

## EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30pm at the East Goscote Village Hall.**

Present:

Cllr D Cannon (Vice -Chair)

Cllr R Axon

Cllr D Westerveld

Cllr R Fazackerley

Cllr N Shivers

Cllr C Tate

Cllr V Oakes

Mrs L Pizer (Clerk)

Mrs C Turlington (Deputy Clerk)

#### 22/215 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting adjourned)**

None

#### 22/216 **Matters arising from the Police.**

PCSO Harrison confirmed that the police will hold a beat surgery on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon in the library. We believe that this will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

22/217 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr S Gerrard, Cllr A Harris, Cllr L Needham, and Cllr Poland have sent in their apologies for absence.

22/218 **To report any declarations of interest** Cllr Cannon regarding the Long Furrow, Library, and Greener Goscote; Cllr Shivers regarding Village Hall.

#### 22/219 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (09.01)**

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

#### 22/220 **Matters arising from the minutes.**

22/196 – (22/171) Cllr Axon to draft response to Highways regarding their misunderstanding that we would like a permanent exit onto the bypass. In fact we have asked for a temporary access onto the bypass for construction vehicles only. – Cllr Axon hasn't done this yet but will look into it.

22/196 – (22/174) The works to the tree obscuring the 30/50mph sign have been completed.

22/197 – Red Gate – awaiting a quote from the playground contractor.

22/204 – Vandalised memorial tree – the Clerk will contact the resident to ask if she would like to use the established Oak near the scout hut.

22/210 – Civility and Respect – we have signed up to the pledge and received a certificate.

22/213 – Save a life course was extremely successful – there was a total of 26 participants and the evening was excellent – photos are on our website with permission from those who attended.

#### 22/221 **County Councillors Report**

Cllr Poland circulated a report, topics covered include:

- County Council waives road closure fees for Coronation celebrations – the deadline for applications is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and the council says it's decision to waive fees will help support villages and communities who want to organise events.
- Council received £63k funding to take net zero plans forward – chosen as one of 31 places, Leicestershire has received funding from Innovate UK, which will allow the

council and its partners to develop detailed plans for the best way to work together to deliver the net zero target by 2045.

- Online map to protect County's trees – a new searchable website-based map which allows people in Leicestershire to play their part in protecting some of the county's most valuable trees has been launched. Members of the public can check whether trees are covered by a TPO before carrying out any works to trees, or starting any building works which may affect trees covered by a TPO. Breaching a TPO by carrying out unauthorised works can lead to a fine of up to £20,000. There are currently 265 TPO's in the county.

The Clerk will request the Speedwatch data from Cllr Poland.

22/222

### **Borough Councillors Report**

No report received.

22/223

### **Reports from Representatives on other Committees**

VHMC – A meeting was held on 13<sup>th</sup> February and a written report was circulated for all Councillors and includes:

- The hall continues to benefit from high usage and is financially healthy.
- There are many projects in the pipeline for 2023 including a sound system and hearing loop, an air conditioning unit for the parish office, the main hall is being painted and a new floor is being fitted in the summer.
- The hall has also completed their climate action plan and have improved their display energy rating to a "B". Cllr Cannon asked to see the action plan when available.
- Hire charges are being reviewed.
- The hall has paid for the Deputy Clerk to attend 5 training courses including Fire Warden training, Manual Handling, Lone Working and Data protection. The Fire Warden training will be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March and all councillors are welcome to attend.

PAV/PLAYING FIELD – Checks for January have been carried out by Cllrs Westerveld, Harris, and Shivers. February checks will be carried out by the Clerk and Caretaker towards the end of February. The following items were discussed, and it was noted that:

- Whirlybird Roundabout – the seats are all perishing and the cost to replace all four of these is £429.00. RESOLVED to proceed on the proviso that we can either fit these ourselves or the quote includes fitting. The Clerk will request additional information and Cllr Shivers will have a look at how the current seats are fitted.
- Basket Swing – the Clerk advised that she has requested a site meeting with the inspector during his visit in March to ask his professional opinion on reinstalling the basket swing.
- Missing Bin Lid – as this is still missing it was RESOLVED to purchase a new bin at a cost of £200.

LONG FURROW – Articles have been submitted including the Parish Priorities survey, photos of the afternoon tea event and the proposed Coronation event. The Feb edition is out for delivery and is on our website. The accounts have been presented and the current balance is £2265.00. Each edition costs in the region of £530 to print. The deadline for the April edition is 14<sup>th</sup> March and we will include the Coronation poster on the front page if possible, and feedback from the parish priorities survey.

TREES – Cllr Axon circulated a report, and the following points were noted:

- Branch on Stollers Way/Weavers Wynd – this was knocked off by a van and has been dealt with. The issue of vehicles driving through the pedestrianised area was discussed and it was RESOLVED that some of the free trees be planted along the top of Bracken Dale to potentially stop people driving through this area.
- Proposal for a map of where future trees can be planted – this can be included as part of the Reaching People funding proposal. Cllr Axon mentioned that the areas managed by EGPC are becoming limited as to where new trees can be planted, and Cllr Shivers proposed asking the management companies of the Rearsby Roses/Willowbrook site if they could be planted in those areas.

NHOOD WATCH – No report

GREENER GOSCOTE – The group intends to apply for a Shire Grant focussing on waste issues.

CLIMATE CHANGE – The wildlife verge was raked twice in January. This will benefit the spring plug plants, perennials and annual seeds. As previously agreed, additional plug plants will be purchased in March and planted in April.

The Queens Canopy – 45 trees to be collected to replace some of these.

Environment policy – applying for the Reaching People environment fund.

SCOUT LEASE UPDATE – The scouts have now replied with details of the style of fencing and the height which will be 2.4m. It will be butted up to the railway fence but not attached. Two quotes have been received and both solicitors have confirmed that the existing lease will have to be surrendered and a new lease re-granted. The cost of this ranges between £1250 and £1300 plus vat which the scout group have agreed to pay. RESOLVED to go ahead with the change to this lease using Josiah Hinks as the solicitor for EGPC.

COLLABORATIVE GROUP FEEDBACK – The Clerk wrote to other Clerks and feedback has been received from Queniborough Parish Council who have agreed not to go ahead with the group in the suggested format. There has been no feedback received from Rearsby or Thrussington Parish Councils and no further contact from Mr Field. RESOLVED that no further action be taken at this time.

22/224

### **Proposed Accounts**

The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £6329.30 for February subject to the detailed approval of the invoices and accounts summary by the Chair and Vice Chair.

22/225

### **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors present:

- Election information given to Councillors – A briefing will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. The deadline for completed forms is 4<sup>th</sup> April and an appointment will need to be made to take these to CBC.
- Charnwood Climate Change strategy – consultation until 6<sup>th</sup> March
- Data protection renewal for the Neighbourhood Watch group was agreed.
- The internal audit (via LRALC) will be done on 18<sup>th</sup> May.
- Accounts for the Long Furrow magazine were received.

- The Certificate to sign us up to the Civility and Respect project was received.
- The Pension Re-enrolment has been completed.
- Criminal Damage to the Bus Shelter – options to repair this were discussed, including utilising Perspex or marine ply; and it was agreed that the Clerk obtain quotes for both options for materials only and bring to the next meeting for a decision.

22/226

### **Planning Matters**

P/23/0004/2 – Erection of two storey extension to side of dwelling – 25 Keepers Croft – this was previously objected but has now been modified – No Objection

Redrow Update:

- The Chair and Clerk met with representatives from Redrow and Boyer on 24<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the recent tree issues that the Chair had been made aware of. They advised that the reserved matters application has been validated by Charnwood BC and will be out for 21 days consultation at any time. Linda Walker is Charnwood's case officer. Redrow are looking at a design for a crossing under the Highway Safety Scheme.
- A meeting was held with Cllr Poland on 7<sup>th</sup> February at the site of the crossing to show him that parents with prams or pushbikes cannot safely cross the Melton Road to the western side where there is a footpath to the village centre. Cllr Poland has spoken with LCC Highways to discuss this and has advised that Redrow can install a crossing provided they adhere to the specification and will pay for it.
- P/22/2279/2 – Application for Approval of Reserved Matters – The Clerk has copies of the plans, maps, housing brochure and design statement available for anyone who wishes to have a look. She has requested an extension to the comments' deadline to 15<sup>th</sup> March so that any comments can be approved at the next meeting. It was also proposed and Resolved that this information be shared with the public via Facebook Spotted. Cllr Axon will forward suggested wording to the office. Queniborough Parish Council have responded to the application and raised several points that they request the planning authority fully assess.

Consultation on revising the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – the Clerk circulated details of the proposed reform to the NPPF, including 26 key points; with the main point effecting EGPC being the removal of the requirement for planning authorities to guarantee a 5-year planning supply. The consultation deadline for comments is 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

22/227

### **Review of Hire Charges – 1<sup>st</sup> May implementation**

For the 22/23 season the Council allowed the football teams/clubs to mark their own pitches which considerably reduced the charges for each team/pitch. The senior team has written in to say that they preferred the higher charge with the council marking out the pitch. RESOLVED that a separate meeting be held to look at the feedback as to how this worked, the costs this year to run the pavilion and the possibility of offering separate agreements i.e., EGPC marking the senior pitch, the junior club marking themselves. It was noted that if we revert back, there will be additional costs to repair the line marker and a potential 2-year price increase. The Clerk, Cllr Needham, Cllr Shivers, and Cllr Tate be given delegated powers to agree the final charges for next season.

22/228

### **Budget expenditure update**

The Clerk issued all Councillors with an update on the latest expenditure and approximate spends for February and March. Variances were discussed along with the agreement to vire some of the unspent budgets into those which had a shortfall.

22/229

**Do we wish to purchase a share of a new VAS with Queniborough PC**

Queniborough Parish Council have written to ask if we wish to contribute to the purchase of a shared vehicle activated sign as the existing one is broken. The expected total cost is in the region of £3000. RESOLVED that the Clerk respond advising that we do not wish to proceed due to us having purchased our own through the Members Highways Fund.

22/230

**Coronation Event – Fundraising/budget**

The Coronation event working party met on 7<sup>th</sup> February and the minutes have been circulated to all Councillors. The cost is expected to be £463.50 with a budget of £500.00. More flags may also be purchased. The working group would like a cardboard King Charles and it was suggested that this could be purchased within this year’s budget out of the Jubilee event surplus at a cost of £35.99. This was all agreed.

Fundraising – The working group recommends that this years’ fundraising goes to “Rainbows Hospice” as Loros and Lingdale Lodge have received donations recently and this was approved. Cllr Oakes mentioned Rainbows Hospice may wish to have a stall at the event. (Cllr Cannon to action).

22/231

**To consider allowing 8 temporary floodlights on the playing fields.**

To date we have not received any more information to our queries. No further action.

22/232

**To sign the VAS licence from Leics County Council**

We have received two licences for “consent under section 72 of the road traffic act” for the installation of a) signs in the highway on various roads and b) for the installation of a sign and post at Long Furrow. These new licences are updates to the ones previously agreed for the erection of vehicles activated signs. Cllr Cannon signed the forms as Chair of the meeting.

22/233

**Reaching People Fund**

The submission deadline for this grant is 23<sup>rd</sup> February. The Climate Change Group have met to discuss ideas, and the proposal was circulated to all Councillors, which includes:

- Funding a UK-Hab Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, focussing mostly on the areas that the parish council can influence.
- To ensure the application meets the requirements of ‘reaching people’ this will also involve holding some guided walks that the Councillors can continue with and promoting a hedgehog highway project.

The outcome would be an authoritative full report and maps on the natural state of the parish which will form the basis of future projects.

Cllr Cannon to complete the application form and send to the Clerk for completion by 20<sup>th</sup> February.

22/234

**To confirm Tree planting areas.**

Cllr Cannon is collecting 45 trees at the end of February from LCC (FOC) with stakes and guards. A planting date of Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February has been agreed with Greener Goscote volunteers, should anyone wish to assist. RESOLVED to approve a budget of £50 for sundry items to aid with planting. Cllrs Axon and Shivers have investigated areas to ensure viability, however some species cannot be planted within specified distances of services and the Clerk will investigate this. Cllr Axon circulated a document to include the below proposal and it was

RESOLVED to use this as a guideline with a degree of flexibility when planting, with Cllr Axon as Tree Warden marking out the areas and the species proposed:

- 6 to replace in the QGC.
- 6 to fill the gap in the hedge on Lilac Way
- 10 low hedge height near the Industrial Estate/Tennis Court on the Playing Field
- 4 to replace ones along the wall on Lilac Way but relocated near the corner to be further away from the property.
- 3 to 5 on the small green on Lilac Way near to the flood plain
- Up to 15 on the front of Lilac Way (Melton Road)

22/235

**Parish priorities – Circulation and Marketing**

The Parish Priorities survey has been advertised in our Long Furrow. We have also put this on our website and on the Facebook Spotted site, and this will be readvertised nearer the closing date. The survey has also been mailed to Broomfield Primary School to go out with their Friday Flyer and additional copies have been given to the Village Hall pre-school, Brownies, Rainbows and Guides, and will be given Cllr Oakes to distribute to the Scouts. Surveys and the respond boxes are available in the Café and the Library. The office will analyse the responses for presentation at our March Meeting and decisions need to be made to inform CBC of our priorities for future S106 funding. Feedback will also be included in the next edition of the Long Furrow for the public.

22/236

**Maintenance**

Cllrs Westerveld and Tate have completed the bus shelter checks and submitted photographs of works that need completing for the Caretaker.

Cllr Shivers handed in his maintenance form.

Cllr Fazackerley arranged to meet Cllr Shivers for guidance on completing her area for the first time.

22/237

**Items approved for Expenditure.**

Roundabout seats

Litter bin

Coronation event cut-out

Planting sundries

22/238

**Urgent Items by Permission of the Chairman**

- Staffing meeting to review salaries – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 – time to be confirmed.
- Consider installing bollards at Weavers Wynd – next agenda depending on success of tree planting

22/239

**Date and time of the next Full Council meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Monday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

L Pizer/C Turlington

14.02.23