



**Policy, Finance and
Development
Committee**

**Tuesday, 29 March
2016**

**Matter for Information
and Decision**

Title: Update On Open Spaces and Land Matters Across the Borough

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1. Introduction

This report updates Members on the position with some ongoing matters relating to Open Spaces and other areas of land across the Borough.

2. Recommendations

That Members:

- 2.1.** Note the completion of the adoption of the open space play area at Florence Wragg way, Oadby as shown on the attached appendix A and the adoption of a further piece of open space at Hill Field, Oadby as shown on the attached appendix B.
- 2.2.** Note the position with the sale of the Sports Ground at Leicester Road, Countesthorpe to Blaby District Council.
- 2.3.** Note the receipt of £15,000 for the grant of rights of access over the Council owned access strip as shown on the attached appendix C for the construction and ongoing operation of the Solar Farm at Leicester Road, Countesthorpe.

3. Information

3.1. Open spaces at Florence Wragg Way and Hill Field, Oadby

Further to the report to this Committee on 27 October 2015, the transfer by way of gift from the developer to the Council has been completed. Earlier in July last year it was identified through the updating of the Council's land ownership records that this area of land, which the Council maintains together with the play area within it had not been formally transferred into the Council's ownership, following completion of the housing development some years ago.

As the above transfer was underway, a further small area of public open space in the centre of the housing development at Hill Field, Oadby, (within a very short distance of the above) was identified as an area to be maintained by the Council for consistency of maintenance. The developer, David Wilson Homes has agreed to gift the piece of land to the Council.

3.2. Sports Ground, Leicester Road, Countesthorpe

The transfer of this land to Blaby District Council as previously approved by this Committee will be completed in the next few weeks. The transfer is in the sum of £200,000 with an overage provision included within the contract that the Council receives 50% of the development value should the land be developed during the next

50 years.

3.3. Grant of Rights of Access to Land at Leicester Road, Countesthorpe at the rear of the Archery Field

The area of privately owned land at the rear of the Archery Field and adjacent to the above Sports Ground on Leicester Road, Countesthorpe is being developed as a Solar Farm, following the grant of planning permission in November 2015. The access strip off Leicester Road is within the Council's ownership, a Deed of Grant of Rights to the developer has been entered into for site access for the construction and maintenance of the Solar Farm for the sum of £15,000.

Background Documents:-

Report to Policy, Finance and Development Committee of 22 July 2014

Report to Policy, Finance and Development Committee of 27 October 2015

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Implications	
Financial (CR)	The revenue costs of ongoing maintenance are already included in the General Fund budget.
Legal (AC)	No significant implications.
Risk (AC)	CR5 - Effective utilisation of assets.
Equalities (AC)	No significant implications.