EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

Present: Cllr M Nelson Cllr L Needham

Cllr N Shivers Cllr R Axon

Cllr M Webbon Cllr D Cannon

Cllr C Tate Cllr G Slack

L Pizer Clerk

R Jones Admin

20/178 Election of Chair

Cllr Nelson nominated Cllr Needham, seconded by Cllr. Gemma Slack was proposed and seconded and agreed to carry out the role of Chair until our AGM in May. The declaration of office was signed. 78pc in favour, 22pc abstain. Motion carried. One other nomination sent by post, couldn’t be accepted as they didn’t attend in person.

To receive the resignation from Cllr Malpus/Election of Chair

During December the Clerk received a written letter from Cllr John Malpus to confirm his intentions to retire as a Parish Councillor and our current Chairman with effect from

January 4, 2021. Cllr Malpus has been a Councillor on this occasion since 10 December 2014.

It was noted that Cllr Malpus was an exceptional Councillor who during his time has managed to keep our village library open and has been an excellent Chairman. To that end it was agreed that using the Chairman’s Allowance we would purchase a gift to the value of £300. Cllr. Martin Webbon proposed, Cllr. Michelle Nelson seconded, all in favour.

20/179 Matters arising from the public. (Meeting Adjourned)

The meeting was adjourned to receive any comments/statements from members of the public.

None.

20/180 Matters arising from the police, report received. Cllr. Nick Shivers commented on speeding. Cllr. Shivers proposed writing to them to ask for feedback following any speed checks. Cllr. Axon also reported concerns regards racing and noise from cars, which he has reported to the police.

20/181 Apologies for Absence Cllr J Poland, Cllr S Gerrard

20/182 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Shivers re the Village Hall, Cllr Cannon re Greener Goscote and Long Furrow, Cllr Axon and Needham, conversations with KEGG and Greener Goscote regards mowing.

20/183 To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (09.12)

The minutes held on 9 December were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

20/184 Matters arising from the minutes

20/156 – Cllr Axon was to speak to the headteacher regarding inconsiderate parking around the school, hasn’t had chance, but lockdown has negated problem currently. Deferred until schools return in full.

A letter was sent to our PCSO asking if speeding could be monitored around the area during school times.

20/117 – The charity match on Boxing Day was cancelled

20/144 – Bin for the Rearsby Roses area – Request for a bin on Lilac Way was refused. – Location was clarified with CBC before Christmas regards Rearsby Roses, no reply since, to be chased.

20/144 – Bin at the end of Wayfarer Drive – Cllr Needham requested attention to this bin.

20/166 – Planning – The new Undertaking business on Merchants Common does not require a change of use.

Photos for website still outstanding from Cllr Slack and Axon

20/162 - Cllr Poland has sent a report regarding speed watch, and this has been circulated to all Cllrs.

20/163 - Trees – lime tree on Lilac Way, contractor contacted – awaiting quote

20/168 - Youth provision – awaiting report from Leics Youth Services

20/169 - The Bins for playing fields have been ordered.

20173 – Maintenance, awaiting quote for Perspex for bus shelter. Cllr Nick Shivers has requested one from a supplier. Cllr Axon suggested Soden on Clarenden Park Road or Welford Road.

20/185 Reports from Reps on other Committees:

Borough Councillor report – Cllr Needham – verbally: Has followed up on bin, pothole, and drain queries and action can take 12 weeks. Residents enquiries, vaccination centres, dog related complaint. Cllr Needham has also contacted KEGG, and Cllr Axon has more info. Planning –discussion around Gladman application, queries made. There’s a new East Goscote Helping Hands Facebook group for people struggling in lockdown.

**VHMC** – Next Meeting January 28, 2021 – Re-opened for use by our Pre-School, emergency meeting cancelled due to national lockdown. Cllr. Shivers gave a verbal report.

**Pavilion and Playing fields** -The playground checks for December were carried out by Cllr Shivers, the Clerk and Cllr Tate on 17 December 2020. Cllr. Gerrard was nominated for January checks, but Cllr Webbon has actioned. Has noted graffiti. No other issues. Cllr Webbon can complete forms for this in due course.

**Long Furrow** –Cllr Cannon, verbal report, said in progress, copy submissions closed, expected out 1 February 2021.

**NHood Watch** – Cllr. Tate, verbal report: there’s a new newsletter. Was disappointed NHS fraud wasn’t on it, but be aware related scams, recent case in Nottingham, scam vaccine. Police and NHS due to release something on this soon.

**Trees** – Cllr Webbon, verbal report. New trees planted on the mound were still there, checked last week. Meadows, enquiry regards insurance to be investigated. And awaiting response and quote from mowing contractor. Ash tree growing in playgroup flower bed. Requested permission to remove. Resolved to write to Guide group for permission to remove, no objections.

**Tennis** – Cllr. Webbon has checked the courts, they’re locked, and maintenance has removed the net.

**Cycle Rack** –Picture of location shown.Unsuitability feedback reasons listed and discussed. Cllr Nick Shivers proposed get the rack, then get our maintenance to install it later, Cllr Nelson seconded, all in favour.

**Greener Goscote** – Cllr Cannon, has made some signs, laminated. No objections. All in favour of signs, for the flower beds, at the front of the playing fields.

**Virgin Media** – verbal report received: There’s been a meeting, Liz Pizer Clerk, Cllr. Shivers, Cllr Webbon, and Cllr. Tate met Virgin and saw proposed planning Installation in parts of our village green and verge. Recompense was discussed but none offered. Our Clerk confirmed to LCC that Virgin did not have permission to install cables into our land, so County Council revoked licence. They now intend to dig up footpath, when schools closed, during half term, not damaging grass, ETA February.

Cllr. Poland’s report – rural pub grant £1k, budget consultation, £6k support fund. Report has been circulated in full to all Cllrs.

20/186 Proposed Accounts

The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £1321.02 for January. Wages to be confirmed later in the month by the Finance Committee. All in favour of accepting this report, no objections.

20/187 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received was circulated to all Councillors.

* The Council tax base for 21/22 is 936.7 which is a slight decrease on last year. £62.99 charge, which is a slight increase on band D.
* Community speed management initiative, briefing note received from Cllr. Poland
* Electric vehicles and points – grants scheme, £350 towards charge point, £8k towards electric van.
* Dog fouling – anonymous letter, complaint re paths, playing fields, Long Furrow, can’t respond. Cllr. Shivers proposed getting street wardens in. Clerk responded need to complain about a specific issue and area. Cllr Axon proposed school to Weavers Wind, Cllr Shivers seconded. Cllr Webbon volunteered to be a ‘parish dog warden’ and requested high vis to that effect and offered to walk around wearing as a deterrent. Cllr Axon proposed free dog bags left in strategic places, feedback they’re sold at the library to raise funds for the library, and not in our budgets. Cllr Axon proposed approaching pet food companies for donations. Resolved, Clerk to write to dog warden and request visits. This is a regular complaint during the winter when dog owners do not clean up after their dogs. Future agenda Dog Fouling and Dog Control.
* Finding fitness – offer of a summer scheme – next agenda
* Village video – posted on you tube by a resident – very informative, however after a discussion, Cllrs. decided against republishing on our website.
* CPRE membership card received.
* Cllr. Webbon had an email regards new boundary signs, installation date will hopefully be given be end of month.
* Cllr. Axon re flood wardens, meeting being arranged re silting of brook, invited Cllr. Shivers to join. Cllr. Shivers now gets text alerts. Report dip near Lilac Way to mitigate flooding has been full for two months.

20/188 Planning Matters –

Gladman Land – P/20/2383/2

Cllr. Axon has been looking into this and gave a verbal report of his findings. Initially it appears to be a resubmission of the application in 2018 which was subsequently refused. Resolved, a letter regarding the application form (21 errors) be sent to Charnwood. When Cllr Axon has finished draft response, proofed, will send on council letterhead to the head of planning as a case officer is yet to be appointed. Cllr Axon proposed, two Cllrs. seconded, all in favour. An amendment added, after a discussion, resolved Cllr Needham will sign as Chair before sending.

Resolved - research and letters required delegated to Cllr. Axon, and official letters to come through council.

Cllr. Laurie Needham said that the statement of community involvement posted online was the consultation back in 2018. She is finding out if a further community consultation should be carried out for the new application. If Gladman do not have to consult again, it was proposed a budget of £150 for any consultation materials/leaflets required be assigned to the working group. Cllr Axon seconded. All in favour.

P/20/1763/2 – 20 The Meadows – Granted

P/20/1716/2 – 42 Broome Avenue – Refused

P/20/1775/2 – 9 Badgers Corner – Granted

20/189 Review of Councillor Maintenance responsibility, playground and pavilion checks.

Councillor Maintenance responsibilities were agreed along with the playground checks for 2021. The revised lists will be circulated.

20/190 Review of Committee/Working Party Membership

Committee/working parties were agreed until our AGM in May. The new list will be circulated to all Councillors.

20/191 To create the following Subgroups:

Gladman Co-ordinator – Cllrs Axon

Climate Change Group – Cllrs. Cannon, and Slack

Youth Provision Group – Cllrs. Needham and Nelson,

Christmas Lights and celebrations group – Cllrs. Shivers, Cllr Webbon and Needham

Development Plan Group – Cllrs Nelson and Cannon, potentially Cllr. Axon post Gladman’s

Electric vehicle – Cllr. Shivers and Cllr. Webbon

Cllr Nelson leaving the speeding group.

The new list will be circulated.

Groups to email between then report to Full Council.

20/192 To approve the APM agenda for the next edition of the Long Furrow

All councillors were in receipt of the draft agenda –This was agreed and will be featured in our Long Furrow on the front page.

Cllr Axon proposed adding planning, resolved, to be added as part of Chair’s report.

20/193 To consider the mowing contract proposal.

A site meeting was held between our Contractor, Clerk, Caretaker and Cllrs Axon and Cannon. A map and contract proposed were circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration.

RESOLVED – after some discussion about tendering options, Proposed by Cllr. Webbon initially request a quote from existing supplier, seconded by Cllr. Axon.

If the quote is similar to previous years, it was agreed that we revoke standing orders and award the contract to our existing supplier without going out to tender. This year our contract would be based on a one-year term rather than three years.

Discussion had around slopes, which will be cut a maximum of once this year. To be revisited on a future agenda for further examination of detail.

Cllr Webbon proposed an amendment – raking cuttings of the test wild area beneath the hedge will look unsightly and encourage fly tipping, proposed our maintenance remove and burn, Cllr Axon seconded.

Cllr. Shivers proposed Long Furrow or leaflets to surrounding residents regarding this, Cllr Needham seconded with community engagement through signs, resolved, delegated powers to climate change group to inform residents of the plan with the grass on the mound either by letter or article in the Long Furrow.

Resolved, all in favour.

20/194 Community Garden – To discuss any resident feedback (Cllr Cannon left the meeting)

Further to resident feedback from our first plan and consultation, a second simplified plan and consultation were issued to all residents surrounding the land on 10 December 2020. Residents were offered several ways to communicate and give the Council feedback. The deadline for feedback was Monday 4 January. The Clerk confirmed that we had received only one telephone call, details of which have been circulated to all Councillors.

Cllr Shivers asked and raise concerns of: fence is broken in area; shouldn’t this be repaired?

Proposed, write to resident to say their fence falling onto our land, proposed by Cllr. Needham, seconded Cllr. Shivers resolved to do so.

Cllr. Shivers: a resident has built a gate and feels shouldn’t have access onto public land.

Resolved – health and safety issue, resolved to research if access via a gate into our land is prohibited.

Cllr. Shivers raised health and safety concerns of access. Requested further input by consulting third parties, on the fact that there is a 6ft fence in an enclosed area with only one entrance.

Cllr Webbon raised concerns about restoration of area if proposal is unsuccessful. Proposed clause of restoration be added to the licence to cultivate, Cllr. Needham seconded, resolved to check if in and add into contract if not.

Cllr Nelson proposed asking Cllr. Cannon to respond to the resident who had raised concerns, Cllr Needham seconded, resolved to do, no objections.

Proposed summary by Chair:

RESOLVED to work in partnership with Greener Goscote to develop the proposed plan. EGPC to continue with mowing as per the mowing contract, and a regular dialogue to be held between EGPC and GG. A licence to cultivate will be drawn up and considered at a future council meeting.

We will add the restoration clause into the contract, Greener Goscote to respond to resident. Area to remain low key with little publicising, and public liability for volunteers to be in place. 7 in favour, one against, Cllr. Shivers against.

Cllr. Cannon re-joined the meeting after this item. Chair updated with resolution.

20/195 Wildflower Verges project – the way forward

Cllr. Cannon applied for a wildflower verge on Long Furrow (by the brook) and consulted with nearby residents. Following this he attended a Zoom meeting which gave lots of information regarding the scheme and how it works. Cllrs. were given information from this meeting.

The next step is a nature spot survey of the verge which is paid for by LCC.

The Parish council would be required to pay for any seeds. At the end of the summer the Parish Council also must cut the verge and remove the cuttings around 7 days later. The cost of the cut and removal of the grass does fall to the Parish Council.

Summary, for approval or further consideration: Cllr Cannon said that the area had now been reduced to 75m either side of the bus shelter. He felt that the council would cover costs of mowing, but removal of grass and seed planting would be a volunteer activity. He will consider how the grass will be disposed of. Cllr Cannon to confirm any health and safety requirements of staff or volunteers working on the verge.

Cllr. Slack proposed to help and discuss this issued as part of the climate change group, Cllr. Needham seconded. All in favour. This item will be included on the Next Agenda

20/197 Maintenance

Cllr Axon reported stopcock cover missing on Long Furrow. Clerk updated it’s been reported, County Council issue. A cone will cover hold until this is fixed.

20/198 Items approved for expenditure

Proposed Accounts /£150 consultation funds for planning application/Councillor training £40

Chair’s Allowance £300

Resolved, all in favour, no objections.

20/199 Urgent items by permission of the Chairman

Buffer stop – renewal of plaque. Price to be researched.

Councillor Nelson has requested to attend the Councillor Training course on 20 January, cost £40.00 – This was agreed

Private property sign required for land on Broome Lane.

Cllr. Axon, speeding, traffic light sequencing changes, Resolved – write to Cllr. Poland as CC issue

Cllr. Needham – proposed going paperless. Cllr Axon seconded. All meeting papers will be sent on email. Individual Councillors can ask for any hard copies which they wish to receive. Councillors to inform the Clerk of their preferences. Cllr Slack seconded. Resolved, paperless, all in favour.

20/196 Staffing Matters

Standing order 18a was invoked, any members of the public were asked to leave.

A staffing meeting was held on 12 January 2021.

L Pizer and R Jones

14.01.21