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| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Blaby District Council graphic "Your Blaby District. The latest news from your District Council" | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In this issue... | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | * Plant a tree! Boost biodiversity * Cheaper EV charging * Latest hygiene ratings * Rail hub final objections * Wildlife walk path improvements | | |  | | --- | | * Successful prosecution * Celebrating Cosby Yarn Bomb * May election news * Fundraising fashion show * Be a litter picker! | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🌳 Big tree giveaway** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Crab apple tree | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Schools, community groups and Parish Councils are being invited to boost their biodiversity as part of this year's Blaby District Council Big Tree Giveaway.  Using funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, we're offering organisations the chance to create a small woodland area or orchard by providing ten to 15 trees free of charge.     There's a variety of trees on offer in a selection of sizes to suit the space organisations may have available. Groups can choose their favourite species from fruit trees to native species such as oak, birch or hazel.  By creating a small woodland or orchard people can contribute towards combating  climate change, encourage wildlife and improve local habitats as well as provide a natural haven everyone can enjoy.  Letters detailing the giveaway and inviting organisations to take part will be going out from Monday 8 April with responses requested by Friday 24 May.  Organisations can email [climate.change@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:Climate.Change@Blaby.gov.uk )to express interest in the scheme, stating tree preference and brief outlines of the proposed planting project.  Requested trees are expected to be provided in October. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **⚡ EV charging at District car parks gets cheaper** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | EV chargers | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | There's good news if you have an electric car and use the charging points at public car parks run by Blaby District Council.  Blink Charging UK, the company providing the charging stations, have cut their tariffs from 69p to 54p per kWh which means it will be cheaper for you to charge your electric vehicle.  The new lower tariffs apply at the car parks on Weavers Court at Desford Road in Narborough, Johns Court at St Johns in Blaby, Enderby Road at Villers Court in Blaby and Leicester Road in Narborough.  Don't forget normal parking charges still apply. For more information on car parks use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Car parking**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=b8668ec384&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🍔 Check out who is meeting hygiene standards** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Food hygiene rating sign | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Here are some of the latest hygiene ratings from our inspectors in the environmental health department:  **Rated 5 - Hygiene standards are very good**   * Sasha's Savoury Pantry, Huncote * JJ's Cafe, 21 Sycamore Street, Blaby * Ayston Road Store Limited, 10 Ayston Road, Braunstone Town * H Coleburne Catering, Sports Pavilion, Carey Hill Road, Stoney Stanton * The Cafe at Sapcote Garden Centre, Hinckley Road * The Star Inn, 15 New Road, Stoney Stanton   For more information on hygiene standards and ratings use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Food Standards Agency**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=12f1a4d6bf&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🚆 Final objections to HNRFI** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Freight containers | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Blaby District Council has submitted its final objections to the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange as the Planning Inspectorate’s examination of the plans comes to an end.  The summary repeats fears the 662-acre hub would destroy vast swathes of the District and have far-reaching adverse affects on highways, as well as negative environmental and social impacts.  The scheme is being proposed by developers Tritax Symmetry and would sit south-west of Elmesthorpe between the M69 and the Birmingham to Leicester rail line. The scheme is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project so the final decision on approval or rejection lies with the Secretary of State for Transport.  As a consultee in the planning process the Council must now await this decision, expected in the autumn.    To read more visit: [Final objections on rail freight hub](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=c861354916&e=8744b8a0f2)  For more information on the HNRFI use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**HNRFI**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=22b7381e20&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🍂 Whistle Way improvements** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Whistle Way before and after | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Walkers using the Whistle Way green wildlife corridor will find their ramble much more enjoyable following major pathway improvement works.  Whistle Way follows the line of a former mineral railway which used to haul granite from the quarry at Enderby. It offers a linear route of just over 1.5 miles, separating the urban and rural landscape and linking Narborough and Enderby.  The popularity of the route led to parts of it becoming muddy and impassable, so after funding became available Blaby District Council launched a project to upgrade the footpath.  Work to renew the worst section from Seine Lane, Enderby through to Forest Road, Narborough, started in February and is now complete. The project has already received lots of positive feedback from people who use the route.  For more information on Whistle Way use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Whistle Way**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=908f5dd466&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **⚖️ Environmental Health prosecution** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Leicester Magistrates' Court | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Blaby District Council has prosecuted a Leicester car owner who snubbed an interview to determine why his vehicle was spotted at the site of a fly-tip.  Peter Geary, from Aylestone Road, Leicester, pleaded guilty to failing to comply with a Section 108 Notice served by the Council, when he appeared at Leicester Magistrates’ Court. A Section 108 Notice is served by a local authority when it requires someone to answer questions in response to a suspected environmental crime.  Magistrates heard that in November 2022 Blaby District Council received a report that a VW Touran people-carrier had been seen on Hill Lane, Countesthorpe around the time of a fly-tipping incident.  Environmental Health officers invited Geary to a meeting to explain why the car was in the area at that particular time after tracing him as the registered keeper of the MPV.  When he failed to turn up at the meeting he was sent a Section 108 Notice to attend another interview, scheduled for 16 January 2023. Geary again failed to attend and made no contact to explain why.  Prosecution proceedings were begun and when Geary appeared at court he was fined £200 and ordered to pay costs of £400 with a victim surcharge of £80.  Councillor Les Phillimore, Blaby District Council Portfolio Holder for Housing, Community and Environmental Services, said: “Fly-tipping is a scourge on the environment and if one is reported to us we will investigate. Under a Section 108 Notice people are obliged to assist us in our investigations. If people do not assist us then we have powers to prosecute and we will do so.” | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🙌 Celebrating communities in tourism** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Alberto Costa visiting with Cosby Yarn Bombers | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Alberto Costa, our South Leicestershire MP, met with creative crafters in Cosby to check on their work to drive tourism as well as support people’s wellbeing.  He was invited through Visit Blaby and its Tourism Partnership, an initiative which aims to put District attractions on the map, as part of English Tourism Week (15-24 March). This year the week was all about celebrating the part community plays in boosting visitor numbers.  Starting off as a voluntary venture to adorn the small village of Cosby with fantastic crocheted and knitted installations, the Cosby Yarn Bomb has become a ‘must see’ local attraction.  Now it also feeds into wider District life following the creation of not-for-profit organisation Gather, Create, Grow, with members attending various community sessions aimed at improving mental health and welfare.    To read more use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Tourism celebration**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=8df8559f06&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🗳️ Elections are coming** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Polling station sign | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Polling cards are being issued across Blaby District for the upcoming Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) election which takes place on Thursday 2 May.  Official notice of the election has been given and nominations for candidates are now open until Friday 5 April. Visit [Police and Crime Commissioner elections 2024](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=8c0f09c2aa&e=8744b8a0f2) for more information.  You will need to be registered to vote to cast your ballot in the election, just like any other. If you are not registered it takes minutes to sign up here: [Register to vote](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=ebd9a8e29e&e=8744b8a0f2) The deadline to register is midnight on Tuesday 16 April.  You can also apply for a postal vote if you won't be able to get to a polling station on Thursday 2 May. For more information and to apply visit: [Postal voting](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=a3184bda0b&e=8744b8a0f2)  Remember you also now need a form of approved photo ID to vote in person at an election. For more details visit: [Voter ID](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=5bab43d349&e=8744b8a0f2)  We'll continue to share more details on the election over the next few weeks. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🛍️ Fundraising fashion show** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Fashion rail | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Join us for an evening of fun, fashion and shopping to raise funds for Leicester Animal Aid, the chosen charity of Blaby District Council Chair, Councillor Cheryl Cashmore.  The event takes place on Thursday 11 April from 7.30pm at the Council offices on Desford Road, Narborough.  There will be a catwalk showcase with the chance to buy items shown as well as a range of other outfits on sale with up to 75% off.  Some of the top brands featured will be Zara, Next, New Look, River Island, M&S and ASOS.  The event is being organised in partnership with SOS Charity Fashion Shows and tickets are £10. Book yours by emailing [civics@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:civics@blaby.gov.uk.) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **🚮  Let's keep the District tidy - why not be a litter picker!** | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Leicester Forest East litter pick | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | There's still time to get involved in the annual Great British Spring Clean (Friday 15 March to Sunday 31 March) and help keep Blaby District tidy!  Recently residents and members of Leicester Forest East Parish Council did their bit with a group litter pick, clearing bagfuls of rubbish from the local area.  Elsewhere in the District the enthusiastic volunteers who are part of the South Leicestershire Litter Wombles regularly carry out rubbish sweeps - but anyone can join in.  The [Great British Spring Clean](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=afc975f02e&e=8744b8a0f2) is a fantastic platform to get involved. Millions of tonnes of litter are dropped every year, costing the public purse more than £1 billion annually to clear up.  Last year the campaign saw more than 400,000 bags of litter collected and as the organiser, Keep Britain Tidy, is celebrating its platinum anniversary, there's no better time to get out there!   Blaby District Council can help any enthusiastic would-be litter-pickers with equipment and the pick-up of bagged litter. For more information use the link below: | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Litter picking**](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=ed8cff1bd4&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Bulky waste collection banner](https://blaby.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e14d20362ed3822be5be4ef96&id=b7a52be77e&e=8744b8a0f2) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Blaby District Council graphic "A great place to live, work and visit" | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | |
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