

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, April 13th 2016 at 7.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr S Lander

Cllr R Merry Howe

Cllr S Gerrard

Cllr E Garner

Cllr J Malpus

Cllr L Castle

Cllr K Preston

Cllr L Needham

Cllr D Houseman

6 Members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this was the forum for village issues and was not a Parish Council meeting, however, any questions may be dealt with at a future meeting, and would not be debated at this meeting. Any personal matters or complaints should be put to the council in writing. All Councillors present were available to listen to any issues that residents may wish to bring to their attention.

The Chairman then welcomed our new Caretaker Mr Colin Cheeseman who will be taking over from Mr Nick Shivers.

16/001 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr C Duffy and Cllr D Eden sent their apologies.

16/002 **To confirm the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting.**
The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday April 8th 2015 were accepted as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

16/003 **Matters arising from the minutes:**
None

16/004 **Matters arising from the Police** (The police were not present)
Annual figures were extracted by the Clerk from the website UK Crime Stats which gave a breakdown of offences and a total number of crimes at East Goscote of 115 for the period of Feb 15 – Jan 16.
At last year's annual meeting it was reported that there had been 102 Crimes 27.03.14 – 27.03.14)

16/005 **Chairman's Report**
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
She had produced a written report included in everyone's papers.
Some of the issues raised were:-

- Council and Staff
- Vehicle Activated Speed Sign
- Planning and the Rearsby Roses development
- The cost of vandalism – this year amounted to £100.00
- Dog Fouling
- The Village Hall
- East Goscote Library
- The Parish Phone App
- Playing Field Lease
- Bus Shelter
- The Village Green Play Area Upgrade
- The Council Van

➤ Next years projects

The Chairman paid tribute to, Dave Houseman for all his work as our County Councillor, Sue Gerrard for representing us on the Borough Council, and her Vice Chairman John Malpus. She also thanked the Council staff team for all their hard work this year.

She also wished to thank East Goscote Village Pre-school who worked so hard to make the Christmas celebrations a success.

Finally she thanked the people of East Goscote for their support to ensure that our village continues to flourish.

16/006

Finance report

The annual report was issued to everyone present and the Vice Chairman explained that these were a good set of figures. He advised that the 2016/17 budget would be £75,100.00 with the precept at £56,230. This equated to a cost of £59.73 for a band D property which is a 4.4% reduction on last year.

Projects for 2016/17 include applying for a healthy living grant to install fitness equipment on the mound, seed planting around the mound to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday celebrations, upgrade to another bus shelter, upgrade to the noticeboard on Weavers Wynd and the possibility of a Christmas Event.

A member of the public said that the new play equipment was being “really enjoyed” by the children and it was a pleasure to see them enjoying our facilities.

16/007

Borough Councillors Report

A written report was issued to everyone present.

The report contained information relating to:-

- The Core Strategy
- The Boundaries Commission – although the information written in this report was confirmed as incorrect – see County Councillor report
- Thank you to Library Committee
- Speeding – SG would like to see a 20mph limit on Long Furrow

Q. How much Council tax are we paying to the Borough Council and has there been an increase.

A. Yes it has gone up.

Q. Can you tell me what the Core Strategy was all about ?

A. It is about land supply and building in certain areas. Modifications have been made – it is about safeguarding land.

Q. At our Council meeting in March – you said you would be investigating if anything can be done re the health and safety of the front area of Sims Public House – have you done anything ?

A – No I haven't been well for the last three weeks.

Q. Since being elected what have been your main achievements ?

A. I have dealt with housing issues, and have had a bin relocated, also I managed to raise £70 with the help of the “doll raffle” at the chemist.

Q Can you give examples of your help to the residents ?

A. No for confidential reasons.

Q. Advertising boards have been erected at a residential property – is this acceptable ?

A. The Chairman advised that this has been reported to the Borough Council planning

department.

Q. Has anything been done about the planned speed reduction and traffic calming measures for Melton Road via the Section 106 monies.

This was a County Council issue and Cllr Houseman advised that normally before schemes are implemented the Parish Council would be consulted. However if Cllr Preston forwards the details to Cllr Houseman giving information regarding the developer contribution he will investigate the progress with the scheme as the Section 106 is a legal document and conditions do have to be adhered to.

Q. There is a problem with cars parked along Ploughmans Lea – “nose to tail” and around the bend causing visibility problems.

A. The Chairman will ensure that the police are made aware of this issue.

The Clerk informed the meeting of details regarding the council tax and core strategy.

16/008

County Councillors Report

A written report was issued to everyone present.

Cllr Houseman’s Report concentrated on the Medium Term Financial Strategy which is the key financial plan for the County Council. This was the most challenging MTFS that the Council has faced, probably since it was established 40 years ago. The Council tax will be increased by 3.99%. This includes a 2% increase allocated for Adult Social Care. LCC are the second lowest funded comparable Local Authority in England, which will make it very difficult for the Council to continue to deliver the services the same way as it has done in the past – LCC are challenging this.

The Council’s revenue budget for 2016/17 is £345m and £127m of this will be spent on Adult Social Care.

Cllr Houseman also gave out written information relating to the final recommendations for the new electoral division boundaries in Syston and Thurmaston.

The commission is proposing that the County Council should comprise of 55 Councillors.

Proposals for the Syston/Thurmaston area are as follows:-

Syston Fosse: will comprise of the parishes of Cossington, East Goscote, Queniborough, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, Rearsby, Thrussington and the Central Avenue area of Syston.

Syston Ridgeway – will comprise the parish of Wanlip, and the majority of Syston except for the Central Avenue Area.

Thurmaston Ridgemere – will comprise of the parishes Barkby, Barkby Thorpe, Beeby, South Croxton and Thurmaston.

Details of the closure of the M1 on Saturday 7th and 14th May were also given out in Written form to those present.

Cllr Houseman thanked the Council Staff who are very talented, all Councillors, the police and the village residents for their support. He said he was in his last year of service, and it had been a privilege to be our County Councillor.

Q. With the budget cut backs is there any possibility that the Bus Pass scheme will be withdrawn ?

A. To the best of his knowledge this would remain in place.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Houseman for his report.

16/009

Matters arising by permission of the Chairman

Councillor Castle publically thanked the Chairman Sally Lander for her hard work this past year. She said that since the Council breakdown – being left inquorate and the resignation of Mr Black (previous Chairman) she has built bridges with residents, given them someone to approach and made this Council a friendly and productive Council once again.

We now have an excellent working group who will continue to flourish and I am proud to say that I am a Councillor.

The Chairman agreed that this council is now thriving and will achieve a lot in the forthcoming year- all members being highly motivated and positive.

She thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

L. Pizer
14th April 2016