



The Parish Pen



The official newsletter of Glenfield Parish Council
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Welcome to the latest edition of the Parish Pen, the newsletter of your Parish Council. This newsletter is independent of the Glenfield Gazette and its editorial comments. I would like to thank all those involved in the judging of this year's Glorious Glenfield Garden Competition and congratulate all of the winners and those who received commended or highly commended certificates.

Tony Greenwood, Chairman

Glorious Glenfield



The 2006 Parish Council sponsored garden competition has taken place, with awards being made during the Glenfield Gardeners' Association Annual Show.

Judging in 2006 was completed during July and early August utilising a completely different set of judges to those of previous years. Interestingly, three of the four



awards were repeats of previous winners so congratulations to them for their continued success and, of course, to the new winner. However, as we all strive to make Glenfield a more attractive place

to live and visit, we encourage other gardeners to take up the cudgel and challenge these winners in future years. Remember, gardens of all sizes are considered within four different categories, from those with only baskets and troughs through to the show gardens. We especially challenge the businesses in Glenfield to get involved and to provide a brighter outlook to the front of their properties.



Sports and Leisure Development

For over 20 years the Parish Council has been trying to obtain more land for sport and recreation and the present members are making fresh efforts. The village is

dramatically under provided in the area of sports and leisure. The Parish Council has approached the owners of two parcels of land but as yet has been unable to make any progress so we are carrying out an exercise to maximise the public benefit of lands that we already own.

We are to do some landscaping to improve part of the area along Rothley Brook and are to have assessments carried out to see whether parts of the sports ground and Ellis Park could be levelled to allow us to make more use of them.

The Parish Council would have liked to restore the remaining nine acres of our original sports ground on the A50 to allow at least one sports pitch to be created. It is estimated the pitch alone would cost about £15,000 but it would not be acceptable to any league sides, as it would be too far from our changing and toilet facilities. We have, therefore, decided to clear the weeds and have the site levelled and to create a series of nature walks by planting small pockets of native trees interspersed with wildflowers. The project will help preserve the green wedge, and thus Glenfield's identity, and provide an area for casual recreation.

Although various names have been suggested for this new facility we have decided to run a competition and you are invited to make your thoughts known. The winner will be invited to plant a symbolic tree on the site to mark the development. If more than one person suggests the same name then a winner will be drawn from a hat. To date we have had Millennium Meadows and Branting Meadows suggested.

Entries, together with your name, address and contact telephone number, should be sent to the Parish Council's office before 31 December 2006. A form is at the end of this newsletter to assist you.

Glenwatch goes Mobile

Glenwatch, which is sponsored by the Parish Council, has a new administrator, Helen McAdam, and we congratulate her on her appointment. Helen can be contacted on Glenwatch's new number - 07926194396.

Hedges

Following a series of complaints we ask all residents to ensure that boundary hedges and weeping trees on their property do not obstruct footpaths. Passers by should not have to step out into the road to get past. Disabled persons should be considered, especially those who have to use a wheelchair and those with sight difficulties.

Please pop outside and have a look to make sure footpaths next to your property are clear.

Buses and Bus Stops

The ever declining bus services in Glenfield were further attacked recently when proposals were made for the movement of a bus stop next to the Millennium Green. The new location was to be the Groby side of the road between the A46/A50 island and the bridge over the A46 towards Groby.

The proposed changes would have meant that users of the bus services in the Branting Hill area of Glenfield would have had to cross the busy road in order to catch a bus into Leicester and anyone coming into this area of Glenfield from Groby or beyond would also have to bear the same risk.

However, following a site meeting with the Arriva bus company, with members of the Parish and District Councils present together with officers of the Parish and County Council, vociferously supported by local residents, Arriva conceded that the existing location of the bus stop would remain. Virtually all those present felt the existing location was the safest location and the proposed savings in the buses not having to go around the Millennium Green could not be justified against the high risk of pedestrians of all ages crossing the main road.



Parish Councillor Elections

May 2007 will see the end of the current council and elections will be held to create the next council, which has a four year term.

The 2007 elections will be different to all previous elections in as much that Glenfield has been broken down into six parish wards, as opposed to the existing three wards. Elected councillors will represent one of these wards and thus they should be closer to their immediate electorate.

Being a councillor allows a person to represent the feelings of the residents and help to shape the future of Glenfield. Full council meets monthly, normally the 3rd Monday of each month, and councillors are encouraged to join one of the two committees, who meet about eight

times per year. Meetings last from thirty minutes up to about one and a half hours and it is during these meetings that decisions are made that affect the whole of Glenfield. Whilst working within a given framework meetings are light hearted and often a high level of banter can be heard.

To encourage new membership, the Parish Council will, during the autumn, be placing a display in the Glenfield Library to provide details about the Parish Council and its activities.

We thank the library for its support in this objective.

Citizens' Advice Bureau



The outreach centre at Park House, Glenfield has changed its operating times and is no longer a drop-in centre.

The centre is now run with an appointment system, being open alternate Mondays between the hours of 9:30 am and 1:30 pm. If you require an

appointment then please call Leicester 2312498, the Parish Council's office.

A drop-in session is still available at the Blaby Service Shop, 10 Forge Corner, Blaby on Tuesdays between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. There is also an advice line, 0870 1202432, on Tuesdays from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm and Thursdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

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Glenfield Recreation Area Competition

The name of the new area should be:

From: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Telephone No. _____

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Entries should be sent to the Parish Council offices at the address at the head of this newsletter to arrive on or before 31 December 2006.

The decision of the Parish Council in relation to this competition is final.