

# **County Councillors Report.**

## **Groby Flood Alleviation Project**

I attended a Progress Meeting with Severn Trent's Project Manager, County Council Drainage Engineer and local residents on 27th April.

I am pleased to report that the project has moved another step forward since my previous article in April when the tree removal was completed. Severn Trent have now produced a Biodiversity Enhancement Plan showing the type and siting of replacement trees and reinstatement proposals following the completion of construction work.

Funding has been approved and released to cover the cost of diverting gas mains on Leicester Road and Ratby Road. I am waiting to receive the start date. These diversions will have to take place before Severn Trent can commence their work to improve their surface water and foul water sewers.

Severn Trent have invited quotations from contractors to carry out the construction work. Quotations will be returned during week commencing 22nd May. This will allow them to put forward their Business Case for the main works and then seek approval for the rest of the Project Budget.

This has been a challenge and I thank the residents for their support. I am pleased to say, we are finally moving forward.

Severn Trent are providing monthly updates to members of the Progress Meeting that will allow me to keep you in the picture through future articles in the Spotlight.

## **Groby Borough Council and Parish Council Elections.**

I would like to offer my congratulations to both Martin and Ted on their success in the Borough Council elections. I would also like to offer my congratulations to all the successful candidates in the recent Parish Council elections.

## **26 Arriva Bus Service Through Groby.**

I reported in last months article that the 26 Arriva bus service would no longer run around Stephenson Way, Lawnwood Road, Woodbank Road and would run directly along Ratby Road from the 16<sup>th</sup> April. Although I argued that it would have a major impact on the elderly and disabled residents on that route, Arriva continued with their plans and rerouted the service. This a commercial service

and they said it was needed to save time on the route. I am very unhappy with the decision and I have written to their commercial director on behalf of residents.

## **Text Message Scams. How to Spot a Text Message Scam.**

Messaging scams can be very convincing, so it's important to know what to watch out for to stay ahead of the fraudsters.

Scammers are increasingly taking advantage of smartphones and are getting very clever with how they try to take your hard-earned money. Research found that **text scams have boomed** as consumers have become increasingly reliant on deliveries during the pandemic. Scammers use many different types of messaging systems and apps, like SMS, WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, Viber, Skype, Google Hangouts, Snapchat and other messaging platforms to try scam you out of your money. By using identity masking technology to change the name displayed as the sender, scammers often make it look like a legitimate organisation is contacting you via text or a messaging app. This is known as 'number spoofing'. If you get sent a scam message, it's important you don't respond to it and report it so others don't fall victim. Reporting a scam message is free and it will help stop the spread of these messages

### **FluBot' malware scam delivery message**

Watch out for scam delivery messages containing dangerous 'FluBot' malware.

Known to affect Android devices, these messages have been found to contain a dodgy link to download an app that can infect your phone with malware. The malware can harvest passwords and other personal information, it also accesses contacts to send out further messages.

**Always be wary of unsolicited texts, and think twice before you click on a link.** If you think you've received a genuine delivery message, but you're not certain, then contact the delivery company's official customer service helpline to verify the message.

If you've received a similar message and you think it's a scam you can simply delete it. If you'd like to report it then you can do so by forwarding the message to 7726 - a free reporting service provided by phone operators.

If you've received this message and you've already downloaded the infected app then follow these steps:

- Don't enter any passwords or log into any accounts.
- Perform a factory reset on your device.
- After resetting your device you may be prompted to restore from a backup, but do not restore any apps that you've accessed or downloaded since your device was compromised.
- Once you've restored your device you should change your passwords on your accounts to ensure they are secure

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and remind you that should you need my help or advice, I always pride myself on making myself available to residents. Remember I am only a phone call or email away.

***Ozzy O'shea.***

***Always Working for you Locally.***

Cllr Ozzy O'shea Tel 0116 2394336 Mobile 07808585825

Email [Ozzy.O'shea@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Ozzy.O'shea@leics.gov.uk)

Email [ozzyoshea@hotmail.com](mailto:ozzyoshea@hotmail.com)