nov 2023
18	Publication of Written Questions	Tues 28 Nov 2023
19	Dates reserved for various Hearings	W/B 11 Dec 2023
20	Deadline 4 – Post-hearing submissions	Tues 9 Jan 2024
21	Publication by Inspector – Further written questions etc	Fri 19 Jan 2024
22	Deadline 5 – Comments on any additional submissions etc	Fri 9 Feb 2024
23	Deadline 6 – Further comments	Tues 20 Feb 2024
24	Deadline 7 – Final documents	Tues 27 Feb 2024
25	Deadline 8 – Completed Planning Obligations Section 106	Fri 8 Mar 2024
26	Completion of Examination by end of 6 months	Tues 12 Mar 2024

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### **Cost-of-Living Information Event**

Blaby District Council is running a series of drop-in events to help residents find support with the cost-of-living crisis. The events will give residents an opportunity to speak face to face with council staff and staff from other organisations who can help with problems including benefits, housing, debt, and food support. The events are drop-in sessions, so no appointment needed, and they are open to all residents across the district. Tea and coffee will be provided. Agencies will bring along a range of free merchandise

Date	Venue	Time
Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Sapcote Pavilion, Sapcote, LE9 4NS	12pm to 2pm
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Whetstone Memorial Hall, High St, Whetstone, LE8 6JE	12pm to 2pm
Thur 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Enderby Civic Centre, King St, Enderby, LE19 4NT	12pm to 2pm

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### Campaigning for Fosse Highcross

With support from our local MP Alberto Costa & County Councillor Maggie Wright, we have continued to campaign across the District Ward on local matters, including the HNRFI.



Please keep in contact with us if any local issues arise.

We are here for you and will work hard for the area we represent.

Our joint social media accounts are the best way to keep up to date with the work we're doing across the ward.

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We are also looking to run a Councillor surgery in the near future.



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### **Major Planning Applications**

**22/01037/OUT** – H&BBC - Erection of 343 homes, Jelson Homes, Aston Flamville Road, Burbage  
This application was refused by H&BBC and a new application submitted in August 2023.  
Jelson Homes have now appealed to the Planning Inspectorate for the first application.

**23/0514/FUL** – Change of use from C3 (Dwelling House) to C2 (Residential Institutions) to allow use as a Children’s Home. Thorpe Astley, Braunstone Town.

#### **APPLICATION REFUSED**

**23/0546/FUL** – Erection of Industrial/Warehouse Building (Class E(g)iii/B2/B8) with Ancillary offices, Plot 20 Optimus Point, Glenfield.

#### **APPLICATION APPROVED**

**23/0560/FUL** – Extension to existing car park to create 50 additional car parking spaces.  
Enderby Leisure Centre, Enderby

#### **APPLICATION APPROVED**

### **Local Planning Applications**

23/0439/VAR – Add Garden rooms to plots 4, 5, 6.  
Church Farm, Station Road, Elmesthorpe.

23/0699/FUL – Construction of new replacement dwelling and demolition of existing dwelling.  
Mill Bank House, Leicester Road, Sapcote

23/0742/FUL – Change of use of garage to Residential Annex.  
Stanley House, Leicester Road, Sapcote

23/0786/HH – Single storey rear extension.  
55 Harecroft Crescent, Sapcote

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