

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2017 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present: Mr John Malpus (Chair)
Mrs Elaine Garner Mrs Laurie Needham
Mrs Lisa Castle Mr Mehmet Gonulalan
Mr Roger Merry-Howe Mrs Cathy Duffy
Mr J Poland Mr Webbon (Tree warden)

17/114 **Matters Arising from the Public (Meeting adjourned)**

17/115 **Election of Chairman**

Mr Malpus was elected as Chairman and duly signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

17/116 **Election of Vice Chairman**

Mrs Cathy Duffy was elected as Vice Chairman and duly signed the declaration of office.

17/117 **Apologies for Absence:** Mrs C Taylor, Mrs Sue Gerrard, Mr Kevin Preston PCSO Geeson. Ms Sally Lander was absent but did not send any apologies. Mr Malpus explained that if you require a long-term absence or if your absence has a valid reason, and is put in writing and approved by Council, then the 6 month disqualification rule does not apply.

17/118 **To report any declarations of interest:** Mr Malpus re the library, Long Furrow And Christmas project, Mrs Duffy regarding the Village Hall, Mrs Needham regarding the Library, Mr Merry Howe re the Christmas Project.

17/119 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (06.09)**

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

17/120 **Matters arising from the minutes**

17/087 – Awaiting reply to Cllr Gerrard from Jelsons regarding Sims.

17/062 – Cllr Gerrard – awaiting report from Health and Safety officer re Sims

17/066 – Cllr Gerrard received a resident complaint re lighting at Merchants Common.

In September she stated that she hadn't written to Jelsons due to computer problems – Cllr Gerrard to confirm if this has been done.

17/097 – Cadent gas have removed container.

17/101 – Awaiting update from Wreake Valley re defibrillator.

17/104 – Bus stop enhancements – Cllr Merry Howe and Malpus have not yet made further enquiries.

17/105 – Residents have been informed that the first aid training has been postponed until the defibrillator is installed.

17/097 – Cllr Needham to invite gentleman to discuss the Wreake Valley Way with the library volunteers.

17/106 – Work has been undertaken on the trees to the front of Sims public house. However the frontage still remains an eyesore. Cllr Malpus will follow up his initial letter to Enterprise Inns.

- 17/121 **Matters arising from the Police**
PCSO Geeson emailed a report which was read out to the meeting. There were 7 crime incidents reported and it was noted that PCSO Geeson wished to speak with the Parish Council regarding monitoring of speeding vehicles in the village.
- 17/122 **County Councillors questions**
Cllr Poland sent a report which was emailed to all Councillors. There were no questions for Cllr Poland.
- 17/123 **Borough Councillors questions**
Cllr Gerrard sent a report which was emailed to Councillors.
- A litter bin has been installed adjacent to the new bus shelter on Melton Road.
 - £100 was donated by the public for a defibrillator following a raffle in the Chemist, organised by Cllr Gerrard. In the Borough Councillor's report it states "the money has not been donated to the council, it cannot be used until it has been donated". The Council need confirmation as to whose money this is. The public were informed it was for a village defibrillator and therefore the Council feel it should be given to Wreake Valley School who are raising funds for this.
- 17/124 **Review of Reps on Committees and Reports from Representatives on other Committees**
- VHMC – A meeting was held on 21st Sept. C Duffy gave a full report from that meeting. Bookings were strong; we are still working on grant applications to get the roof replaced, although this may be deferred until next summer. The new pre-school has started. A New men's urinal will be fitted during half term along with Boiler Repairs and a gas check. Next meeting 23rd November 2017.
- PAV/PLAYING FIELD: J Malpus will carry out playground/pavilion checks in due course.
- LONG FURROW – Deadline for articles is 16th October. There will be a plea for an editor on the front page and it will be a 4 or 8 page greyscale publication, with no advertising. The cost to print is £100.00 and Cllr Malpus will be the editor for this edition only. If an editor does not come forward the magazine may be not published after this edition. The committee hold a balance of approximately £1800. Cllr Duffy will write a parish report for this edition.
- NHOOD WATCH –no report
- TREES – Mr Webbon has carried out tree checks and given the information to the Clerk. He was asked if he could submit photographs so the clerk can identify the trees and forward onto the necessary authority.
- PARISH APP - Total downloads were Android 195, Apple 376.
- WEBSITE – Total website page views (last 12 months) 3977
- 17/125 **Proposed Accounts**
The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £5987.58 for October.

17/126

Correspondence

A list of correspondence received was given out to all Councillors present

- Resident letter re missing bollard at The Headland/Broome Lane – The Council felt that we should monitor this before replacing the bollards as it would be very difficult for cars to drive over the kerbs and use it as a short cut.
- External audit completed and now available on our website.

17/127

Planning Matters

P17/1813/2 – 17 Broome Avenue – only 4 councillors responded so no comments were sent in from the Parish Council.

6 Broomfield – Confirmation that this has been called in although Planning Officer Mr Holmes stated that “amendments are currently being sought to reduce the height of the proposal and the application has not yet been decided.”

17/128

Christmas Update

a) **To approve the contractor for light installation.**

TLB have quoted a fee of £600 to install and remove the lights. RESOLVED that we ask TLB to carry out the installation.

b) **To consider a Christmas project for the elderly.**

The Library volunteers have suggested that an afternoon tea/sing-along event be held on Saturday 16th December. The cost for a maximum of 100 people would be in the region of £210 for food and paper-ware, £30 for the music and £57.50 for the hall and cleaning. Library volunteers will manage the event and possibly hold a raffle. Brownies and guides have been asked to help. An article will be placed in the next Long Furrow and tickets must be collected from the library. RESOLVED that a maximum of £300 be budgeted for this event. It was agreed that tickets must be obtained by 11th December and it would be offered to age 65 and over. If the demand is very high, there is an option of holding two time slots i.e. 1.30 – 3.00pm and 3.15pm to 4.45pm to cater for higher numbers.

17/129

To arrange a date to consider next years' precept (Dec mtg approval)

The Finance committee will meet to discuss next year's precept. All councillors were asked to submit to the Clerk their suggestions for village improvements next year before the end of October. The Committee will meet on the 16th of November at 2pm. The draft precept will be presented to full council in December.

17/130

To consider the re-valuation of the Pavilion

Our insurance broker advised us that we should have our buildings valued every 5-10 years for insurance purposes. Two quotes have been obtained. RESOLVED that we appoint Andrew Granger and Co to re-value the pavilion at a cost of £175 + Vat.

17/131

To arrange employee appraisals

The staffing committee have been given the opportunity to complete the staff feedback forms, by November 3rd. Appraisals will be held on 16th November prior to the precept meeting commencing at 12.30pm. The Chairman and Clerk will complete the staff appraisals and the Chairman and Vice Chairman will complete the Clerks appraisal.

17/132

To consider option for completion of the risk assessments for the street furniture/pavilion and council offices

The Clerk provided the Council with three quotes for risk assessments, one being a price for a fully comprehensive health and safety package. The council agreed to appoint Essential Safety Solutions to carry out the risk assessment at a cost of £300.00

- 17/133 **To consider purchasing replacement hedging plants for the side of the mound.**
The Clerk presented prices to replace failed Hawthorne hedge plants at approx. 3-4ft in height, RESOLVED that we purchase 50 plants at a cost of £1 each and we will also purchase some guards to protect them. Maximum budget £150.00
- 17/134 **Update re the Charnwood Lease/Scout Lease**
The working party met with our solicitor and read through in detail the draft lease from Charnwood. Amendments have been suggested and sent back to Charnwood for their consideration. Once this lease has been agreed, a licence is required to sub-let to the scouts based on the same terms. The terms of engagement form was signed and the council were informed that the fee estimate was currently £750 plus disbursements. We have a budget of £3000 for legal fees, and it was noted that we also have to pay for Charnwood's legal fees in preparing the lease, which we were advised would be in the region of £1300.
- 17/135 **Budget Update**
The Clerk presented details of the current expenditure to the end of September. All budget headings were on target and there were no questions.
- 17/136 **To review our media policy**
The Clerk issued all councillors with a suggested policy following a clerks meeting which highlighted many issues clerks are facing with social media posts. RESOLVED that all Councillors present read through the policy and make individual comments, and then the Chairman and Clerk will amend and present the final draft to the Council in November.
- 17/137 **Maintenance**
Bus Shelter by the brook – has been repaired although a new front fascia may be required.
- 17/138 **Items approved for Expenditure**
Christmas Event, Hedging plants, Risk assessments, insurance revaluation, legal fees.
- 17/139 **Urgent Items by Permission of the Chairman**
 - Cllr Malpus attended a meeting at County Hall to discuss “the way forward” looking at Parish Councils taking on more services.
 - Cllr Duffy applied for the position of Parish Councillor on Charnwood's conduct committee and although there were many applications, and several days of interviewing, we are pleased to announce that Cllr Duffy was awarded the role.
 - All Councillors were invited to attend the Parish Clerks 25 year service award which will be held on Monday 11th December in the village hall at 6.30pm.
- 17/140 **Date and time of the next Full Council meeting:**
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 8th 2017.
Cllr Merry Howe gave his apologies for this meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

L Pizer
12.10.17