

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 at 7.30pm at the East Goscote Village Hall

Present: Cllr L Needham (Chair) Cllr D Cannon
Cllr S Mousley Cllr C Tate

1 member of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Our Vice Chair asked that we have one minutes silence out of respect for the people in the Ukraine.

22/001 **Apologies for absence** Cllr S Gerrard, Cllr N Shivers, Cllr V Oakes, Cllr R Axon
Cllr J Poland

22/002 **To confirm the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting.**
The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday April 14th, 2021, were accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

22/003 **Matters arising from the minutes: None**

22/004 **Matters arising from the Police**
Annual figures were extracted by the Clerk from the website UK Crime Stats which gave a breakdown of offences and a total number of 92 crimes at East Goscote for the period Feb 21 – Jan 22. There were 103 for the previous 12 months (Feb 20 – Jan 21). Cllr Mousley queried the number of violent crimes as he felt this was high. He will query this with the police.
A crime report for the last 30 days was also noted.

22/005 **Chair's Report**
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
She had produced a written report included in everyone's papers.
Some of the issues covered were: -

- Council and Staff
- Planning
- The cost of vandalism – this year amounted to £150.00
- Dog Fouling
- East Goscote Library
- The Parish Phone App
- Neighbourhood Watch
- The Snow Warden Scheme
- The Long Furrow Magazine
- Speedwatch Scheme
- Wildflower Verge
- Treescapes
- Queens Jubilee Celebrations
- The Circus visiting East Goscote
- Greener Goscote
- Next year's projects

The Chair paid tribute to our County Councillor, Borough Councillor, MP Mr Argar, and our PCSO's for all their hard work. She also thanked the Council staff team for all their hard work this year.

There were no questions.

22/006

Finance report

The annual report was issued to everyone present, along with information about the precept. The 2022/23 budget would be £82,520.00 with the precept at £63,000. This equated to a cost of £67.18 for a band D property.

Projects for 2022/23 include re-tarmac works to the multi-sports court, repairing the wet pour on the Lilac Way play area and the Jubilee Celebrations.

There were no questions.

22/007

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Needham issued a written report which included the following topics:

- Land off Melton Road Planning permission for up to 270 houses was granted in August 2021 by the Planning Committee. It has recently been reported that Redrow homes has purchased the site, though building is still not expected to begin until next year at least. There will be a final consultation named a 'Reserved Matters' consultation, which is to inform how the site will look when completed.
- Charnwood Local Plan 2021-37 - The Local Plan sets out how much and what kind of development happens across the Borough from now until 2037. The final Local Plan was approved at Full Council in September 2021 by a majority of Councillors. Following this, CBC submitted the final Local Plan for examination in December 2021. This is now due to be heard by a government Inspector to ensure it is legally sound. The public will be able make representations to the independent Inspector during the examination. These hearings are due to commence on the 28 June.
- The Budget was approved at Full Council in February with the main points being: -
 - A rise in Council Tax of 9p per week for a band D property (average)
 - Savings of £800,000 being made, namely by reducing the opening times at the Southfields Offices and call centre and the ending of the Shopmobility scheme.
 - Increasing charges to generate £400,000 of income. These include raising bulky waste charges from £20 to £25 and garden waste charges rising to £50
- Council tax rebate – energy price increases Households in bands A- D will receive a £150 rebate in their Council Tax in light of the increased energy prices. If you pay by Direct Debit this will be automatically funded to your bank account from May.
- The vaccination centre has now permanently moved out of St Hilda's Church – it closed on 31st March 2022 after 13 months and over 75,000 vaccinations. Sincere thanks to Rev Tim, St Hildas and all the volunteers and clinicians who helped our village be part of the fight against Covid.
- Waste Strategy There is a public consultation running until April 25th about the future of waste and recycling collections in Leicestershire. The government are proposing lots of changes about how Local Councils will be expected to improve recycling rates including mandatory kerb side food waste collections
- Boundary Changes: The Local Government Boundary Commission England has produced it final report on the boundary changes for Charnwood Borough

Council. As on the local elections 2023, East Goscote will now be part of a three-member ward renamed 'Wreake Valley' which will include part of Syston, Queniborough, Rearsby, Thrussington, Cossington, Ratcliffe on the Wreake and South Croxton.

There were no questions.

22/008

County Councillors Report

A written report was issued to everyone with the agenda.

The last 12 months have again been dominated by covid-19 and its wider effects on society. The roll out of the vaccine has meant that the link between people getting covid and people subsequently being hospitalised with it has been broken, and that in turn led to the reducing and finally removal of restrictions we've seen since. Leicestershire County Council has been supporting communities throughout this time.

Leicestershire County Council has got together with the other 19 lowest funded authorities in the country to put pressure on government to reform local government funding. This group of authorities, known as the F20 Group, ultimately want fairer funding reform but as a first step is asking for a base level of funding for the lowest funded authorities to ensure the lowest funded authorities can at least improve their situation at a relatively smaller cost to central government.

In May 2021 I was honoured to be re-elected to serve as the County Councillor for Syston Fosse, I'd like to thank everyone who supported me and since then I've very much continued the job of working hard for everyone in the Division and being Syston Fosse's voice at County Hall. As part of that role since last June I've served as a Scrutiny Commissioner, examining the work of the County's Cabinet as well as what Leicestershire County Council is doing more broadly

Cllr Poland thanked the Parish Office staff, our Borough Councillor, and our MP Edward Argar.

22/009

East Goscote Village Hall Update

All members received a copy of the annual report with their agenda.

Details included were:

- Village hall toilets have been refurbished
- New flat roof about the kitchen and office
- Grants received totalling £10,667.00 (COVID)
- Re-open fully in August 2021 with lots of bookings being taken
- Brownie Leader reaches 40 years' service to the 1st East Goscote Brownies.

Thanks were noted to the village hall committee and staff along with all the regular users of the hall whose funding helps us to make all the improvements to the hall. The Clerk informed the Council that she was working with Charlotte along with Leicester De Montfort University to look in more depth at the Carbon Footprint of the Village Hall. This is in initial stages – the VHMC are also investigating an updated energy audit.

22/010

Matters arising by permission of the Chair

The Chair confirmed that approval of the April accounts would be by the Chair/Clerk and Vice Chair, and they would be ratified in May. All Councillors had received a copy of April's accounts.

All annual reports for 2022 are now featured on our website in the “reports” section.

Councillors discussed the AGM in May and due to the unavailability of many Councillors it was agreed to re-arrange the date. The meeting will now be held on Wednesday 18th May at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

L. Pizer
14th April 2022