

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12th July 2017 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present:

Mr J Malpus (Chair)	Ms C Duffy
Mr K Preston	Mrs S Gerrard
Mr R Merry-Howe	Mr M Gonulalan
 Cllr J Poland	 1 member of the public

Prior to the start of the meeting Cllr Malpus presented the clerk with a certificate for her 25 years' service and a gift from the Councillors.

17/062

Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)

The member of the public had various issues he wished to raise with the council:

1. Speeding is still occurring around the village. Have the police carried out any checks lately? Cllr Preston said that the speed limit for Melton Road is soon to be reduced, so it would be a good idea to ask the police to carry out speed checks at various locations once this is in place. Cllr Malpus said that there was also a letter of concern in the next Long Furrow.
2. Bus shelters – the new shelters require litter bins – SG to pursue this.
3. The resident said he is now ashamed to drive onto the village with the appalling state of the pub “Sims” as you enter the village. He said it was a disgrace and he would like the County Councillor and Borough Councillor to write to Jelson Ltd, Enterprise Inns and County Highways to get this eyesore sorted out. Both the Borough Councillor and County Councillor agreed to write letters – (The clerk will send the necessary information) The Clerk has previously written to both County Highways re the overgrown tree and Enterprise inns regarding the state of the pub.
4. The resident said the board at the front of Sims is a danger. It could fall onto a pedestrian at any point. He asked Cllr Gerrard to request a health and safety officer visit the site and try to get the board removed.

17/063

Apologies for absence: PCSO Brian Geeson, Mrs E Garner, and Mrs L Castle
Miss S Lander, Miss L Needham

17/064

To report any declarations of interest: Cllr Malpus re library, Long Furrow, and Christmas Project, Cllr Merry-Howe re the Christmas project, Cllr Duffy re the Village hall.

17/065

To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting held on 14th June 2017
The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

17/066

Matters arising from the minutes

17/045 – Cllr Merry Howe will be visiting the bank shortly
17/049 – Our app ran a survey for the Long Furrow magazine – 145 responses 122 said yes.
17/049 – Christmas event – Sticker books have been ordered
17/045 – A letter from Wreake valley re their Defibrillator project has been received and will be discussed at our meeting in September.
17/048 – Lighting complaint to Cllr Gerrard at Merchants Common. Cllr Gerrard said that she would write to Jelsons detailing the complaint and would copy the letter to the Clerk.

- 17/067 **Matters arising from the Police**
PCSO Geeson sent a written report which was emailed to all Councillors.
- 17/068 **Borough Councillors Report**
Cllr Gerrard emailed a written report for all Councillors.
She also attended a training course regarding Defibrillators and gave all Councillors a booklet from the East Midlands Ambulance Service.
Q. Following the recent Grenfell Tower fire, have any tower blocks in Charnwood failed the testing. A. No
Q Can you try to establish the amount that the grants panel are recommending to the Full Council so that we may place an order for the new roof this summer.
Q. The Clerk asked Cllr Gerrard to explain the wording “I have called it in” relating to a planning application. Cllr Gerrard said that she has asked the planning officer to visit the site and has informed him of the resident’s objections.
- 17/069 **County Councillors Report**
Cllr Poland gave a written report to all Councillors.
Cllr Malpus asked the Council to write to Cllr Dave Houseman to congratulate him for being made an honorary Alderman of Leicestershire at the County Council meeting last month, for outstanding service to the people of Leicestershire through his duties as a Councillor. Being made an Alderman is one of the highest honours the council can bestow and the Parish Council are very pleased to congratulate Dave for this well-deserved title.
- 17/070 **Reports from Reps on other Committees**
VHMC – The Chairman’s report from the AGM held on 21st June was read out to Councillors.
LONG FURROW – Articles to be in for the next edition by July 17th.
PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Playground checks will be completed by Cllr Preston
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Nothing to report
TREES – Cllr Merry-Howe conducted a visual check and there are no issues. He will be conducting his next check with a volunteer Mr Webbon who expressed an interest in this role.
PARISH APP - Total downloads were Android 167, Apple 345.
WEBSITE – Total website page views (last 12 months) 3933
- 17/071 **Proposed Accounts**
Accounts to the sum of £4952.62 were accepted by the Council
a) To consider a debit card as per our auditor recommendation.
The Council RESOLVED to have a debit card attached to the business account in the name of the Parish Council for purchases made. The relevant forms were duly signed.
- 17/072 **Correspondence**
A list of correspondence received was given out to all Councillors present
- The line marking for Merchants Common has now been installed
 - Oak Tree, The Chase – will be replaced free of charge in November
 - Tennis court – problem with one panel – awaiting feedback from the contractor.

17/073

Planning Matters -

- P/17/1236/2 – Erection to Two storey extension to side of dwelling and single storey extension to front and rear at 6 Fox Hollow. The Council will object to this application as it will be detrimental to the neighbouring property and also it is being built forward of the building line.
- P/17/1031/2 – 4 The Chase, East Goscote Erection of two storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear and single storey extension to front of dwelling.(Amended plans) – No Objections
- P/17/1205/2 – Formation of pitched roof to front and side of dwelling at 40 Ploughmans Lea. – No objections
- P/17/1248/2 Proposed single storey extension to front of dwelling at 25 Huntsmans Dale. RESOLVED to object to this as it is being built forward of the building line and is out of character with the street scene.
- P/17/1257/2 – Erection of first floor extension to front of dwelling at 5 The Wolds RESOLVED - No objections

17/074

Bus Stop Enhancements Melton Road – Update

The Clerk confirmed that the developer funded bus shelter improvements have now been carried out by Leicestershire County Council. LCC were given £14,338 to provide better facilities for our residents.

Final costs were as follows:-

- **Design fees** (mainly their officer time) £3044.34 which is 102.1 hours at the average of £29.82 per hour. This equates to 20.75% of the funding.
- **To provide two bus shelters** (including fitting by Bentleys) £3290.00 (22.43% of the funding)
- **Plant, materials and labour** – on site for one week £8332.59.(56.81% of the funding) Labour was stated as £3643.26

Council members were shown photographs of the actual ground works carried out. The parish council felt that these costs - both officer time and ground works were extortionate and felt that this was very poor value for money and our residents have not benefitted well from the developer money.

On another point, parish councils have previously not claimed for their officer time in organising, planning, ordering and supervising the works relating to their Section 106 projects. In an email from Charnwood Borough Council Julie Robinson stated that in her view, “where costs have been incurred on consultants and buying in specialist technical expertise these may be included as part of a project. Where it is just officer time this can’t be included – so at Charnwood we never include officer time in pulling together a project funded by Section 106.”

After much discussion it was RESOLVED to hold a meeting between the Finance Committee and with James Poland our County Councillor to investigate this matter further. The Committee were given delegated powers to take any action felt appropriate.

17/075

To consider the leases between PC and Charnwood and PC and the Scouts

The Working party met the scout members on 28th June 2017 and the final terms were agreed by both parties. All Councillors have a copy of the agreed heads of terms. We are still in discussions with Charnwood Borough Council regarding the ownership of the pavilion, as the lease refers to “the buildings”. As we understand it, the pavilion was paid for over 21 years via the Charnwood 5% scheme.

17/076

Budget update (April, May, June)

The clerk gave a fully comprehensive spreadsheet to all Councillors listing expenditure to date, and the variance to budget. There were no questions and the update was approved by the Council.

- 17/077 **To consider new/ updates to Policies**
 1) To consider a new Financial Reserves policy.
 2) To consider an equalities policy which incorporates Age Discrimination and dignity at work.
- RESOLVED that both policies were approved by the Council
- 17/078 **To consider a Christmas Project** – (Cllr J Malpus and Cllr Merry Howe took no part in this discussion).
 The Clerk said that Cllr Malpus had spoken to the many library volunteers at a meeting to ask for ideas of a scheme specifically for the elderly generation of the village.
 Their suggestion was to run the voucher scheme as we have done in the past where the elderly can use the vouchers in the local shops. This was previously carried out in 2010 and the Clerk gave all the information to the Councillors as follows:
- To give the community library the funds to run the Christmas scheme.
 - The scheme to be open to all residents aged 70 and over
 - A Vouchers to the sum of £5 to be allocated - one per household
 - The Scheme to run between 4th and 20th December
 - Vouchers to be applied for and a database created.
 - ID required i.e. driving licence/passport to confirm age and address
 - Library to arrange specific dates to give out vouchers
- There was much discussion regarding the value of this gift, and whether it would be appreciated. Unfortunately there is only a budget of £1000 available and in 2010 161 applied for the voucher although only 139 were redeemed. The number of applicants is unknown. Cllr Preston would like to offer a more community orientated event i.e. afternoon tea in the village hall. A vote was taken and it was an equal vote, it was therefore RESOLVED to consider this again in September.
- 17/079 **To arrange a Football Managers Meeting**
 Cllr Merry Howe will hold a meeting with all prospective football managers for the season commencing September 2017 on Wednesday August 23rd at 6.30pm.
- 17/080 **To consider donation requests** –
 1) East Goscote Library – Cllr Malpus declared his interest and left the room. A letter has been received asking the Parish Council for a donation towards the running of the village library. The annual accounts and copy of the letter was issued to all Councillors. RESOLVED to make a donation of £1000.
 2) Syston Volunteer Centre- The Clerk read out a letter received from the Syston Volunteer Bureau along with details of their annual accounts – RESOLVED not to make a donation at this time.
- 17/081 **Review of our Financial Regulations (Auditor Recommendation)**
 The Finance committee (John Malpus and Roger Merry-Howe will meet to review the financial regulation and present any amendments to the full council in September.
- 17/082 **Review of our dog bins.**
 Cllr Gerrard agreed to review the village dog bins, she will complete the form and return it to the office.
- 17/083 **To consider CPR training for our residents**
 The Clerk has obtained costings to offer our residents CPR training. The “best value” option was to hold 3 courses in one day, with a maximum of 12 people per course, this would cover training for 36 residents and the cost would be £350.00 + Vat. It was RESOLVED to place an article in the next Long Furrow to ask residents to register

their interest in taking part in a free first aid training course. This will be agendered in September.

17/084

Maintenance

Cllr Malpus said that the two new bus shelters on Long Furrow had a problem in that the corrugated roof falls short of the front fascia and water hits this. This wood will soon have water damage if it is not resolved.

Cllr Malpus suggested that individual Councillors write (as residents) to both Jelsons and Enterprise Inns to voice their concern at the condition of the pub frontage when entering the village. It was also suggested that we invite the Regional Manager to a meeting.

17/085

Items approved for Expenditure

Donation to the Community Library £1000.

17/086

Urgent items by permission of the Chairman

The August accounts will be checked and signed by members of the Finance committee and presented to the September meeting.

Cllr Gonulalan and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk all attended the LCC conference.

The main topic of conversation was the devolution of services – we were also informed about the LRALC strategic plan and the fact that the LRALC will be becoming a limited company and will be employing a new training manager. We were also informed of the new reporting form for LCC and that in Phase 2 we can track the status of our complaints/reports.

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday September 6th 2017 (New date)
at 6.30pm in the Village Hall**

The Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

L. Pizer
13th July 2017