

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 18th May 2022
at 6.15pm in the Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr L Needham

Cllr N Shivers

Cllr R Axon

Cllr C Tate

Cllr D Cannon

Cllr S Gerrard

Cllr V Oakes

Mrs L Pizer (Clerk)

Mrs C Turlington (Admin)

1 member of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to our meeting.

22/001

Election of Chair

Cllr Needham was elected as Chair and signed the declaration of office.

22/002

Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Cannon was elected as Vice Chair and signed the declaration of office.

22/003

Declarations of Acceptance of Office

The Proper Officer signed the declarations of office from the Chair and Vice Chair.

22/004

Declarations of interests/Register of Interest to be Updated

Cllr Cannon re the donation to the Long Furrow, Greener Goscote, Library.

Cllr Shivers re donation to the Village Hall.

Cllr Gerrard re Planning Matters.

All Councillors were given their register of interests update form and asked to complete within 28 days if necessary.

22/005

Matters arising from the public (Meeting adjourned)

None.

22/006

Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Mousley gave his apologies.

22/007

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting (March 9th 2022)

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

22/008

Matters arising from the Minutes

21/205 – Councillor training dates – Still awaiting responses from Cllr Axon and Cllr Mousley.

21/227 – The tarmacking works to the multi sports court has been completed.

21/245 – Tree Root problem was reported to LCC, but they confirmed that they would not be taking any action at present.

21/247 – Emergency resilience plan – Cllr Cannon agreed to arrange a meeting for the working group to discuss this.

21/253 – The Scout fete is not going ahead this year.

21/257 – The Ukrainian flag is installed to the front of the village hall.

21/254 – Environmental Policy – Cllr Axon queried a previous agenda item proposal request and Cllr Needham agreed to discuss this with him separately.

22/009

Reports from Reps on other Committees

All reports were taken as read.

VHMC – A meeting was held on March 24th, 2022.

The Village Hall Chairman sent in the annual report and wished to record his thanks to the committee members for their dedication and enthusiasm in keeping our village hall to a high standard.

During the summer holidays the toilets were refurbished with new vanity units, skirting boards and re-decorated.

Bookings for the hall are extremely busy being booked every day and every evening.

The roof above the kitchen has been replaced.

The committee have purchased a new laptop for our admin assistant.

Future works include new guttering for the hall.

The committee are working on their Climate Action Plan.

The VHMC AGM is being held on June 14th.

LONG FURROW – The May edition is now online and has been posted to all our residents and businesses.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – The report had not been submitted prior to the meeting, and Cllr Mousley not present to give a verbal update.

TREES – Cllr Axon sent in a report.

Lilac Way – There is a gap in the hedge of 1 – 1.5 metres. Cllr Axon has suggested planting a 7m stretch of Hawthorne, Hazel and Blackthorn (double row) possible in November 2022 at a cost of £150 maximum. Next agenda.

Mature tree on the mound – Cllr Axon has attended to this.

TPO – Cllr Axon wishes to do further research and report on possible trees which would benefit from a TPO.

Cllr Shivers has asked that the map of the new 35 trees recently planted along with the previously 30 whips planted is given to the office with details of what species each tree is. This will help when inspecting the trees in future years.

Cllrs Axon and Cannon are in the process of putting a map together. Cllr Axon wished to thank Cllr Cannon for organising the trees and said that they have checked all the new trees, and all are established.

Cllr Axon agreed to take on the role of tree warden on a permanent basis.

LIBRARY UPDATE – The library still requires volunteers for Saturdays 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. The library trustees are giving a platinum jubilee bookmark to all the Children.

CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP – Cllr Cannon reported on the Sustainable Land Trust pilot project – an interactive web-based package will be available in the future.

Wildlife verge/Mound/Playing Fields – seedlings are starting to appear.

Free Trees – These were successfully planted on the mound. The aftercare now passes to Greener Goscote.

East Midlands Community-led housing – Cllrs Cannon and Oakes met with Mr Field to discuss influencing some aspects of the Redrow development. This would require a community-based group to drive it forward. KEGG have been consulted but no response to date.

Cllr Cannon reported that The Greener Goscote group have planted 3 trees in the nature garden which have been registered as a contribution to the Queens Green Canopy. General litter picking, pruning and signage work continues by the group along with the maintenance of the recycling centre.

CIRCUS VISIT – The Clerk has contacted the circus rep and given him details of Cllr Shivers. The circus does require water and will need to use a hose pipe. They will require pavilion keys. Spray paint markings will be carried out the week before.

Adverts have been put in the noticeboards and social media along with our website. The Long Furrow magazine also provided the advert and will charge the circus. Payment has been received, this consists of a £500 damage waiver and £400 for the hire of the pavilion and field.

SCOUT LEASE – The Clerk is liaising with the scout group. CBC have requested a copy of the groups risk assessment and insurances. We requested these on 4th April and sent a reminder on 3rd May. The scout group contact has confirmed that they are working on these and will supply in due course. Once Charnwood have granted a license, we will contact our solicitor to change our lease.

LRALC AGM REP (Sept 17th)– Cllr Gerrard was appointed as our LRALC rep.

SPEEDING / PARKING ISSUES – Cllr Shivers queried if the camera enforcement vehicle had been to the area during the school times. Cllr Needham agreed to follow this up.

22/010

To agree annual Subs and Donations

RESOLVED that we subscribe to all the associations/societies listed on the attached sheet.

Donations with their own budget were agreed as follows:

Long Furrow – Resolved to award £500 (Cllr Cannon took no part)

Library – As the finances of the library are healthy, it was RESOLVED not to give the library any financial help this year. (Cllr Cannon took no part)

VHMC - £1000 was agreed to cover cost of using the council offices. The council were asked if they would cover the cost of the doors and pay the invoice for those. (Cllr Shivers took no part)

Friendship Club – No letter to request funding has been received to date this year.

Nature Spot Website – Cllr Cannon advised that after the current year ends, we will be required to pay approximately £50 per year to continue featuring on the website – it was RESOLVED to continue with this.

- 22/011 **Presentation of Deed and Trust Instruments**
All documents are available in the office for inspection by members in the future. This includes the constitution, deeds, licenses, and leases.
- 22/012 **Confirmation of Cheque Signatories for 2022/23.**
Current cheque signatories are: L Pizer our financial officer, Cllr Needham, and Cllr Cannon. The mandate form is being updated, and Cllr Axon will be added as a new signatory and will need to arrange to visit TSB to present ID documents. The Clerk will follow this up.
- 22/013 **Proposed Accounts (April and May)**
Accounts to the sum of £5458.11 were accepted by the council for May and £8645.89 for April. RESOLVED to make all payments via bank transfer. The Chair and Vice Chair are conducting a thorough internal check of all accounts on a monthly basis.
Cllr Cannon queried the large amount of unpaid bills and the Clerk explained this relates to the new play equipment which there has been issues with.
- 22/014 **To approve the Village Hall's Annual Account and Annual Report**
The annual accounts were presented to all Councillors.
RESOLVED that the accounts be approved by the Parish Council (custodian trustees). Councillor Needham signed the accounts on behalf of the Council.
- 22/015 **Correspondence**
A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors present
- Arriva 5a – timetable change.
 - Coffee Van Visit – the Clerk has referred them to the Plough.
 - Polling Place – due to visit the hall with a view to possibly using the space for elections.
 - Liaison Meeting between Charnwood and Clerks – 12th April
 - Roles and Responsibilities – this is a useful document.
 - Precept payment - £31,500 received.
 - Roma – there is a 10% increase due to the cost of fuel.
 - Rent increase to the land at the rear of the pavilion - £704 pa (£650 previously) Agreed.
 - Commercial waste collections – increased by 21.6% to £1170.
 - Internal Audit –May 10th – Signed off.
 - Queniborough PC – replace VAS batteries – cost £37.84 was approved.
 - New play area sign for Village Green required – the Clerk will get prices.
 - Costco – membership – for lower priced petrol – approved £14 membership cost.
 - Leics. county council liaison event – Monday 4th July 5pm Cllr Cannon agreed to attend.
 - Scout request to book the field 11th June 2023 – this was agreed.
 - Code of Conduct training – An afternoon session will be provided by our Admin Assistant in July for approximately 2 hours, which Councillors can attend. A further training session will be held in the evening – possibly September.
 - Resident letter re football on Lilac Way – This was discussed and RESOLVED to write to the resident explaining that although the

Council is sympathetic to their concerns, as this is a nuisance behaviour and there isn't currently a byelaw in place on the area, this isn't within the Council's remit and although it will be looked into it is suggested the resident speaks with the parents or the PCSO.

- Resident letter re a fundraising event – Sunday 21st August – 3 football matches and stalls and bouncy castles – it was RESOLVED to proceed with this, with charges as per the pavilion and pitch hire charges. The Clerk will request a plan of the area (Stalls, castles etc) and a risk assessment.

Cllr Gerrard left the meeting.

22/016 **Planning Matters – Representation at the local plan hearing**

It was agreed that the council representation would be as follows: -
Matter 2 (vision, objectives, Sustainable Development) – Cllr Cannon
Matter 3 (Climate Change and the environment) - Cllr Needham
Matter 4 (Housing need, choice and mix)- Cllr Cannon
Matter 6 (urban policies, site selection, site allocations) – Cllr Axon
The hearings commence on 28th June at the Loughborough Town Hall.
The Clerk advised she has information, should anyone wish to see it.
It was RESOLVED those attending prepare what they intend to present and send to all Cllrs for comments but to be mindful there are time constraints – add to the next agenda.

P/22/0451/2 – 15 The Headland – not enough responses to comment.

P/22/0523/2 – Pre application advice request on reserved matters for 270 dwellings, Melton Road.

The Clerk advised that reserved matters can't be agreed until S106 has been finalised.

Cllr Axon drafted a response for Councillor consideration – this was approved and it was RESOLVED to send to CBC with the knowledge that it will be sent again, with additional information, at a later date.

22/017 **To review our standing orders**

Resolved that our Standing Orders will be reviewed. Cllr Cannon along with our Admin Assistant will meet on 4th July at 1.00 p.m. for approximately 1 hour. Cllr Axon may also attend.

22/018 **To approve the Chair/Vice Chair's Allowance payable for the year commencing May 2022.**

The Chair and Vice Chair left the meeting.

RESOLVED that the allowance is to be paid upon completion of one years' service in April 2023 and is not paid on a monthly basis unless the council agree to pay this in exceptional circumstances.

The Maximum amount available is £700 between the Chair and Vice Chair with a further amount of £100 for the purchase of gifts for retiring Councillors/Staff. (This was unchanged from the previous year).

22/019 **To consider the Annual Playground Inspection Report**

The Clerk has emailed all Councillors with the full inspection report and risk assessment. It was noted that mainly all play areas are low risk, and the identified actions will be addressed, if possible, by our caretaker.

b) To ratify the repair of the Basket Swing at a cost of £500

One High risk item was the basket swing on the Village Green which has now been removed. Playquest have confirmed that they would replace the leg of the swing free of charge but would charge £500 to remove and replace (labour). This was RESOLVED with the consideration that the Clerk will meet on site to ensure all other parts of the swing are checked.

The Clerk informed the Council that there have been issues with the installation by Wicksteed of equipment at the Mound Play area; including the use of green eco-tumble which will be replaced with eco-fleck, the roundabout being scratched on delivery which has been primed and repainted and scratches on the multisport court back. The Clerk said the invoice hasn't yet been paid and it does appear they are trying to accommodate us. The Clerk will pay the invoice once she is satisfied with the workmanship.

Cllr Axon said there is a need to abide by COSHH regulations relating to the removal of moss in the playground with the possible need to close the playgrounds for a day after applying the chemicals– the Clerk will check and report back.

Cllr Shivers highlighted the need to keep an eye on the rocking horse during playground inspections.

22/020

To Review the Council Insurance Policy.

Our Current insurance policy is with Ecclesiastical through brokers “Came and Company” until 30th September 2023. The Clerk said that she did not feel we needed to add anything onto our existing policy and that we were fully covered.

22/021

Football issues – To approve the conditions of hire/policies

Councillors were provided with the policies prior to the meeting. The conditions of hire and the policy for Management and Allocation of pitches were discussed with changes highlighted.

Agreed:-

1. Football charges to be paid in August (18a)
2. The Saturday morning training fee to hire the pavilion was agreed at £10 per week. (30)
3. A one-year trial will be undertaken allowing teams to mark their own pitches and provide their own paint and line marker. This is reflected in the hire charges. (37)
4. Pitches will be inspected by our Caretaker each Thursday and teams will be informed if the pitch is unplayable by 3pm each Thursday.
5. Under no circumstances will teams be allowed to train on pitches not hired. (30a)
6. Any conditions relating to the trials in 2021/22 or any other changes required will be considered and delegated to the Football Working Party – Cllr Needham, Cllr Shivers, Cllr Tate, Cllr Oakes and the Clerk. Our Caretaker will also be invited to attend.

22/022

To ratify Pitch Allocations 2022/23

The Clerk informed Councillors of pitch requests made for next season. RESOLVED that careful consideration is needed before pitches are allocated

taking into account any incidents/concerns raised during last season along with a discussion as to how well the trials went. **RESOLVED** that the football working party hold a meeting and be given delegated powers to allocate the pitches as they feel appropriate. The Caretaker will also be invited to attend this meeting.

22/023

To Appoint an Internal Auditor

The LRALC was appointed to carry out the internal audit for the accounts ending March 2022. This was completed on 10th May so that the Council can have all the audit information for approval at their June meeting as normal. **RESOLVED** for the year ending March 2023 we continue with the LRALC internal audit service.

22/024

To consider projects which we would like to achieve (Prosperity Fund)

The Clerk confirmed that project proposals were last submitted in 2015. CBC have not yet sent the template form, but it was **RESOLVED** to form a working party of Cllr Cannon, Cllr Oakes, Cllr Tate and Cllr Needham to begin to gather ideas and costings in preparation. The Clerk will send the 2015 form to Councillors as a starting point and the group will meet before the June council meeting. To be added to the next agenda.

22/025

To approve the budget for the Queens Platinum Jubilee

The Clerk confirmed that the budgeted spend for the event so far amounted to £345. A budget of £400 was approved to allow for any contingency.

22/026

Lilac Way Play Area – To discuss quotes for resurfacing under the swings

The Clerk confirmed that the roots had all been lifted, the trees removed, the tarmacking to the path, and the area was now ready for a new surface for under the swings. She has managed to get quotes as follows: Wicksteed £3980.00, G.M Services wetpour £2532, GM Services rubber bound Mulch £1706. There was a budget of £2200 for the multi court and Lilac Way of which £1275 for the multi court/tarmac path and £240 for the skip has been used. Lilac way was a much bigger project than first anticipated. **RESOLVED** to proceed with GM Services rubber mulch in green.

22/027

Pavilion Goalstore – Brickwork Repairs

This is an ongoing issue that needs further investigation before a decision can be made. It was agreed that at the end of the season the store will be cleared out, photos will be taken and circulated, and a prospective quote obtained as a guide price. If possible, we should also obtain the opinion and cost of a bricklayer to repair the brickwork. To be added to a future agenda.

22/028

To consider registering the new trees on The Mound as our contribution to the Queens Green Canopy.

Cllr Cannon sent a proposal to all Councillors requesting that the Council consider registering the new trees on the Mound as our contribution to the Queens Green Canopy. The Clerk clarified the need to identify the species of the trees as part of the requirements. **RESOLVED** to register the 35 trees.

22/029 **Staffing Committee Report (Confidential – Standing order 18 invoked)**
Cllr Needham updated the Council regarding decisions made by the Staffing Committee. The Clerk/staff and member of public left the meeting for the discussions to be held.

22/030 **Maintenance**
Maintenance forms were issued to all Councillors with the agenda for completion.

Cllr Cannon said he has noticed a row of trees behind the shops – it was clarified these belong to the gardens.

Of the 9 LCC trees planted in The Headland, 5 have possibly died – Cllr Axon to inform LCC.

Cllr Axon asked if as tree warden there the possibility of some small expenditure and the Clerk said to always check with her before purchasing anything as there may be an account in place. Tree Stakes can be purchased from G Walkers where we have an account in place.

22/031 **Items Approved for expenditure**
Subs and Donations
Lilac Way play area surfacing
Internal Auditor
Proposed Accounts for April and May
Chair/vice chair's Allowance
Basket Swing
Platinum Jubilee

22/032 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**
Cllr Shivers advised he has had some signs printed requesting cars are turned off outside the school and it was agreed that these will be put up on the parish land.
He also said he felt speeding in the area was getting worse and asked if we could write to the police. Cllr Needham agreed to deal with this alongside following up the camera enforcement vehicle and speaking to the school re the School Streets initiative. This initiative aims to provide a solution to the congestion issues often experienced outside of schools by providing a time-limited congestion-free zone, by way of a temporary road closure. Schools are required to show interest by May 27th.

The Meeting closed at 8.30pm

L. Pizer
19th May 2022