

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 6.30pm in the village hall.

Present:

Cllr Cannon (Chair)	Cllr M Webbon
Cllr S Gerrard	Cllr S Mousley
Cllr Axon	Cllr V Oakes
Cllr Poland	

2 Members of the Public	
L Pizer (Clerk)	C Turlington (Admin)

- 21/118 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**
 A member of the public raised a concern regarding a tree stump in the village. He expressed that Highways had removed a branch and then felled the tree but left a stump that he was told would be taken away at a later date, this was 4 years ago. Cllr Poland requested he send a photo and then he will follow this up.
 A member of the public advised she was observing with a view to joining as a councillor.
- 21/119 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Needham, Cllr Tate, Cllr Shivers, Police
- 21/120 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow and Greener Goscote, Cllr Oakes re planning application for 10 Woodmans Chase, Cllr Webbon re Christmas event.
- 21/121 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 8th September**
 The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 21/122 **Matters arising from the minutes**
 21/063 – Pavilion break in – one letter received; Cllr Mousley will follow up for second letter.
 21/066 – Dog stencil and paint has been applied to various footpaths
 21/066 – Bin outside the school – emails requesting the return to its original site have now been sent on 15.07, 24.08 and 5th October, still no response from Charnwood. It was agreed that we would ask our Borough Councillor to speak to officers about this issue.
 21/067 – Response sent to the local plan.
 21/068 – Sticker books – Due mid- October.
 21/073 – Speedwatch – this didn't happen – the Clerk will chase this up again.
 21/097 – Cllr Mousley to make enquires regarding a representative attending – Cllr Mousley said that PCSO Harrison has advised that they are currently under resourced, but they are aware of the meetings and will try to attend.
 21/101 – Lilac way hedge has been cut back.
 21/103 – Cllrs and Admin staff attended the S106 training event.
 21/103 – Resilience and Mental health training – officers course fully booked.
 21/105 – Wicksteed quote for new play equipment – has slightly increased. The new quote is £11,217 – it was agreed to proceed with this.
 21/112 – Registering the playing field as a village green – following legal advice it was agreed not to pursue this idea.
 21/115 – Billy bear was collected.
 21/115 – The cycle rack is now installed.

21/123

Matters arising from the Police

PCSO Harrison circulated a report for Councillors.

Anti-social behaviour on Long Furrow – Cllr Mousley to follow up for more information.

21/124

County Councillors Report

Cllr Poland circulated his report prior to the meeting. This included:

- Council finances continue to be hit by Covid 19.
- Help identify diseased ash trees and help keep Leicestershire green.

Cllr Webbon to monitor the Ash trees in the area and to let LCC and Cllr Poland know of any dangerous ones.

Cllr Axon enquired about the budget in terms of social care, and this was discussed. Cllr Poland said that there could be the possibility of a rise in council tax.

Cllr Poland left the meeting.

21/125

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Needham circulated a report prior to the meeting. This included:

- Boundary review
- Members grant – Greener Goscote received £250 – A further £250 is available to be applied for before February.
- Local plan consultation
- Section 106 – Further clarification being asked for.

Cllr Gerrard left the meeting.

21/126

Reports from Reps on other Committees

VHMC – The VHMC met on October 6th. The new flat roof over the kitchen and office has been installed. New toilet cubicle doors are being fitted in Half Term. The hall are looking at increasing the number of solar panels on the roof. After discussion re the PA system, the VHMC decided that the £4k cost was too expensive and would only benefit the parish council, so will not be funding this project.

LONG FURROW – All articles have been sent in for the next edition.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Cllr Cannon is due to complete the playground checks for October. Cllr Axon mentioned that when he completed checks last month comments from the public included more play equipment needed for under 5s. Cllr Oakes suggested discussing this with the preschools. It was noted that play area signs will need upgrading – for consideration at the precept meeting.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Cllr Mousley has advertised this group in the next edition of the Long Furrow. The PCSO has been informed and is circulating around the beat team.

TREES – Cllr Webbon has carried out a visual inspection and advised of the following:

- Wild Rose Walk – hedge cut back
- The new trees on mound could do with the ground clearing around them. He suggested putting taller stakes in so that they are easily identifiable. Cllrs Axon and Cannon offered to assist Cllr Webbon with this.

FOOTBALL GOALSTORE – Cllr Webbon advised he met with Cllr Shivers and the caretaker and looked at the area. A quote for wooden supports has been received but Cllr Shivers and the caretaker felt steel would be better and he is awaiting a quote. As this is on a trial year it may not be advisable to spend a lot of money. To be added to the next agenda.

The clerk mentioned that the hot tap in the ladies toilet had been left on over the weekend and as such the tank had emptied completely. It was resolved to deduct £15 from their deposit at the end of the season.

VILLAGE PLAN ANALYSIS – The total number of questionnaires received amounted to 16. Cllr Cannon circulated an analysis for consideration, and it was agreed that this response would be included in the next edition of the Long Furrow.

TRAINING UPDATE – we have been offered dates of 2nd and 23rd February for in-house training. It was resolved to request 23rd February for the training to take place. A minimum of 8 participants will be required to make this viable.

The resilience and well-being course for officers and Councillors - was fully booked for officers.

Section 106 training – attended by Cllrs Webbon, Cannon and Mousley along with admin staff.

Chairs training – attended by Cllrs Needham and Cannon – Cllr Cannon said he has some slides that he will circulate.

GREENER GOSCOTE – Cllr Cannon said that he had applied for a Shire grant (£300) on behalf of the Parish Council. However due to the timescale the work would need to be carried out before this would be allocated. He asked if the council would pay for this and then be reimbursed using the grant. The clerk asked Cllr Cannon to compile a list of what is needed, and this can be added to the next agenda for approval.

Cllr Cannon advised that currently the dog walking area had been identified as a “wild place” on the Naturespot website. However, he wished to nominate a different area and felt that a more informed decision could be made in January.

21/127

Proposed Accounts

Accounts to the sum of £4650.89 were accepted for October by the Council. The bank reconciliation and relevant statements will be checked along with the invoices and signed off by the Cllr Needham and Cllr Cannon.

21/128

Correspondence

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

- External Audit report received and signed off.
- Sport camp – more feedback received – it had been agreed previously to not run this again but Finding Fitness would like to discuss this further.
- Football camp – October half term – charges were agreed at £60 per day.
- Wreath – it was agreed to purchase a Remembrance Day wreath at a cost of £18.50 this will be laid by Cllr Needham if she is available.
- Damage to goal store – the charge was agreed at £60 which is to be divided by two people.
- Closure of footpaths – press release on website
- Internal Auditor has retired
- Letter from a resident who has an interest in joining the council.

21/129

Planning Matters –

P/21/1655/2 – 7 Woodmans Chase – no objections

P/21/1769/2 – 1 Wild Rose Walk – no objections

P/21/1845/2 – 9 Woodmans Chase – no objections

P/21/1850/2 – 10 Woodmans Chase – no objections, Cllr Oakes took no part

Gladman Update – S106 update – This was discussed, and Cllr Axon said that he felt

a formal maladministration complaint to Charnwood Borough Council is required due to the way this has been handled. Cllr Axon to draft and circulate. Following the recent training session, the clerk mentioned that the officer may get in touch from CBC to discuss this. To be added to the next agenda for further discussion.

21/130

Christmas Update

a) To consider quote for light installation/removal – A quote has been received by the same contractor that is usually used and the cost is £675.00 to install and remove the tree lights. This was agreed.

b) Christmas Events – Cllr Shivers distributed details of the plans for the afternoon tea for the elderly on 18th December. The budget for the event was agreed at £250.00. The Santa event on Friday 10th December is being organised by the library committee and we will have the presents for the children mid-October. Cllr Oakes to purchase a new Santa hat.

21/131

To consider repairing the tarmac on the multi-sports court.

The Clerk confirmed that a quote was received in January 2021 to improve the area by the school gate (play area side) and to repair the crack in the sports court. Cllr Webbon to arrange for a new quote as the court has now subsided on quite a large area and needs building up. Measurements to be given to the clerk. The clerk will also try to obtain further quotes

21/132

LCC – are we joining the snow warden scheme this year?

The Clerk said that we are normally asked to take part in the scheme if it is running. It was suggested that our new employee attends the training required. This was agreed.

21/133

Consultation on ward boundaries.

Cllr Needham has stated the facts regarding this. Cllr Cannon to draft a response from the parish council. The general opinion was that we would lose the direct connection with Charnwood via our Borough Councillor. The proposal is that we join other villages and share a total of 3 Borough Councillors rather than have our own Borough Councillor to represent our village. This will need to be circulated and sent in by November 8th

21/134

To arrange a date to consider next years' precept.

The precept meeting will be held in the Parish Council office on Monday 22nd November at 1.00 p.m. All Councillors are invited. Any ideas for new projects can be discussed. Councillors are requested to obtain an idea of costs if they wish to add projects to our budget.

21/135

Budget Update

The Clerk issued a budget update with the agenda. This was discussed by the full council and approved.

21/136

The Mound – Proposal circulated by R Axon

Cllr Axon circulated images. He raised safety concerns regarding the thickness of the roof and recommended not running heavy machinery over the top until an inspection and risk assessment had been carried out.

The clerk advised that Cllr Tate had made contact regarding an inspection, and it had become apparent that CBC have commissioned William Saunders to carry out a structural inspection. Thanks to Cllr Tate for making initial contact. The clerk will be meeting Mr Peter Joyce next Thursday to show him information we hold regarding the mound after which he will be conducting his inspection.

Cutting of the mound – Cllr Cannon circulated a proposed mowing plan. The clerk advised that the caretaker has been receiving complaints from residents regarding the state of the mound and she asked what the long-term plan was. This was discussed and Cllr Axon

suggested arranging for an ecologist to carry out surveys and advise as to how to proceed. It was unanimously agreed to leave the top and the long grass on the sides of the mound this year and to rake as much as possible where the seeds can grow. Cllr Cannon and Cllr Axon will rake the areas either side of the wooden fence running up from Long Furrow and either side of the pavilion drive, then they will plant wildflower seeds or plugs. Cllr Cannon to put a leaflet together explaining this decision for the caretaker to hand out when necessary and they will be delivered to residents surrounding the mound.

21/137 **Sustainable Land Trust – pilot project – Cllr Cannon**

Cllr Cannon circulated a report regarding joining a fully funded pilot scheme for parishes in Leicestershire and Rutland. He said that the focus would be the Mound and Jubilee Playing Fields and that we would be able to get advice on biodiversity and the management of these areas. It was agreed to proceed on this basis. Cllr Cannon will draft and circulate a press release.

21/138 **Medium Term Financial planning – D Cannon**

Cllr Cannon said that at the Chairs Training they discussed having a project in mind should unexpected funding be received. To be considered by the finance committee.

21/139 **Update from the Staffing Meeting** (Standing order 18a invoked) Public and press are asked to leave the meeting. As the Chair was not present to report on this item, it will be deferred to the next meeting.

21/140 **Maintenance**

Play area signs – to be considered in the precept
Triangular area at the end of The Chase – this is on the caretaker's list

21/141 **Items approved for Expenditure**

Play equipment based on revised quote
Light installation
Afternoon tea event

21/142 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**

Cllr Oakes raised a concern regarding the condition of the carpet shop in the village, including broken windows. This was discussed and it was agreed Cllr Mousley would mention this to him to gauge his intentions.

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday November 10th 2021, at 6.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 9.13 pm

L. Pizer/C Turlington
14th October 2021