TOWN OF MINTO
DATE: November 1, 2017
REPORT TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Bill White C.A.O. Clerk
SUBJECT: John Hobelman Rotary Park Land Acquisition Clifford

STRATEGIC PLAN:

4.12   Investigate methods to encourage traffic passing through the Town to stop and shop such as enhanced urban design, way finding and entrance signage, easily accessible public parking.

BACKGROUND:

During Clifford Homecoming, Mayor Bridge was approached regarding potential ownership of a parcel owned by Gerald Buhrow shown in the map below. The parcel is beside the ballfield in John Hobelman Rotary Park in Clifford, and is just over two acres in size. It is currently zoned Natural Area which would restrict its development potential.

The Mayor has spoken to representatives of the Truck Show who are interested in using the parcel during their annual event. Both Clifford Homecoming and the Truck Show may be interested in contributing to the cost of buying the land.

COMMENTS:
A conditional agreement of purchase and sale has been signed by Mr. Buhrow to sell the lot "as is" to the Town for $25,000. Staff agrees the land could be beneficial to the park in the future although it is low lying and subject to some flooding from the adjacent drainage course. If Council wants to go ahead with the purchase it would need to pass a by-law authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute all documents related to the sale. The transaction would close early in 2018.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:
The purchase price would be funded under the 2018 budget some of which may come from users of the park.

RECOMMENDATION:
That Council receives the C.A.O. Clerk's November 1, 2017 report John Hobelman Rotary Park Land Acquisition Clifford, and that a by-law be considered in regular session authorizing the Mayor and C.A.O. Clerk to execute the agreement of purchase and sale with Gerald Buhrow for $25,000 and any other documents needed to conclude the purchase with funds to be identified in the 2018 budget.

Bill White C.A.O. Clerk