

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 8th February 2017 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present: Ms S Lander (Chair) Mrs S Gerrard
Mrs L Castle Mrs E Garner
Mr R Merry-Howe Mr K Preston
Mr J Malpus Mr M Gonulalan

16/192 **Matters arising from the public. (Meeting Adjourned)**

The meeting was adjourned to receive any comments/statements from members of the public.
No public present.

16/193 **Matters arising from the police**

None present – it was also noted that PCSO Geeson did not attend the police surgery advertised to take place at the Library. Unfortunately members of public did attend to speak to him about their concerns.

16/194 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Duffy and Cllr Needham submitted their apologies

16/195 **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Malpus regarding the Library and the Long Furrow.

16/196 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (11.01)**

The minutes held on 11th January 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

16/197 **Matters arising from the minutes**

16/145 – Planning query- Cllr Gerrard stated that there was “no limit to the volume of any extension compared to its original size”.

16/158 – Mess around Fleury Court has now been cleaned up.

16/162 – Emergency Plan – Due to personal matters Cllr Needham is no longer able to take this project forward. Despite asking for volunteers in the Long Furrow, no one offered any help so it was decided to take no further action with the emergency plan for the time being.

16/182 – The Long Furrow magazine did receive a response from Sims re its condition.

16/182 – A pavilion check is still required. (Clerk and Caretaker)

16/184 – Charnwood Borough Council planning guides were issued to all Cllrs from our Borough Councillor.

16/191 – Land at Huntsmans Dale – the cost payable to Charnwood does not include any purchaser legal fees or land registry fees.

16/191 – Concerns re street lamps on the Long Furrow Bend – Cllr Garner to advise of lamp numbers. Cllr Houseman stated that if we require lamps to be switched on it would be advantageous to have police support.

16/198 **County Councillors Report**

Cllr Houseman gave all Councillors a written report, he confirmed the following details:-

- An increase in council tax of 2% in general tax, and 2% for Social care.
- He suggested we apply to the Shire Grant for the village hall roof – the committee will take note of this suggestion.
- Railway Bridge on Melton Road, No works planned. Network rail advised LCC that “no further structures north of Kettering, specifically related to electrification, are

programmed for physical delivery”. Network rail has advised that the Midland Mainline electrification works will not start before 2019.

- Railway Bridge, Cossington – Some delays have been experienced and the end date has been extended to 7th April.
- Bus Stop improvements – Cllr Houseman has now signed off the works for the bus stop/footpath improvements along Melton Road. He wished thanks to be noted to our Clerk for being so diligent and hard working in ensuring this project was delivered.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Houseman for his report – there were no questions.

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Gerrard issued a written report to Councillors.

- Details included in the report were: HEDNA 2011-2036 based on the latest demographic projection of 19.5% increase in population, 4265 dwellings per annum are required to be built.
- LRALC meeting – new structures – A briefing will be sent to the Clerk
- Melton Road Syston – now not closing
- LCC donating money to save the Children’s heart service at Glenfield Hospital
- Cllr Gerrard said she had arranged for hedges to be cut around Fleury Court and Ling Dale.
- She advised that we will be invited to a sports evening with celebrities.
- Pavilion grant application – proceedings started

The Chairman advised the Borough Councillor that in respect of the grant application for our sports pavilion; all decisions have to be approved by the Parish Council. Cllr Gerrard was asked to:

1. Form a working party to consider improvements to the pavilion
 2. Invite representatives of all users of the pavilion to the initial working party meeting
 3. Inform the council of all members of the working party
 4. Two Parish Council reps to be members of this party: Cllr Gerrard/Gonulalan
 5. Inform the council of each stage, the proposals for improvement, what the benefits will be and who will benefit, the proposed costs and how funding is to be obtained.
 6. Cllr Gerrard to lead this project, and ensure minutes/quotes/plans/completed grant application form are all copied to the parish council office.
- Cllr Malpus asked that Cllr Gerrard look into the state of the stairwell, inside area of 9 – 14 Fleury Court which is filthy.
 - Cllr Castle asked what Cllr Gerrard had achieved for the village in the period covered by her report, she replied “nothing I have been unwell” – but then recalled that she had arranged for the hedges to be cut as per bullet point above.
 - Funding for the defibrillator – Cllr Gonulalan confirmed that he will arrange an initial meeting with Cllrs Preston and Gerrard.

Reports from Reps on other Committees:

VHMC – Next Meeting February 16th.

Pavilion and Playing fields - A Pavilion check will be undertaken in due course. The Clerk and Caretaker carried out a comprehensive playground check.

Long Furrow – The latest edition has been delivered to all households and is available on line. Volunteer distributors were requested. Cllr Gonulalan and Gerrard offered to help distribute the Long Furrow magazines. The Chairman stated that as Cllr Needham was otherwise engaged, would another councillor write the Parish News for the Long Furrow. No Councillors offered to do this.

NHood Watch – An advert has been placed in the Long Furrow for volunteers and it was suggested that it should be a regular magazine article.

Trees – Both Cllr Merry Howe and Malpus carried out checks – no problems found.

Parish App/Website Latest Figures –Website page views over the last 90 days amounted to 3136 (2944 previous 90) App users stands at 238 (232 last month)

To arrange an industrial estate site visit – Cllr Merry Howe agreed to undertake an industrial estate site visit.

16/201

Proposed Accounts

The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £4709.92 for February.

16/202

Correspondence

A list of correspondence received was circulated to all Councillors.

- Have your say on the new approach to highway maintenance – by 26 March 2017 – Cllr Malpus has replied to this consultation.
- Traffic sensitive network – cc all
- Public spaces protection order – now in force on our fenced play areas
- Housing supplementary planning consultation – 27 Feb 17 – The Clerk asked the Borough Councillor to give more details about this consultation. She had no information to offer. The Clerk will inform Councillors of any relevant details.
- Huntsmans Dale Land – purchasers to pay legal/land registry fees
- Community Governance review – cc all 30th April – The Clerk asked our Borough Councillor about this review of Charnwood Parishes. She had no information. This item will be copied to all councillors in hard copy and we will agree our reply at the next meeting.
- Section 278 Rearsby Roses - now approved

16/203

Planning Matters

P16/2785/2 – 12 Greensward – Erection of single storey extension- no objection

P17/0069/2 – 42 Ploughmans Lea – Two storey extension to side – no objection

P17/0143/2 - 54 Long Furrow – single storey side and rear extension – No objections.

Cllr Gerrard made no comment on all applications.

16/204

To consider “heads of terms” of the Charnwood Lease (Field car park area)

All Councillors had received the suggested heads of terms for the Charnwood Lease which is due for renewal on 1st November 17. After discussion it was RESOLVED that we approve the heads of terms.

16/205

To confirm appointment of our solicitor to deal with the lease work.

The Clerk advised the Council that Spearing Waite dealt with our original leases and they have confirmed that they still have on file all the relevant paperwork. The Clerk read a letter out to Council regarding the work involved. RESOLVED that we appoint Alison Harrod, Senior Associate, of Spearing Waite to deal with the legal work for us in connection with the Charnwood Lease and the sub-lease to the Scouts.

16/206

Scout Lease to consider comments from Scout Group/working party suggested response.

All Councillors were given a copy of the Scouts response and suggested reply.

RESOLVED that the letter be sent with a minor amendment, should the Scouts have any further comments to make following our reply, the working party will meet again to discuss prior to bringing to full council.

16/207 **To consider replacing the noticeboard on Long Furrow.**

The Clerk offered various quotes to replace the metal noticeboard on Long Furrow opposite the playing field. It was noted that with some work, we may be able to remove the paint, and re-paint/refurbish the existing noticeboard. RESOLVED that we initially try to refurbish the existing board, if this is not effective, we will purchase a new noticeboard (wooden on concrete posts) at a cost of £430 + vat

16/208 **Review of Hire Charges April 17 – April 18**

All Councillors were given details of current hire charges. It was RESOLVED that the hire charges would remain unchanged for the forthcoming season.

16/209 **Budget (Expenditure) Update**

The Clerk presented all Councillors with month by month expenditure figures and variance within the budget. The Council discussed this and approved the latest expenditure details. There were no questions.

16/210 **To consider binding of the Long Furrow Magazines (1988 onwards)**

The Clerk suggested that we vire some additional monies into the “binding budget” to bind our copies of the Long Furrow and community News dating back to the 1988 Long Furrow and the 1968 community news. The cost would be anticipated at £250-£350 (£25 per bound book) RESOLVED that the village magazines be bound with navy blue colour covers and the funding be moved from the Noticeboard budget.

16/211 **Library – To consider issuing dog bags to non-residents/request to use council facilities**

The Chairman informed the Council that requests have been made by non-residents using the library whom would like to purchase our dog bags. She suggested that we could charge a higher rate for non-residents to cover costs. RESOLVED to charge £1 for a pack of 50 bags to non-residents. (Cllr Gerrard abstained)

Cllr Malpus left the room for the next item.

The Chairman said that the library committee had requested if they could use the council van and caretaker for one day to help with some ground-works, and the council to charge the library for all costs incurred.

RESOLVED that we would charge £100 for the hours worked and use of the van inclusive of petrol. This cost will be reclaimed by the library as it is capital expenditure which the County Council will pay for. The Clerk will check our insurance policy regarding this, if there is any additional premium, this also be added to the invoice.

16/212 **Staffing Matters a) to formally approve the pension arrangements for all staff.**

RESOLVED that with effect from 1st April 2017 (staging date) the Clerk of East Goscote Parish Council be given the opportunity of joining the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by Leicestershire County Council. In accordance with the scheme East Goscote Parish Council is to meet the cost of providing for admitted employee’s pension contributions in excess of the employees own contributions at the specified rate. All other employees that

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are entitled to, or ask to join a scheme, will be enrolled into the second tier pension scheme via NEST.

Discussion ensued regarding the type of pension scheme it was i.e. final salary, if there was a sub-account and the risks involved. Cllr Merry Howe will be invited to the staffing committee meeting to discuss these issues.

The Clerk confirmed that she has written to the staff to ask if they wish to join a pension scheme, she is awaiting their response.

b) To arrange a staffing committee meeting to Review Salaries and Discuss pensions.

The Chairman agreed to offer dates that she is available for this meeting. A suggested date was Thursday, March 2nd.

16/213 **Maintenance** – sheets were handed in from Cllr Merry Howe and Cllr Preston, Malpus. The Clerk confirmed that the new bus shelter has been installed, and after many emails, was glad to report that Jelson Limited have installed a fence on the Melton Road alongside the brook.

16/214 **Items approved for expenditure**
Proposed Accounts/Refurbish/replace noticeboard/binding work/

16/215 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**
The Clerk asked the Borough Councillor if she had any idea of the proposed Charnwood council tax increase for 2017/18. She said that she didn't know what the proposals were, but there was a cabinet meeting next week.
Cllr Gerrard asked if we were considering creating a Neighbourhood Plan, perhaps joining with other villages. Cllr Malpus said that if we were to do a plan, it would be best to stay independent. However the general consensus was that it involved a great deal of work and commitment for potentially little return, and at present, no Councillors wished to undertake this task.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

L Pizer
09.02.17