

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th June 2021 at 6.30pm via Zoom.

Present:

Cllr L Needham	Cllr R Axon
Cllr M Nelson	Cllr D Cannon
Cllr M Webbon	Cllr C Tate
Cllr N Shivers	Cllr V Oakes

4 members of the public	Cllr J Poland
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21/028 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**

3 Members of the Junior FC addressed the Council regarding their concerns as to why the senior teams (Non EG Residents) were allocated a pitch rather than the under 13's and 14's who were 80% residents. They said that the volunteers provide an excellent service to the children of the village who wanted to use the playing fields as their home venue. Council concerns were: a) the pitches have already been allocated to the senior teams and changing this may have financial implications, b) suggested 4 teams per pitch, would potentially mean over-use of the goalmouths and pitch unusable part way through the season, c) option to move the senior pitch and mark new pitches out, this was investigated by two Councillors and our caretaker and was not feasible d) the infrastructure limits the field use due to lack of parking and lack of changing rooms. e) Historically we have offered a pitch for adults within the village.

The Chair said that we would like to help and suggested that a meeting be held between the footballers and the council to discuss further. The football registration deadline is 1st July, so Councillors will need to set up a meeting quickly, and if any changes are to be considered an extraordinary council meeting will be required.

21/029 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr G Slack and Cllr S Gerrard

21/030 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow Magazine and Greener Goscote Cllr Needham re Chairs allowance, Cllr Nelson re Vice Chairs allowance, Cllr Shivers regarding the Village hall.

21/031 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 19th May 2021**
The minutes of the meetings held on 15th May were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

21/032 **Matters arising from the Minutes**

- 20/213 – Risk Assessment still required for Wildflower Verge
- 20/187 – Silting of Brook – R Axon to action
- Climate Change group training – in the library – Awaiting response
- 21/009 Purchase of Wildflower plugs – Cllr Axon suggested soil and seeds – planting deferred to the Autumn.
- Application for a shire grant for wildflowers on the Long Furrow verge – Cllr Cannon agreed to apply by the end of July
- 21/012 - TSB – Councillors have the forms to sign, and we all will arrange a visit to the bank shortly to get the mandate changed
- 21/016 – Cllr Cannon informed the PCSO of the football nuisance against a resident's fence
- 21/018 – Standing Orders – Councillors have reviewed, and no amendments were required.
- 21/024 – The Clerk has contact LRALC regarding the internal auditor for 2022.
- 21/027 – Our temporary caretaker was added to the van insurance at a cost of £43.00

- 21/011 – Speedwatch – Cllr Poland chasing up response as to whether LCC are running this scheme.
- Cllr Oakes to confirm if she would like to join any working parties.
- Cllr Cannon confirmed that he would attend the Environmental Action meeting on 29th June.
- Litter bin request from Cllr Shivers at the Rearsby Roses site – Future agenda to consider other option i.e., management company to provide a dog waste bin, or Parish Council?
- 21/016 – Large dog Signs – Cllr Shivers said that as we have turned down the large dog signs, we do need to do something to address this problem.
- 21/016 – Community carbon calculator – the website is <https://impact-tool.org.uk> the Chair said there was a lot of information with regards to East Goscote and other villages compared to the national average.
- Cllr Webbon said that the Junior FC did not turn up for the summer day camp at the playing fields which they requested. He did unlock and leave the pavilion open all day. The Clerk said that she had invoiced them, but they had cancelled and not informed us.

21/033 **Matters arising from the Police**

The police were absent from the meeting and no report was received. Clerk to request an up-to-date report.

21/034 **County Councillor's Report**

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

- New scheme launched to boost skills, training, and employment
- Environmental grants for community groups
- Bus Service Improvement Plan - £3 million fund – Consultation advertised on our website.

The clerk confirmed that an invoice sent to LCC in February remains unpaid, Cllr Poland is chasing this up.

21/035 **Borough Councillor's Report**

Cllr Needham said the final draft of the Local plan has been produced. Charnwood Full council will be voting on this next Monday. East Goscote has been listed to supply 223 houses (policy ref HA60) There will be a six-week consultation period from 12th July to 23rd August. Councillors were asked to look at the 1000-page document which is available online. NEXT AGENDA to agree our response.

21/036 **Reports from Reps on other Committees**

VHMC – The village hall has not met since our last meeting. Unfortunately, the Everards grant application for an induction loop and PA system was unsuccessful. Councillors said that the acoustics in the hall were bad and asked that the PC and the VHMC work together to try to resolve this.

The AGM will be held on 23rd June, and we hope to co-opt three new members. The VHMC Chairman asked that the Council grant to the Village Hall be paid in July/August, if possible, towards the toilet refurbishment. This was agreed.

LONG FURROW –. The deadline for Articles is July 1st. Cllr Cannon will write the article.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Playground checks have been carried out by Councillor Webbon. No major issues. The tarmac on the basketball court needs attention.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Cllr Tate provided the list of 20 members which included 3 Councillors. The clerk has circulated an advert which will appear in the next edition of the Long Furrow to try to get new members. Cllr Shivers suggested that we have a dedicated noticeboard for this. The library noticeboard is also a good place to put

NHood watch information

TREES – Cllr Webbon inspected the village trees and gave a written report.

The Lilac way lime tree works was inspected by our professional advisor (Treelife), and he confirmed that the two dead branches were of a very low risk and would break up in small pieces only. RESOLVED that we monitor this tree.

Ash tree on the playing field has a dead branch which needs removing.

Cllr Webbon said that he is watering the two trees planted at the rear of the senior pitch.

The 30 new trees planted on the side of the mound appear to be struggling, Cllr Webbon could only see 3 which were alive.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS: Santa and Afternoon Tea

The library trustees have met and agreed to continue with the Santa event in the library this year which will be held on 10th December subject to approval of funds from the Parish Council. The afternoon tea event, however, will not be managed by the library committee this year. Cllr Shivers said that the Chair of the library is willing to provide tickets and book the entertainment. The Clerk explained that this event would need to be managed by a project leader, and via a community group. Data is collected from those wishing to attend so it could not be done by a resident. The Chair suggested that we ask the VHMC if they would be willing to run the event. Cllrs Needham, Oakes, Webbon and Tate agreed to work on this event. NEXT AGENDA

FINDING FITNESS– We have been successful with our grant application from the lottery group for the full amount. The company Finding Fitness have contacted us to say that they can accommodate us this summer, and as planned a summer camp will be provided to East Goscote Children aged 5 – 12 for 3 weeks commencing 2nd August. Flyers will be posted on our Noticeboards, and we will ask Broomfield School to promote via the Friday Flyer. An inside venue is required incase of bad weather, the clerk will check with the scout hut and VHMC.

NATURESPOT WEBSITE AREAS OF INTEREST – Cllr Cannon confirmed that the information he gave to the last Council meeting was incorrect, as Naturespot did not carry out a survey of the areas of interest, this would need to be a community activity. The three areas of interest were agreed as: - the land behind Chestnut Way, the Mound, and the dog walking area.

CIRCUS 2022 – The information pack is being circulated to all Councillors for their comments. (Next agenda for discussion)

MCMILLAN DONATION REQUEST. – The Clerk read out a letter requesting a donation from McMillan. The Council felt that donations should be made to local groups and therefore this request was denied.

21/037

Proposed Accounts

Accounts to the sum of £3730.16 were accepted by the Council. The bank reconcilliation and relevant statements were checked along with the invoices and signed off by the Chair and Vice Chair.

21/038

Correspondence

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

- Information required on how we are cutting the grass verge, and what we will do with the cuttings. Cllr Cannon will draft a response.
- Network rail – Broome Lane closure 17-24 June
- Charnwood housing 5-year supply - only 3.34 years of supply is available.
- Junior FC – request to use senior pitch – the Chair agreed to a further meeting to discuss.
- Pavilion break in – crime reference obtained – pavilion door now repaired – The Clerk will contact the police with further information which she has.

- Treescapes – grant applied for 5 areas which include: 3 areas of Lilac Way, area between 231 and 233 Long Furrow, Jubilee playing field opposite 152 Long furrow, Broome Lane hedge (gaps)
- Complaint re building works and planning permission – Cllr Needham has written to Charnwood querying the permission for a side window.

21/039

Planning Matters

Councillor Axon gave members an update regarding the Gladman Land application and had circulated a written report. He would like to write further letters and question why some documents have not appeared on the Charnwood Website and ask why Charnwood have accepted defective supporting evidence with so many errors and omissions.

Proposed actions

1. Write to Edward Argar asking for back up re contaminated land and to comply re NPPF(PC)
2. Write to HSE re safe working on contaminated land and ask them to submit response to CBC
3. Write to Highways with a strong safety emphasis and ask them to resubmit or comment further.
4. Councillor Needham to ask why certain documents have not appeared on our website and question Charnwood planning regarding our other concerns.

21/040

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 2021 will be signed by the Council Chair.

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. Publish current financial regulations on the website (Clerk to action asap)
2. Consider .Gov.uk website name and emails for officers and councillors
3. Chair to sign hard copies of all minutes (Chair to action asap)
4. Consider adopting a training policy – obtain the Nalc template and other policies and circulate to councillors for comment.
5. Update the bank mandate (In hand)

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

21/041

Approval of the Statement of Assurance (Section 1)

Resolved that the statement of assurance be approved and will be signed by the Council Chair.

21/042

Approval of the Statement of Accounts (Section 2)

The annual accounts contained in the annual return for the period ending 31st March 2021 were approved and will be signed by the Council Chair.

- 21/043 **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 Chair signed it.
- 21/044 **Approval of risk assessment and management policy**
The Clerk provided the council with the risk assessment policy
The Council approved the policy which was signed by the Chair.
- 21/045 **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.
- 21/046 **To consider quotes to replace/repair the goal end and the whirlybird on the mound.**
Councillors were issued with three quotes for their consideration. RESOLVED that we repair the goal end with a new basketball board and ring, and replace the panel containing the cricket stump. (Budget £3k) The whirlybird will be replaced with a new “Sputnik” roundabout (Budget £5k)
Cllr Shivers asked that a new sign be installed on the goal end to replace the existing sign.
- 21/047 **To approve the Chair/Vice Chair’s Allowance payable for the year commencing May 2021**
The Chair and Vice Chair declared their prejudicial interest and left the room.
RESOLVED that the Chair’s allowance be added to the Vice-Chair’s allowance and both would be paid on a claim’s basis. This can be used for attendance at civic duties, meetings, training, clerk’s briefings, and travel. Maximum amount available between the Chair and Vice-Chair is £700. A further amount of £100 will be available for the purchase of gifts for retiring Councillors/staff if required.
The allowance is to be paid upon completion of one year’s service in April 2022 and is not paid monthly unless the council agree to pay a specific claim for less than one year in exceptional circumstances or appointment mid-way through the year.
- 21/048 **To consider installing a village flagpole/site/base/planning**
A resident has written in to request the consideration of a flagpole for our village. The Chair informed the council that planning permission is required to install a flagpole within our land at a cost of £231 which includes 50% discount. Flagpoles and flags are relatively cheap £200. The resident has requested that it be installed in the centre of the village on the village green by the school and the church and suggests that a feature is made around the base of the flagpole. RESOLVED that due to cost and maintenance we will not proceed with installing a village flagpole. (Vote: 6 against/ 2 for)
- 21/049 **Staffing Matters (No public present)**
A staffing committee meeting was held on Monday 14th June 2021. Interviews for a new admin assistant will be held on Monday 5th July by the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk. The committee also agreed to advertise for a caretaker on a zero-hour contract. The closing date is 30th June 2021.
- 21/050 **Maintenance**
The Council office telephone number is required on the pavilion driveway height restriction.
- 21/051 **Items approved for Expenditure**
Play equipment £8k

- 21/052 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**
Cllr Webbon has been approached by a resident asking if we could hold a “farmers Market” periodically on our village. Cllr Webbon will provide further information and it will be considered at our next meeting.

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday July 14th, 2021, 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 9.15pm

L Pizer
17th June 2021