

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 2020 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

Present:

Cllr J Malpus	Cllr L Needham
Cllr M Nelson	Cllr D Cannon
Cllr M Webbon	

4 members of the public

- 20/030 **Co-option of New Members**
The chairman confirmed that letters have been received from three applicants and we are awaiting completed questionnaires from them all. Once the questionnaires have been received, we will consider co-option, hopefully for July's meeting.
- 20/031 **To receive the resignation from our Vice Chair and Election of Vice Chairman**
A letter was received from Cllr Duffy to resign from the Parish Council and all other positions that she holds. Cllr Duffy was a Councillor from May 2015 to May 2020 and was also our Borough Councillor for two election terms in 2007. She has always worked very hard for our village and will be missed. RESOLVED to purchase a £50 gift as per our guidelines. Cllr Nelson was elected as our Vice Chairman on a temporary basis and will sign the declaration of acceptance of office. The vice chairman will sit on the Staffing Committee and Finance committee and other reps will be appointed when we have more Councillors at our next meeting.
- 20/032 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**
- One resident asked the council to consider pruning his tree which overhangs his property. Several Councillors had visited the property and said that it was overhanging and in accordance with our tree policy, the resident is entitled to trim the tree back to the fence boundary.
 - It was confirmed that the letter re flooding would be finalised soon and sent off to the relevant authorities.
 - One resident asked if we could chase up the results from speed check which were carried out recently.
- 20/033 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr S Gerrard was involved in another meeting; Cllr Poland was not available.
- 20/034 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Malpus re library and Long Furrow Magazine, Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow Magazine.
- 20/035 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 13th May 2020**
The minutes of the meetings held on 15th May were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 20/036 **Matters arising from the Minutes**
20/005 -The Chairman asked if all Councillors had returned their register of interest updates. Some Councillors requested new forms.
20/006 Letter to Flood authority and others has not yet been sent
19/194 – Fleury Court bins – No response from Jelsons although Councillor Needham said she had visited on several occasions and there was not a problem.
19/227 - Dr Shahs bench and plaque has now been fitted
19/251 – A Staffing Committee will be held on Monday 20th July at 11am.
20/009 - Cllr Nelson has written to the management company and ascertained land ownership. Some of the trees are in the ownership of LCC and will be reported to them.

20/010 – The banners on the bus shelters have been relocated

20/021 – Cllr Cannon will meet with the clerk to visit the play areas once they are open.

20/037 **Matters arising from the Police**

The police were absent from the meeting and no report was received.

20/038 **County Councilor's Report**

Cllr Poland emailed all Councillors with a written report prior to the meeting. Topics covered were: -

- Highways and transport measures taken with the easing of lockdown – concessionary travel will revert to pre-lockdown measures.
- Leicestershire matters magazine – being delivered from Monday 8th June.

20/039 **Borough Councilor's Report**

Cllr Needham said there was very little additional information to report as all the Charnwood bulletins are circulated. She has been dealing with a lot of village casework including fly-tipping and mowing complaints.

Charnwood Meetings are all online and streamed live.

20/040 **Reports from Reps on other Committees**

VHMC – The village hall held an extraordinary meeting on 26th May 2020 to discuss re-opening the hall for the Pre-School. The hall was re-opened on Monday 8th June for exclusive use by the Pre-School only until July 12th.

The AGM will be held on 24th June and a new chairman will be elected following Cllr Duffy's resignation.

LONG FURROW – The deadline for Articles is July 1st. Cllr Cannon has been appointed as the new sub-editor and Cllr Malpus will write the Parish Council newsletter.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Playground checks are all locked so no inspections have been carried out by a Councillor this month.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – A new rep needs appointing to send the information to all members of the NHW group.

TREES – It was agreed to write to Greenbelt (Rearsby Roses Management group) to ask them to attend to a dead tree on their land. Cllr Webbon has drafted a letter

LCC are aware of Ash die back on some of their trees.

A resident has cut back a tree on the Meadows and has done a good job.

LIBRARY – Cllr Malpus informed the council that further funding of £10,700 has been received by the library in grants and £2500 in Section 106 monies. As this is new information the council may wish to re-consider the grant of £1000 which was approved at our last meeting. RESOLVED to reconsider at our next meeting.

The Health and Safety inspectors are visiting the library to arrange requirement for re-opening. The 15 larger libraries will open first.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS:

Due to the current situation it was confirmed that the Santa event will not be held in the library this year. Also, the library committee will not be running the elderly event in the village hall. Cllr Nelson asked if we could consider another type of scheme. Any ideas including costings and how the scheme would work to be forwarded to the clerk so that she can include on a future agenda.

GREENER GOSCOTE– Cllr Cannon issued a briefing paper for Councillors. The group currently has approximately 60 members. They are awaiting to hear from Central England Co-op regarding their funding bid.

20/041 **Proposed Accounts**
Accounts to the sum of £4992.32 were accepted by the Council. The bank reconciliation and relevant statements were checked along with the invoices and signed off by the Chairman.

20/042 **Correspondence**
A list of correspondence received was given out to all Councillors present.

- Charnwood have sent floor stickers to the Clerk which are being used outside the Council offices and village hall. Charnwood officers should be visiting the shops to offer support. It was noted that the stickers do not stick well and are slippery in wet weather. This will be fed back to Charnwood.
- Charnwood have offered to install temporary cycle racks adjacent to the village hall or in the shopping precinct. This was agreed by the Council and the location will be delegated to the Clerk.
- The long Furrow accounts were received
- Active holiday clubs – information was issued to all Councillors and will be discussed at our next meeting.
- Complaint re the tree in the Meadows – The clerk will clarify that the tree may be cut back to the boundary.
- Consultation on the code of conduct. Cllrs were asked to complete the online consultation questionnaire.

20/043 **Planning Matters**
P/20/0840/2 – Erection of two and single storey extensions to both sides of dwelling to front and rear at 8 Long Furrow, East Goscote. RESOLVED to object on the same grounds as we previously submitted.

20/044 **Completion of the Annual Return**
a) **Review effectiveness of the Internal Audit**
Resolved that the comments of the Responsible Financial Officer be noted and the Council, having reviewed the effectiveness of the system of internal audit, approves the current arrangements. The Statement on Internal Control, for the year ending 31st March 2020 will be signed by the Council Chairman.

b) **To consider the internal audit report**
The Summary Internal Audit report was sent to all Councillors. There were four levels of opinion, the best being “good”. The auditor felt that we have “good” controls in place, and overall the accounts and other records are maintained to a very satisfactory level which reflects the quality and standard of the work applied

Recommendations were:

1. That the reports receiving from both the internal auditor and the external auditor are presented to Council for consideration and actions to be taken are minuted as separate agenda items.

2. That the review and approval by the Chair/Vice Chair of the bank balances and reconciliation prior to each meeting is formally minuted

3. That the standard form of words is used to minute the approval of the annual budget and precept (Recommended by LRALC)

The Report was duly signed as received. The Finance Committee have all received the full report.

- 20/045 **Approval of the Statement of Assurance (Section 1)**
Resolved that the statement of assurance be approved and will be signed by the Council Chairman.
- 20/046 **Approval of the Statement of Accounts (Section 2)**
The annual accounts contained in the annual return for the period ending 31st March 2020 were approved and will be signed by the Council Chairman.
- 20/047 **Approval of our Asset Register**
The Clerk issued the asset register listing values along with insurance values, in year additions and disposals.
The Council approved the register and the Chairman will sign it.
- 20/048 **a) Approval of risk assessment and management policy**
The Clerk provided the council with the risk assessment policy
The Council approved the policy which will be signed by the Chairman.
- b) Approval of our Risk Register**
The Clerk issued the risk register which details all items which have any risk, and when they were last reviewed. The Council approved the risk register.
- 20/049 **Update regarding Section 106 funding.**
The Chairman confirmed that David Wilson Homes have approved a 3-month extension to 7th October 2020 for spending the S106 balance of £7717. They have also agreed that this can be spent on repairing the pavilion car park. The Clerk will be getting more quotes and completing a form for Charnwood BC. Next Agenda.
- 20/050 **Land at Broome Lane by the Railway Line**
Several Councillors have visited the land at the side of the railway line. The Clerk has obtained “ballpark” figures to install fencing to the land and has also contacted Jelsons to ascertain if they would be interested in purchasing the land.
RESOLVED that we fence the area where access is possible (up to £200). Cllr Cannon and Cllr Webbon agreed to tidy up the area before the fencing is installed. A private property sign will also be installed on the fencing.
- 20/051 **Land off Long Furrow to the rear of Chestnut way/Broome Avenue houses.**
Cllr Nelson issued a proposed plan to all Councillors for their consideration.
A lot of discussion ensued regarding the proposed plan suggesting positives and negatives. It was RESOLVED that the first step would be to consult with all the residents whose gardens back onto the land. A letter indicating that the “Greener Goscote” group have approached the Parish Council to enhance the land will be written by Cllr Nelson and the Clerk. All residents will be encouraged to respond to the consultation by a reply slip/email or phone.
Once the results of the consultation are in, we will investigate the legalities of a) a locked gate, b) only one entrance/exit point, c) the maintenance programme.
- 20/052 **Village Signs**
Cllr Nelson said that the speeding committee would like to replace the village gateway signs with new signs asking drivers to slow down.
RESOLVED that the speeding committee arrange a meeting to
1. Choose the desired sign and wording
 2. Obtain quotes for the signs (minimum of 3)
 3. Obtain costs from LCC for licence and to remove/install the new signs.
- Once all the information is available, this will be considered at a full council meeting.

- 20/053 **Maintenance**
Cllr Webbon reported a loose direction sign – opposite the pub. Clerk to report.
Wayfarer Drive Nameplate – needs repairing.
Broken drain cover outside 2 Herons Way, this is the second time and is being damaged
by a vehicle driving over it – Clerk to report
Flower beds by the pavilion driveway – Agreed to purchase some bedding plants to tidy
them up.
Cllr Nelson will be planting some Cowslips and primroses on the banks adjacent to the
tennis courts and asked that they be left without strimming to allow them to grow.
- 20/054 **Items approved for Expenditure**
Fencing of land on Broome Lane/bedding plants
- 20/055 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**
None

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday July 8th, 2020 at 6.30pm**

It was agreed that the meeting in August will be postponed (summer recess) unless an emergency meeting is required for any reason. Delegated powers given to the Finance Committee to sign August accounts and ratify at Septembers meeting.

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm

L Pizer
11th June 2020