

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2019 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Cathy Duffy (Chair) Cllr David Cannon
Cllr Sue Gerrard Cllr Laurie Needham
Cllr Martin Webbon Cllr Michelle Nelson

1 members of the public

19/146 **Co-option of New Members** - None

19/147 **Matters Arising from the Public (Meeting adjourned)**

One member of the public again raised the issue of cars leaving their engines running outside the school gates. Cllr Nelson said that the Headteacher was interested in having poster boards on the school hedge explained that it was against the law. It was agreed that the council would inform our new PCSO to ask if they can do anything to help.

19/148 **Matters arising from the Police**

A report was emailed to the Clerk and will be distributed to all Councillors.

19/149 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Malpus (Holiday)

19/150 **To report any declarations of interest** Cllr Duffy re the Village hall, Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow Magazine.

19/151 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (09.10)**

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

19/152 **Matters arising from the minutes**

- 19/121 -LCC are investigating the blocked drain on the Long Furrow
- 19/122 -Cllr Merry Howe has been sent his gift voucher
- 19/125-Ling dale wall- Cllr Needham will again chase this up
- 19/082 - Playground inspections – The Clerk has clarified with our insurance company the inspection regime which is required. We do adhere to their requirements
- 19/143 - Jelsons was written to regarding the dipped drain at the rear of the Church.
- 19/093 – The Chairman thanked Cllr Webbon and our caretaker for fitting the 80 poppies to lampposts around the village.
- 19/137 – Wildflower planting on the verges – no further update
- 19/139 – Cllr Webbon has spoken with our caretaker who will be cementing the manhole covers down.

19/153 **County Councillors Report**

Cllr Poland reported on the following:-

- Green Plaque nominations open – This scheme recognises the impact individuals and places across the County have had on local communities. Nominations close on December 23rd.
- Equalities plan consultation launched – Residents and community organisations are being urged to help shape our 2020-2024 Equality strategy. It will help inform future work and actions to continue making council services and employment fair and inclusive for all by scrutinising the work we do around equality diversity, human rights and communities.

- Unitary Status – the discussion around this will be postponed until February 2020.

19/154

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Needham reported on the following:-

- Cllr Needham has been carrying out a lot of casework for our local residents
- Cllr Needham attended the remembrance service and laid a wreath
- A village litterpick was carried out and 10 bags of rubbish were collected. Another one hopefully will be arranged in the near future.
- Cllr Needham has allocated the £1000 member's grant to the Village Hall, Guides, and Library.
- Cllr Needham said she is working very hard with various group discussing the proposed local plan. With the allocation of housing for East Goscote it is imperative that we make everyone aware and try to reduce, or take out entirely the allocation for East Goscote.

Cllr Gerrard read out some information regarding measures taken to accommodate charging points for electric vehicles.

19/155

Reports from Representatives on other Committees

VHMC –Next meeting 21st November 2019. Finances are healthy. Cllr Duffy explained that the village hall committee are unhappy to erect a plaque next to the defib when they are unaware of who the donor is. Cllr Gerrard could not confirm who the donor was and after much discussion it was agreed that the plaque could read “Donated to the village of East Goscote by an anonymous donor”.

Cllr Gerrard left the meeting at this point.

PAV/PLAYING FIELD: Cllr Webbon has completing checks for October and November. Minor comments re our play areas will be addressed by the caretaker.

Cllr Webbon also carried out an inspection of some of the play areas signs. The clerk is obtaining quotes for some new signs including: No horse riding, no ball games, no parking on the grass and a new disclaimer sign.

One of our senior teams has folded. They have paid deposits amounting to £200 and also the first half of the season although only played one home match. Our conditions of hire (18a) states that should a team fold mid-way through the season, the paid instalment is non-refundable.

LONG FURROW –The latest edition is now on line. Cllr Cannon asked that funds for the Long Furrow be included in the precept meeting next year. He hopes to provide financial information in time for our next meeting.

TREES – The Clerk has ordered work to the Silver Birch tree on lilac Way and requested again that a branch near Broomfield be removed from the tree. Our Caretaker has lifted trees through the centre of the village (Weavers Wynd) for mower access and also the trees along the playing hedge. The hedge was trimmed back today.

- a) To consider the location for free trees from the Woodland Trust – Cllr Webbon and Nelson walked around the village and it was proposed that we order 30 trees to be planted in March 2020 in the “dog walk area”. RESOLVED to agree to plant these new trees. The Clerk confirmed that there was no agreement to be signed with the Woodland Trust in relation to these trees. Cllr Cannon said that he also has 10 trees from the Woodland Trust to be planted on the village.

WEBSITE AND MOBILE APP – Website – Page views over the last 12 months amounted to 5465 (5914 previous). App downloads stands at 312 Android, 485 Apple.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS;

a) Santa (6th Dec) – Sticker books have been delivered to the library for Santa to give out to the children.

b) Afternoon Tea/Sing-along (14th Dec) – was advertising in the Long Furrow and tickets are available to collect from the Library.

The closing date for applications to attend the Elderly Christmas Event is 6th December.

c) Christmas Tree Festival (6/7/ Dec) – Cllr Duffy will arrange to decorate a tree in the Church on behalf of the Council; this year's theme is "Christmas Carols, Songs and Stories".

DEFIB TRAINING UPDATE – The clerk confirmed that 13 people attending the training, which included users of the village hall and members of the Football Clubs. Cllrs Webbon and Cannon also attended. EMAS carried out the training which was very useful and very well presented.

RECYCLING – To discuss retaining the bottle banks. Cllr Cannon confirmed that we have been approached by the supplier of the bottle banks who are now asking for an annual payment of £302.95 to keep the bins in-situ. Much discussion took place regarding the council retaining this service. It was RESOLVED to speak with the Plough and local businesses to ascertain if they use the bottle banks to dispose of their glass. The Clerk will clarify the terms, i.e. can we cancel the contract after one month? If we cancel the contract and monitor the area, could the banks be re-installed if requested? It was agreed that we would continue the service to the end of December at the chargeable rate if this is possible. We will discuss this again at our next meeting.

19/156

Proposed Accounts

The Council accepted accounts to the sum of £5527.33 for November.

The Clerk advised that Waterplus have introduced a late payment fee (£40.00) if invoices are not paid within 14 days. She requested that we switch the pavilion water charges to a direct debit method of payment to avoid any charges. RESOLVED to switch over to this method.

19/157

Correspondence

A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors present

- Tree Warden – Cllr Webbon agreed to complete the survey from LCC
- Long Furrow – Thank you letter and request that future payments be made by bank transfer.
- Charity football match – Boxing day – Approved by the council
- Senior Team folded – Agreed to return their deposit only.
- Finding Fitness – Agreed not to take an action
- Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan – Comments by 9th December. Cllr Webbon agreed to read this document and create a response.
- Loc Gov – News re safety on councillors personal devices – Clerk to copy to all Councillors.
- Junior FC – confirmed that we have some of the best pitches in the County.
- Armed Forces covenant – Councillors discuss the delivery of this project and the signing of the covenant but felt that they were very few veterans on our village and we would not be signing the covenant.
- High Hedges – clarification re height

- 19/158 **Planning Matters**
P/19/2213/2 – Single storey extension to side of dwelling at 18 Tinkers Dell, East Goscote.
RESOLVED –no objection
- 19/159 **Local Plan consultation – to agree our response**
Charnwood Borough Council are currently preparing a new plan that once adopted sets the planning framework for Charnwood up to 2036. It identifies locations for development. Comments are invited until Monday 16th December at 5pm. East Goscote has been allocated 223 houses (ref HS67) at a site that has very recently been refused by Charnwood and the planning inspectorate at an inquiry this year. Cllr Needham has spoken with several organisations including CPRE, SELAG and KEGG and proposed that we employ a professional planning consultant to carry out a desk based study and respond to the consultation on our behalf. The cost of this has been quoted at £600, although could amount to a higher figure. Cllr Needham suggested that we could use funds from our contingency budget to fight this proposal on behalf of the village. RESOLVED unanimously agreed that we would employ the consultant and any comments or documents that we wish the consultant to be made aware of should be forwarded to Cllr Needham. The draft report will be circulated to all Councillors, and KEGG for comment. Any amendments will be made prior to our next meeting and the report/response will be ratified at our next meeting on December 11th.
- 19/160 **Budget update**
The clerk gave written details of our current budget and variances to date. There were no questions.
a) To consider replacing the bench on the playing fields
The Clerk confirmed that the existing black bench on the playing field was highlighted in the Risk assessments as a medium risk and suggested that it be replaced. RESOLVED that we purchase a bench the same style as the recycling plastic ones on the mound and playing fields (brown).
- 19/161 **Review of our litter bins and Dog Bins**
The Clerk has reviewed the dog bins and litter bins and recommended that the bin on the jubilee play area “Billy Bear” is in need of renewing. The concrete bin in the village Green also holds water and should be replaced with a bin on the fence. RESOLVED to purchase two new bins. (Penguin character bin to replace Billy Bear)
Also the Caretaker has confirmed that a new red dog bin is required for adjacent to the tennis court. All the bins will be purchased from the Village Green budget.
- 19/162 **To consider an asbestos survey for the pavilion.**
The risk assessment stated that we need to have an asbestos survey on the pavilion. The clerk gave information from two companies to have this survey carried out. RESOLVED to arrange for the works to go ahead at £160.00
- 19/163 **Speeding Project – ideas and costs**
Cllr Nelson informed the council that a meeting was held to look at ideas and costs to increase awareness to slow down on our village. Our assistant Clerk wrote to LCC re possible highway signage and a response was received from an officer. Cllr Nelson has requested that we meet the officer on site to look at key areas, and investigate the possibility of a crossing on the Long Furrow.
Ideas which were suggested were purchasing 50 x “20’s Plenty Bin Stickers” for key areas – possible Ling Dale, and Long Furrow, and creating two vinyl banners for temporary

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installation on our bus shelters, to ask drivers to “Stay at 30”. RESOLVED to purchase the stickers and banners as a temporary measure. Cllr Nelson agreed to visit residents to Ask them to put the stickers on the bins (approx. cost £120)

19/164 **To consider closing the tennis courts over the winter and removing the net.**

The Chairman suggested that as the use of the Court was very much weather dependant, both for safety reasons and to protect the surface of the court. RESOLVED to close the court from 2nd December to 2nd March 2020 unless the weather prevents it from opening in March, when delegated powers would be given to the Clerk.

Maintenance of the court - The court was installed in June 2015 and the installer suggests that it is maintained annually by means of a pressure wash to the surface and application of moss killer. Our Caretaker applied Moss killer last year which was very successful. RESOLVED to purchase this and reapply next spring at a cost of approximately £100. We are looking into the hiring of a pressure washer. Unfortunately, there is not a water supply nearby, so we would also need to hire a water container. The Caretaker will investigate if this is possible

19/165 **To consider donations to a) Marie Curie and b) EMAS Defib training**

The council agreed to award EMAS a £50 donation and no donation was awarded to Marie Curie.

19/166 **Maintenance**

All sheets were issued for completion by Councillors

The Clerk confirmed that from the tool budget she has purchased a new petrol hedge cutter for our Caretaker at a cost of £139.99

The clerk has purchased four new sets of lights for the Christmas tree at £94 and a transformer to check the lights prior to installation at a cost of £90.00

Cllr Nelson confirmed she has purchased bulbs at a cost of £25 and has arranged a planting day on Sunday 24th November at 2.30pm. The Chairman thanked Cllr Nelson for arranging this event.

19/167 **Items approved for Expenditure**

Litter Bins, Tennis maintenance, Bench, Hedgecutter, bulbs, donation to EMAS, Speeding project, Christmas Lights and transformer, dog bin, asbestos survey.

19/168 **Urgent Items by Permission of the Chairman**

- The staffing Committee are due to meet on November 18th. RESOLVED to replace Cllr Needham and Merry Howe with Councillor Nelson and Councillor Webbon.
- Cllr Duffy attended the Remembrance Service and laid a wreath on behalf of the Council.

19/169 **Date and time of the next Full Council meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday December 11th 2019.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

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14.11.19