



TOWN OF MINTO

DATE: June 5, 2017

REPORT TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Bill White C.A.O. Clerk

SUBJECT: Petition Clifford Residents Maintenance of Natural Area

STRATEGIC PLAN:

10.1 Protect natural areas and floodplains, encouraging bio-diversity, and increase public awareness of guidelines for pesticide use, hazardous chemicals, and noxious weeds in residential areas

10.2 Promote urban forestry, low maintenance landscaping and park development to create more environmentally diverse green spaces including pursuing small plots/community gardens/remote plots in public space.

BACKGROUND:

The attached petition submitted to the Mayor on or near May 24 requests Town owned lands shown below on south/east side of Nelson St between Brown and William Street Clifford be cleaned up in time for Homecoming. The lands are zoned natural area in the



zoning bylaw recognizing their sensitive nature and potential for flooding from Coon Creek.

Staff spoke with the Gerber's about the request and advised there was no budget for major work this year, and that the zoning prohibits re-development except as a natural area. Apparently one of the neighbours is cutting the boulevard, but otherwise this land is naturalized with a mixture of fallen trees, brush and mature trees. TLC Coordinator Paul Judge looked at the property and advised that some weed whipping and tree planting could help the area mature in a more

attractive way. Staff is prepared to undertake this minor maintenance.

COMMENTS:

The Town has allocated significant funds for Clifford recreation, trail and parkland development over the last seven years including refurbishing the arena, community hall, playing fields, and more recently land acquisition and redevelopment at the corner of Allan

and Elora Street. Not every municipal property is a candidate for a landscaped municipal park, and in general the lands are reasonably attractive as they naturalize over time.



If it is Council's direction staff could consult with landscape design professionals, the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority and Clifford residents to investigate potential parkland development in the context of the natural area designation on the lands. This information could come forward through the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for budget consideration in 2018, but completing this work in time for Homecoming is not possible. Staff is working hard on improving all facilities and parks in Clifford and throughout Minto in preparation for Communities in Bloom and numerous other events including Clifford Homecoming.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Existing budget can be used to do minor weed control and tree planting through the TLC Coordinator.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the C.A.O. Clerk's June 5, 2017 report and petition from Clifford Residents regarding maintenance of the natural area on south/east side of Nelson St between Brown and William Street.

Bill White C.A.O. Clerk

page 1

May 18 2017

We, the people of Clifford, would like to see, the property beside Coon Creek, between William Street and Brown Street, known as Nelson Street, cleaned up. This lot of land is overgrown with down, decaying trees, head height weeds, burdocks etc.

Perhaps if decent landscaping was done, it would be an ideal asset to the Town of Clifford. With the 2017 Home Coming in August 4-7, lets show our pride in our Community. As it lays now, it is a disgrace.

Eleanor Guber
Joy Leigh
J. Vic Palmer.
Paul Palmer
Georgie Hutchison
Bonnie Hutchison
Shirley Dickerson
Blanche Frazman
Zelig & Bruce Kreller
Janice
Laurie Oamb
Abel Kerech
Ann Bowen.



Athena Underwood
Eleanor Michalok
Maion Wyllie
DON SENEK
Jean Larsson
Christofa Herman
Sand?
Elis & Larry Gummert
Lyle Murray
Alida Murray
Lois Hawton,
Edith Henry
Shirley Murray
Maion Debecker
Jean Field
Elaine Field
Maion Wyllie
Eather Haliman
Brenda Lemmings
H. Gills
Marion Dwyer
Frank Dickerson

delivered by Eleanor Seiber
519-327-8550.