

## EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th December 2013 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.**

Present: Mr R Black (Chair) Mrs S Lander,  
Mrs M Cadle Mrs J Kyle  
Mr D Walton Mr D Eden  
Mr R Merry-Howe  
Nick Shivers Ellen Hewitt

13/173 **Apologies for Absence:** Mrs K Barber, Mrs T Beaver, Mrs K McCalman  
The Chairman read out a letter from Mrs Barber asking for a period of absence until April 2014. This was agreed by the Council.

13/174 **Declarations Of Interest:** Mrs J Kyle, Mr R Black VHM, D Walton and R Black Football,  
All Councillors have a dispensation to discuss the precept request.

13/175 **To Consider any dispensation Requests – None**

13/176 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (13.11)**  
The minutes held on 13<sup>th</sup> November was agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

13/177 **Matters arising from the minutes**

- Crime analysis for East Goscote – still awaited
- All Football teams have now provided signing on information and invoices for the first half season have been issued.
- The cedar tree TPO was approved and the works will be carried out in January.
- Quotes are being obtained to concrete the gate area on the village green play area
- New Development – Charnwood have approved the following street names for the Rearsby Roses development:- Rose Drive, Tea Rose Crescent, Polyantha Square, Nurseryman Way, Rambler Close
- Work has started to the Rearsby Roses site and we will monitor works to ensure that planning conditions are adhered to.
- The theme for the church tree has been changed to “Twinning” at the request of Councillor Lander.
- The Santa event risk assessment has been given to Councillor Lander to adhere to. We are awaiting risk assessments from G Walkers, The Fair and the electrics to be signed off as safe.

13/178 **Matters arising from the Public (meeting adjourned)**

Mr Nick Shivers said he would have liked an update from the police given the amount of burglaries and anti-social behaviour the village is currently suffering from. Ellen Hewitt also explained that the communication from the police continues to be poor, and she is informed of village burglaries from the neighbourhood watch office. She has never met our beat officer PC Hall nor had any communication from her. RESOLVED that the clerk speak with other clerks at Queniborough and Rearsby to ask how they feel about our police service, and following that information we set up a meeting with our Inspector to relay our disappointment.

It was also reported that there may be change at the Syston police office which was reported in the mercury. Again, we are completely unaware of this, as we have not been informed of any changes.

13/179 **Matters arising from the Police**

No police present, no report submitted, no apologies for absence. The Clerk did report that she has received notification of a beat surgery at the Café on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am to 12 noon. This information came from the neighbourhood watch alert line and we are not aware of how this beat surgery has been marketed around the village.

13/180 **Reports from Representatives on other Committees**

**VHMC**

A meeting was held on 25th November.

- Finances and bookings continue to be very healthy and the hall is very well utilised, although there is a drop in party bookings.
- Pat Testing arranged for January
- Terms of letting being reviewed
- Hire Charges have not been increased this year
- The boiler has had a new expansion vessel fitted which so far seems to have resolved the cutting out problem.
- The microwave will not be replaced at this time.
- The insurance policy has been renewed
- The guide group are being monitored and have paid for the broken window in the ladies toilet.
- The schedule for 2014 meetings was agreed. The next meeting being 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014.
- It was suggested that the Council look at improving the CCTV Camera to the front of the village hall. (Next agenda)

**PAV/PLAYING FIELD:** The playground checks will be carried out by Sally Lander prior to the next meeting.

**LONG FURROW** –

The recent issue was distributed at the end of November and is on our website.

**NHOOD WATCH** – Following the article in the Long Furrow, two new contacts have come forward to help distribute information to their streets.

**TREES** – Clerk to inform Long Furrow of the new tree warden details.

13/181 **Proposed Accounts**

The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £2353.92

13/182 **Correspondence**

- Post office relocation – The post office will be relocating to the White Slice – there is a 6 week public consultation. The parish council wish to research this, and ask if there are any other suitable locations ie church, pub, Village hall. The clerk will try to arrange a meeting with the post office representative and we will discuss our views at the next council meeting. The clerk will put this news on our website and ask Cllr McCalman to inform the email group.
- Huntsmans Dale – road repairs to commence in January.

- Free Microchipping service. The Council agreed to offer the sports pavilion as a venue to offer dog owners the chance to have their dogs microchipped free of charge by the Dogs Trust.
- Wall Mounted Ashtrays – we would ask for these free ashtrays to be installed to the front of the village hall and the pavilion.

13/183 **Planning Matters** –P13/2268/2 – Variation to condition 14 and 15 of planning decision P12/1709/2 to revise layout plan and to allow the existing access to remain whilst the development is carried out – No objections.

13/184 **To approve the Precept 2014/15**  
East Goscote Parish Council give notice that in respect of the financial year commencing on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1992, it will require the sum of £58,000 to meet the expenses of the parish. The Precept request forms were duly signed. It was also confirmed that the budget would be £69,260 and we would use our reserves and working balance to keep the precept low.

13/185 **Christmas Events – Cost Update**  
Defer to next meeting as event taking place this Friday.

13/186 **Future of Leicestershire –Feedback from Meeting**  
Mr Black, Mrs Kyle and Mrs Pizer attended a meeting at the LRALC on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, to receive feedback following the consultation on budget cuts by the Leicestershire County Council. £110 million needs to be cut over the next five years. The total budget for 2013/14 was £356 million. It was stated that LCC staff will be cut by a third over the next four years.  
The Clerk issued to all councillors two papers which provided details of what the consultation supported in terms of budget cuts. The top ten services where more than 50% of the views were to reduce to some extent or a great deal included: Street lighting, grants, funding agencies, travel to schools, grass cutting, early learning, children’s centres, funding businesses and school support.  
A second paper was also circulated showing headline results of resident focus groups following discussions. Areas where the groups were most willing to contemplate cuts were:- Museums, libraries, street lighting, grass cutting, bus passes, trading standards and youth services. We were advised that most of the budget cuts will be introduced in 2015/2016 although work is constantly in progress. Over the last three years county have saved £64 million. The Clerk also advised Councillors to read the Leicestershire matters booklet which is posted to every household and gives much more detail about the cuts, and answers to questions.  
Jake Atkinson also gave a talk on “the power to deliver local councils and local services”. He said that we are in a time of significant change in local government.  
New methods of joint and independent working are emerging. Parish councils have a huge range of powers at their disposal to provide services if they choose to. They remain uncapped and are eligible for a range of grants and other funding that is not open to Borough or County councils.  
At this stage we do not know how it will affect our parish, or what the new budgets will be and where the reductions will be. It was agreed that a working party will meet – following the production of the LCC budget for 14/15 – and look at the cuts and the grants available to the parish council. The working party was agreed as R Black, D Walton and R Merry-Howe.

- 13/187        **Admin Assistant - update on number of applications received**  
The Clerk informed the council that 8 application forms and job descriptions were issued, but only 2 had been returned. It was agreed that we would extend the deadline for applications to the end of January 2014 and interviews would be held early February. We will write to the two applicants to inform them of this.
- 13/188        **Employee Appraisals feedback (Confidential)**  
Standing order 17 was invoked and members of the public and staff were asked to leave. Councillors were informed of the outcome of the appraisals.
- 13/189        **Maintenance**  
Sheets will be issued to Councillors to bring to the January meeting.
- 13/190        **Items approved for expenditure**  
Christmas Event
- 13/191        **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**  
A Borough Councillors report was issued to all councillors.  
Our Snow Warden features in the Leicestershire matters.  
Councillor Kyle said that the shopkeepers are discussing their own Christmas lights for next year which will be installed as part of the lights switch on.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm

L Pizer

12.12.13