

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2020 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

Present:

Cllr J Malpus (Chair)	Cllr M Webbon
Cllr M Nelson	Cllr C Tate
Cllr N Shivers	Cllr D Cannon
Cllr L Needham	Cllr G Slack
Cllr S Gerrard	Cllr R Axon
L Pizer (Clerk)	
Cllr James Poland	

The Chairman asked that everyone present ensure that they are muted until such time that they wish to speak. He also stated that if in any item the Councillor declares their interest which requires them to leave the meeting, they should log off the meeting and then log back on to be in the waiting room to be re-admitted when the discussion ends. He asked for discussion to be concise as our Clerk is attending the meeting due to our Admin Assistant sickness.

20/132 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**

None

20/133 **Matter arising from the Police**

PCSO Richards sent a report which was emailed to all Councillors. Information regarding a burglary on Long Furrow, a Cannabis Grow on Tinkers Dell and inconsiderate parking.

20/134 **Apologies for absence:** R Jones (Admin),

20/135 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Malpus re library and Long Furrow, Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow and Greener Goscote.
Cllr Shivers re the Village Hall and the Library. Cllr Gerrard re the library.

20/136 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting held on 7th Oct 2020**

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

20/137 **Matters arising from the minutes**

- 20/109 – Training in the code of conduct – will be deferred until the new code has been received.
- 20/050 – Fencing – Broome Lane – the work is now complete
- 20/006 – Letters re flooding – RA sent to the office but has not received confirmation that they have been sent off to Network Rail and the Environment Agency.
- Mound – Asset Management – meeting still outstanding
- 20/086 – Information requested from the County Councillor –Cllr Poland is chasing up information requested regarding SEN.
- 20/090 – Charnwood have agreed subject to a site assessment, to install a cycle rack in front of our pavilion. Cllr Cannon and Malpus will meet our caretaker on site to agree location on Thursday 12th November at 12.30pm
- 20/088 Gap with the fence surrounding the play area at Ling Dale – has been temporarily resolved using a wooden strut.
- Lime tree (TPO) lilac way – we need to ascertain what works are required and apply for permission to remove the dead branches as this tree has a TPO. A quote is also required to carry out the works.
- 20/101 – Financial regulations will be reviewed in due course.
- 20/117 – Leicestershire Matters – Was not received by some members whilst others received it.

- 20/117 – Memorial football match has been cancelled. The resident has requested to re-arrange for boxing day. This will need to be checked with our senior teams before approval.
- 20/121 New Speeding signs – One of the companies confirmed that they could provide all signs with the bubble top at a cheaper price than previously agreed. RESOLVED to go ahead with the works at the cheaper price. Installation can be carried out by a third party with many conditions. It was agreed that we would continue with the LCC charges, albeit costly to get the new signs installed.
- 20/124 Greener Goscote has prepared the beds at the driveway ready for planting.
- 20/128 A staffing meeting was held on 9th November and the contract for our new Admin assistant was agreed. Currently our Admin Assistant is off sick between 5th and 16th November.

20/138

County Councillors Report

Cllr Poland informed the Council that the LCC gritter teams are ready for winter road salting, with stocks high. Snow wardens are being recruited around the County. Warm Homes advice is available via firstcontactplus.org.uk. One Councillors asked what was in place with regards to flooding and public awareness. Charnwood have recently been communicating information via social media. Cllr Shivers attended a flood warden Zoom meeting and they are looking into ensuring villages are aware when water levels are rising. One Councillor asked Cllr Poland if he could provide us with the latest flood risk map. Our Resilience committee do have some supplies in the event of flooding.

20/139

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Needham said that she was making enquiries as to who has put tags on our driveway trees. She confirmed that she has awarded the members grant to our Brownie group for their Brownie camp in May. COVID cases in the Borough are dropping although the rate is still high in the Over 60's age group. Charnwood are in stage 1 of the ward boundary review. Cllr Gerrard left the meeting at this point.

20/140

Reports from Reps on other Committees

VHMC – The hall is closed for all groups except the Pre-school which remains open. The next meeting is on November 26th.

LONG FURROW – October edition has just been collected from the printers.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD –Cllr Malpus completed the check for October. Currently due to COVID our tennis court is closed, and the football season has been suspended. Cllr Webbon also carried out a playground check and advised that the whirlybird on the mound needs one of the seats replacing.

TREES –Investigations into the possibility of a TPO for trees in this area (5 trees at The Meadows) appear to prove that the process is fairly difficult, and we may not meet the criteria for having TPO's in this area. One Councillor said that there are a few areas where TPO's were on trees however the trees are no longer there. He asked that we discussed TPO's at a future meeting.

Cllr Webbon visited the resident to ascertain if he organised the cutting back of the tree in this area and subsequently a letter was sent, and a reply received.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS – the lights will be installed on 5th December.

CAR PARK UPDATE –Cllr Webbon confirmed that the contractor started work on Thursday 5th November. He is visiting the site daily and works should be completed this week. The clerk will be applying to Charnwood for the section 106 money. Query that the contractor has used a different material Type 1 hardcore rather than road planings. Cllr Webbon to discuss with the contractor.

- 20/141 **Proposed Accounts**
As our Admin assistant is off sick, receipts for stationery and wages cannot be completed. RESOLVED that the accounts be prepared by the Clerk once all receipts are available. The Finance committee will complete the internal audit and sign off the November accounts on behalf of the Council.
- 20/142 **Correspondence**
No list of correspondence available. The Chairman confirmed that the audit has been signed off by our external auditor.
- 20/143 **Planning Matters**
Planning response to white paper – A working party met and formulated a letter on behalf of the Council. This was sent to Edward Argar MP, Boris Johnson Prime Minister and Robert Jenrick MP along with the planning for the future email address.
- P/20/1605/2 Outline application for erection of up to 200 dwellings to land at Melton Road, Queniborough. RESOLVED that we would object on the grounds of flooding and losing the area of local separation. The clerk will ask Queniborough Parish Council for a copy of their response. Cllrs Axon, Malpus and the Clerk will formulate a letter of objection.
- P/20/1716/2 42 Broome Avenue – Erection of first floor extension above garage and single storey extension to rear and cladding to front of dwelling. No Objections to the plans although one Councillor raised the issue of the TPO and would like to raise a comment regarding this.
- P/20/1764/2 20 The Meadows – Two storey side extension – No objections
- P/20/1775/2 – 9 Badgers Corner – Single storey to front and side extensions incorporating existing detached garage, front porch extension and render to whole property – No objections
- One Councillor said that there are many fences that have been installed around the village without planning permission. Future agenda.
- 20/144 **Review of our litter bins and dog bins.**
It was RESOLVED that we would ask our Caretaker to review all the village Parish Owned bins and report back any problems or replacements which may be required.
- a) Discussion regarding the installation of a dog bin (Rearsby Roses)
RESOLVED that we would write to Charnwood to ask if they would consider installing a bin in this area.
One Councillor raised an issue with a Charnwood bin at the end of Wayfarer which needs repairing.
- 20/145 **To consider closing the tennis court of the winter.**
The Council have received several letters requested that the tennis court remain open this winter, or at least until Christmas. RESOLVED that we try to keep the court open until the end of December. However, should the weather becoming very cold and frosty our Caretaker has delegated powers to remove the net and close the court. It was also suggested that we put a sign on the gate advising users that they play on the court at their own risk.

- 20/146 **Resilience working part – to provide a storage container**
Cllr Malpus confirmed that a storage container was obtained and has been installed at the Library.
- 20/147 **To consider the risk assessments for the Street Furniture/Office and Pavilion.**
The new risk assessments were emailed to all Councillors for their consideration. For most part the issues can be dealt with by our caretaker. Cllr Malpus felt that the brickwork above the office door requires further investigation. It was agreed that we would get a builder in to quote for a lintel to be placed above the door. This will be given to the VHMC to consider – costs could be shared.
- 20/148 **Finding Fitness – Consideration of a holiday club next year.**
Unfortunately, lottery grant funding is not currently available for this. It was agreed to re-consider if funding becomes available in the future.
- 20/149 **To agree terms of our mowing contract.**
The Chairman said that we had received a letter from a resident requesting that the mound is cut only twice at the beginning and end of the season.
A long discussion ensued regarding changes to our mowing contract. It was agreed that Councillors Needham, Cannon and Axon would prepare a new schedule for council to consider at their next meeting. The proposed schedule should be issued to Councillors no later than 1st December. NEXT AGENDA
- 20/150 **Community garden project update.**
Cllr Cannon issued a new action plan for the area behind the Doctors Surgery off Long Furrow. Generally, Councillors felt that the plan had been scaled back to meet the concerns of the neighbours and was appropriate for a second consultation. It was RESOLVED that a letter and revised drawing would be sent to all the adjacent properties and we would offer a variety of ways that they could communicate including face to face meetings in the library, post, email and telephone.
It was agreed that the letter would go out around the beginning of December for face to face meetings once the library re-opens. Cllr Cannon will draft the letter for consideration by the Clerk and Chairman.
One Councillor had concerns re the planting of fruit trees.
- 20/151 **Wildflower verge project update.**
Cllr Cannon posted a consultation to all the houses on Long Furrow by the brook. Four replies were received which was favourable to the scheme so therefore a request can be submitted to Leicestershire County Council. Cllr Cannon will submit the verge request and the next stage is for LCC to carry out a site visit. Details such as mowing, and appropriate seeds/planting will be investigated if approval is given.
- 20/152 **Maintenance**
Cllr Webbon confirmed that he has had to replace all the Bollard padlocks for the contractors to access the field. One of the bollards is also difficult to return to its locked position.
Drains – Query re grass growing around drains – Cllr Nelson agreed to send a picture to Cllr Poland.
Cllr Needham is reporting a pothole adjacent to Harvesters Corner – if any Councillor has any other pothole issues, please inform Councillor Needham.
- 20/153 **Items approved for Expenditure**
Boundary Signs, Wildflowers, Christmas light installation.

20/154

Urgent items by permission of the Chairman

The Chairman informed the council that the staffing committee has approved the Clerks phased return to work. Normal hours will be resumed on Monday 30th November; however, she will be working at her discretion between 9th and 30th November.

Cllrs Axon and Slack were asked to forward a head and shoulders photo for the Council website.

Cllr Slack confirmed that she has attended new Councillor training. She informed Councillors that she noted an interesting point regarding emails. She advised all Councillors to use Councillor email addresses only otherwise any FOI request could mean that personal emails are investigated.

One Councillor raised the issue of emails from our old assistant's address. The laptop has now been upgraded and the issue has been resolved.

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday December 9th, 2020 at 6.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm

L. Pizer

12th November 2020