



TO COUNCILLOR:

G S Atwal
E R Barr
L A Bentley
Miss A R Bond
G A Boulter
J W Boyce
Mrs L M Broadley
F S Broadley
D M Carter (Deputy Mayor)

Mrs K M Chalk
Miss M V Chamberlain
M H Charlesworth
M L Darr
B Dave
R F Eaton
Mrs L Eaton
R E Fahey
D A Gamble

Mrs S Z Haq (Mayor)
J Kaufman
Dr T K Khong
Mrs H E Loydall
K J Loydall
Mrs S B Morris
R E R Morris
R H Thakor

Dear Councillor *et al*

I hereby **SUMMON** you to attend an **EXTRAORDINARY** meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held at the **COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON** on **THURSDAY, 6 JULY 2017** at **7.00 PM** for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Council Offices
Wigston
06 July 2017

Mark Hall
Chief Executive

<u>ITEM NO.</u>	<u>AGENDA UPDATE</u>	<u>PAGE NO'S</u>
4.	Budget Options 2018/19 and 2019/2020	
	Report of the Interim Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer.	
a)	Part I - Open Session (Additional Option Papers)	1 - 6

For more information, please contact:

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Council (Extraordinary)
Thursday, 6 July 2017

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Additional Paper for 6th July 2017

Potential to review the Council's Grounds Maintenance and Parks & Open Spaces Service

Potential Implementation 2018

Potential Savings £50,000+

1. Present Situation

The Council owns, manages and maintains 13 parks covering over 33 hectares of land, the full list including facilities is attached. This is in addition to Brocks Hill Country Park which covers 30 hectares and its facilities are summarised and set out below. The Council is also responsible for maintaining 38 open spaces across the borough, a list of which is attached. These parcels of land have come into the Council's ownership over many years and through many differing arrangements and sources.

2. Brocks Hill Country Park – Summary

Facilities

- Amphitheatre,
- Two children's play areas, with a variety of play equipment
- Two ponds
- Orienteering course
- Human Sun Dial
- Den building area
- A range of sculptures across the country park

Activities:

- Butterfly /Bat walks
- Pond dipping
- Bees, Butterflies and moth surveys
- Nature walks

Users include:

- Specific groups: – Buggy Fit, Tai Chi group, Little larks, nursery groups, play schools, private dog walking companies, school self-led trips
- Local Residents and visitors to the area: - Adults and children, dog walkers, Volunteers, Family picnics

Maintenance:

Maintenance of the park is mainly the responsibility of the Park Warden (salary £29k, this includes on-costs) although some of the Park Warden's time is spent at other green and open sites across the borough e.g. Fludes Lane and Pochin's Bridge. The Park Warden's work includes implementing the Country Park management plan including Meadow Management, Conservation and Biodiversity work.

There is also support from the Depot Ground Maintenance team at Brocks Hill for larger mowing and strimming work (calculates to approx. £4,500pa)

Volunteering hours at Brocks Hill

It is worth noting that last year the total volunteering hours given to Brocks Hill was over 3,500. If paid at £8 per hour this equates to £28,000, not to mention the social and mental health benefits gained by the participants from volunteering in their community.

General maintenance for the play equipment (inspections, replacements, upgrades)

This equates to around £2,000 p.a. A substantial amount of money is needed to ensure the play equipment meets appropriate H&S standards

3. Total Grounds Maintenance Resources

Staffing

The Council employs a total of ten staff on its Grounds

Vehicles

The Grounds team use the following vehicles:

1 Fiat Ducato low bed

1 Transit tipper

1 Holland tractor

1 small McCormick Tractor

1 sit on mower

4. Options

The total cost of the Grounds Maintenance service is £339,000 per year and the Council spends approximately £3,500 per year of revenue expenditure on maintaining equipment in the parks.

It is estimated that approximately £50,000+ per annum could be saved if members were for example to agree to more infrequent cuts.

South Wigston		
William Gunning Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 play areas 	1.84 ha
Blaby Road Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 football pitches • 3 play areas • 1 multi activity court • 1 bowls green • 1 skateboard/BMX area • 1 pavilion with changing facilities for bowlers / footballers and a small community room 	5.66 ha
Wigston		
Willow Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 football pitch • 2 play areas • 1 tennis court • 1 multi activity court • 1 skateboard area • 1 small pavilion with changing rooms and a toilet 	5.49 ha
Peace Memorial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 tennis court • 1 multi activity court • 1 bowls green • 1 pavilion with meeting room, changing facilities for bowlers, toilets and kitchen 	0.99 ha
Horsewell Lane Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 football pitches • 1 play area • 1 pavilion with large hall, toilets, kitchen and changing rooms (no showers) 	3.46 ha
Hayes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 play area • 1 football goal with basketball hoop 	0.95 ha
Freer Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 play areas • 1 basketball hoop • 1 football goal 	1.25 ha
Oadby		
Coombe Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 football pitches • 1 play area • 1 pavilion with changing rooms and showers, toilets, small community room and kitchen 	5.67 ha
Ellis Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 play area • 1 basketball hoop • 3 tennis courts • 1 bowls green • 1 bowls pavilion with changing rooms, community room and kitchen 	1.20 ha
Uplands Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 football pitches • 2 cricket squares • 2 play areas • 1 adult fitness area 	6.10 ha

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 multi activity court with basketball nets • 1 pavilion with changing rooms and showers, toilets, small community room and small kitchen 	
Rosemead Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 play area • 1 football goal 	0.57 ha
Iliffe Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 play area 	0.25 ha
The Morwoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 play area 	0.13 ha

Open Spaces

Poachers Place	Bull Head St
Raine Way	Ellison Close
Rosedale	Florence Wragg Way
Severn Rd	Grassington Drive
Taylor Bridge	Hamble Road
Tyndale Close	Harcourt Rd/Wistow Road
Ulleswater	Hayden Walk
Wheeldale/Staindale	Herrick Way
Windrush Drive	Hill Field
Two Steeples	Kelmarsh Ave
Cleveland Rd	Launceston Rd Corner
Attenborough Close	Lime Kilns/Heards Close
5-15 London Rd	Mablowe Fields
Acorn Way	Meadows
Aintree Crescent	Meres Walk
Amesbury Road	Mount Pleasant
Berkley Close	Narrow Boat Close
Bodmin Ave	Newton Lane
Brooksby Drive	Pochins Bridge

Additional Paper for 6th July 2017

Potential to review Statutory Street Cleaning Services

Potential Implementation from 2018

Potential savings are very limited

1. Present Situation

Street Cleaning comes under s89(1) of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990.

The EPA imposes a duty on certain bodies including educational institutions, local authorities and the Secretary of State for Transport to ensure that the land under their control is, so far as is practicable, kept clear of litter and refuse.

The Council therefore has a statutory responsibility to do this. It assess the success of this by monitoring its own performance graded A downwards against the now removed National Indicator 195. The Council has set itself a target of B+ and performs at B. The Council receives very few complaints regarding the standard of street cleanliness.

The Council's street cleaning team consists of eleven members of staff including the three dedicated town centre staff. The team use one road sweeper, one footway sweeper and one alleyway sweeper together with three pickup trucks, 1 small RVC a transit pick up and 1 van.

2. Options

The services is continually reviewed and reorganised operationally in order to reduce costs without compromising cleanliness standards so there is very limited scope to reduce the service further. The total cost of service is approximately £450,000 per year.