

<b>EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL</b>
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Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 6.30pm in the village hall.

Present:

Cllr Axon (Chair)	Cllr V Oakes
Cllr R Fazackerley	Cllr A Harris
Cllr Tate	Cllr Shivers
C Turlington (Admin)	L Pizer (Clerk)

3 members of the public.

Cllr Axon was elected as Chair for the meeting, due to the absences of Cllrs Needham and Cannon.

22/139 **Co-option of new members:** None

22/140 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned):**

One resident voiced his concerns regarding speeding and traffic along Long Furrow, particularly on the bend, and said he is researching this further. The Clerk explained speeding is a police matter, but that EGPC is taking part in the Community Speedwatch initiative and that we have funding for a speed sign which is to be installed imminently. The resident agreed to keep in contact with the Clerk regarding volunteering for Speedwatch and to share his findings which can then be passed on to the police.

Mr Martin Field was present from East Midlands Community Led Housing to ask the Council to consider engaging EMCLH to help establish a potential new local organisation which would organise resistance to the continual housing development proposals and influence responses to the impact of proposals that already have outline approvals. Details of the support required will be considered at our next meeting if all information is received. The Clerk asked Mr Field to provide details of his proposal prior to the meeting, so this can be circulated to councillors for consideration in advance.

22/141 **Matters arising from the Police.**

A police report was received and there were 4 crimes reported in the last 30 days which related to the industrial estate and forced entry being gained into various units/containers. It was requested that the Clerk inform the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and Jelsons.

22/142 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr S Gerrard, Cllr L Needham, Cllr Cannon, Cllr Poland

22/143 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Shivers re the Village Hall

22/144 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> October**

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

22/145 **Matters arising from the minutes**

22/043 – Smurfit Kappa to repair the residents wall – this was completed 24<sup>th</sup> October.

22/095 – The playground signs have been installed on Lilac Way and the Village Green.

22/095 – Cllr Axon has written to the asset management team to arrange a meeting. The Clerk has spoken with CBC and requested a meeting with the Asset Manager.

22/101 – Bushes and self-set trees on Countrymans Way – the canopy was raised on 20<sup>th</sup> October.

22/103 – MVAS – We have now received a grant offer letter for £3726 which covers the cost of the equipment. The Clerk is working with LCC to get the post installed and a licence.

22/112 – Council Van – has been booked in to have the front brakes renewed on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov.  
22/112 – The bulbs were planted with the help of the Rainbows group on 25<sup>th</sup> October, in the shape of a crown.

22/124 – Tennis Courts – clips have been put in place.

22/124 – Trees – the Clerk requested that the trees obstructing the 30mph sign be dealt with on 17<sup>th</sup> October, but these are still to be completed; Cllr Axon advised the tree overhanging the footpath has been dealt with.

22/124 – Speedwatch – this will take place between 7<sup>th</sup> December and 11<sup>th</sup> January. The Clerk requested that the school flashing lights on Countrymans Way are repaired, however Cllr Shivers clarified that the lights are on Long Furrow, near Countrymans Way; the Clerk will follow this up. The Clerk requested the police visit Ploughmans Lea during drop/off pick up times.

22/127 – Cllr Axon/Clerk to draft letter to clarify details of point 8.1.3 of the transport assessment – still to be completed.

22/128 – The Clerk has applied for the S178 Licence to install the Christmas lights.

22/138 – Remembrance Sunday – the wreath is in the office for collection. Cllr Shivers is still available to attend and will need to be seated by 10.15 a.m.

22/146

### **County Councillors Report**

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

- New strategy and action plan sets out path to net zero – following a consultation, a blueprint setting out how residents, business and other groups can work together to make Leicestershire a net zero carbon county by 2045 has taken a big step forward: including identifying priority steps for action such as delivering the Sustainable Warmth Programme, generating local renewable energy, and working with partners through the Sustainable Food Plan. More information can be viewed online.
- Stepping up support for cost of living – an extra £3.6m of Government funding is enabling LCC to increase the amount of support it provides this winter; including ensuring 14,000 children receive free school meal vouchers during school holidays, offering energy efficient grants and advice, and fully-funded home improvements. Referrals can be made via email to: [householdsupportfund@leics.gov.uk](mailto:householdsupportfund@leics.gov.uk)

22/147

**Borough Councillors Report** – Cllr Needham was absent, and no report has been received.

22/148

### **Reports from Reps on other Committees**

**VHMC** – Next meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November – A report was issued and there were no questions.

**LONG FURROW** – Latest edition is being delivered this week.

**PAV & PLAYING FIELD** – Cllr Shivers is due to complete the playground checks for November.

**TREES** – Cllr Axon issued a report which included:

- A proposal that EGPC develops a definitive map of where tree planting would be desirable, and by testing areas for feasibility. Cllr Axon will bring to a future agenda.
- Tree in roundabout on Ploughmans Lea – This is a LCC tree and will be reported.
- The stakes from removed trees can be reused along with the weed matting.
- The Clerk asked for a map and details of the tree species for the Queen's Green Canopy. Cllr Axon will liaise with Cllr Cannon and send this through.

**CHRISTMAS EVENTS** – The Clerk has asked that the tree lights be installed on the first Saturday in December. The Santa event and the afternoon tea application form has featured in our November Long Furrow and application forms have been placed in the Library and Café. Councillors were asked to help on the day, either setting up from 10.30 a.m., or clearing away

from 3.30 p.m. Cllr Tate agreed to take photographs. Cllr Harris is running the raffle and should anyone have any donations please let Cllr Fazackerley or the office have them. Cllr Fazackerley issued a progress report and budget update which was approved.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** – No report.

**GREENER GOSCOTE/CLIMATE CHANGE** – Cllr Cannon issued a report.

**RESILIENCE PLAN** – Cllr Cannon circulated an updated template which he continues to work on.

22/149

**Proposed Accounts**

Accounts to the sum of £6827.34 were accepted for November by the Council. The bank reconciliation and relevant statements will be checked along with the invoices and signed off by Cllr Needham and Cllr Cannon in due course.

22/150

**Correspondence**

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

- LCC Budget webinar – relating to Parish Councils Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November – No Councillors could listen in however, these are recorded, and the Clerk will view the session on a working day. Our Admin will join the webinar on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November which relates to the voluntary and community sector.
- The Reaching People Environmental fund – Up to £5k can be applied for, for environmental projects until 23<sup>rd</sup> February. The types of projects possible are reducing pollution, supporting Wildlife, increase recycling, protect habitats and raising environmental awareness. Greener Goscote will hopefully be applying for funds. The Clerk will establish if the Parish Council can apply.
- Life support – free training – East Midlands Ambulance Service – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 6.30pm in the village hall. Cllr Tate to attend. Admin to advertise this on Spotted.
- Civility and respect – have circulated a Model Councillor-Officer protocol which will be circulated to all Councillors to read and will be added to the induction folder.
- Advert consent for Redrow Sign.
- LRALC Newsletter – the opening paragraph advises councillors are going to have to make tough decisions regarding finance and the precept.

22/151

**Planning Matters**

P/22/1886/2 – Single storey extension to rear and porch to front – 1 Squires Ride – no objections.

P/22/1424 – Retrospective application for front boundary wall – 8 Long Furrow – no objections to the wall height but clarification needed on height of gate.

22/152

**To consider closing the tennis court over the winter/removing net/cleaning.**

RESOLVED that we try to keep the court open until the end of December. However, should the weather become very cold and frosty our Caretaker has delegated powers to remove the net and close the court. It was also suggested that we amend the automated booking reply email advising users that they play on the court at their own risk. It was also agreed to put a sign on the gate. Cllr Shivers asked that the Caretaker look at the grass that is appearing on the court and treats this accordingly.

22/153

**To consider the risk assessments for street furniture/office/pavilion**

The Clerk circulated the report received from Essential Safety Solutions to all Councillors for their consideration. For most part the issues can be dealt with by our caretaker. Replacing the bench outside the scout hut to be considered at the precept meeting.

- 22/154 **To consider the fire risk assessment for open spaces.**  
 The Clerk circulated the report received from Essential Safety Solutions to all Councillors for their consideration and it was RESOLVED to accept this with the recommendation to keep the grass cut short up to 30m away from residential properties. It has been proposed that fire beaters are available, however it was agreed that there would be no further action at this stage. Cllr Axon proposed the need for a management plan of our open spaces and will contact the Climate Change group to discuss this further. The Clerk advised that the mowing contract is due for discussion in January.
- 22/155 **Parish Priorities – To discuss draft consultation document.**  
 The Clerk and Admin Assistant have worked on a draft consultation document which was circulated to Councillors to enable us to feedback to Charnwood BC what the parish priorities are. RESOLVED to approve the questionnaire, with an amendment to include ‘garden of remembrance’ alongside a cemetery. It was agreed to include this in the next edition of the Long Furrow, with a closing date of 10<sup>th</sup> March. Additional copies will also be available and regular reminders to complete will be sent via the app.
- 22/156 **To consider the draft Environmental policy.**  
 The Climate Change group and the Clerk have drafted a suggested policy for Councillor consideration and Cllr Axon had sent a cover note. RESOLVED to adopt the policy. The Climate Change group will work on an action plan.
- 22/157 **Motion – To change Standing order 7a to read “meetings to be held on a Monday”**  
 Cllr Needham has sent in an agenda proposal which had subsequently received the required 6 signatures to consider changing our Standing Orders. RESOLVED that with effect from January 2023 all full council meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month apart from May 2023, which is an election month, so will be held on the third Monday. There were 4 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.
- 22/158 **To confirm our 2023 Meeting Dates**  
 The Clerk circulated the suggested dates following the change to Standing orders. RESOLVED that the dates be approved as per the attached sheet.
- 22/159 **To consider costs to install the new transformer/cabling for the Christmas Lights**  
 As LCC had undertaken works to the tree outside the hall the transformer had been removed. New equipment was purchased and subject to us receiving the required licence, it was agreed that we would approve the works for the electric cable installation at a cost of £266.70 + vat.
- 22/160 **To consider a quote to work on all the trees along the hedge of the playing fields.**  
 Our contractor has sent in a quote to lift all the trees along the hedge line, where some branches have been damaged due to the cutting the hedge. The quote was for a day rate of £280 per day, for two contractors to work with a chain saw and chipper to cut and dispose of all the low branches and tidy up the trees. He has also suggested a second day’s work through the centre of the village and a further day to lift trees on Lilac Way. The Clerk confirmed that there are funds of £185 remaining in the tree works budget and that funds would need to be transferred from the environmental improvement budget. RESOLVED to approve a spend of £560 (2 days). Cllr Axon will look at the trees along the hedgerow and inform the Clerk if work is needed in this area.

22/161

**Maintenance**

- Cllr Axon and the Caretaker to dig small trenches to investigate under the ground at the Mound.
- Cllr Shivers mentioned that the area outside the pub is generally untidy, and the Clerk will monitor this and deal with accordingly. The Willow tree is overhanging the footpath and will be reported to LCC.
- Cllr Fazackerly requested a soft closure on the wooden gate to the playing field. The Clerk advised that she is investigating alternatives to consider at the precept meeting.
- Cllr Harris said that one of the traffic lights has been turned around and the Clerk will report this to LCC.

22/162

**Items approved for Expenditure**

- Afternoon Tea – £416.72
- Electrical cable installation – £266.70 + VAT
- Tree work – £560

22/163

**Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**

- The Clerk has circulated last year's precept categories for information in preparation of the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.
- A discussion regarding the crimes on the Industrial Estate, the speeding concerns, and anti-social behaviour on the playing fields took place. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk write to PCSO Harrison to request attendance at the December meeting and that regular patrols take place. The Clerk asked that all issues are reported to the police when they occur. The Clerk mentioned that there has been an issue with a memorial tree and rabbit guard being damaged and Cllr Axon will investigate a possible replacement tree.

22/164

**Update from the Staffing Meeting** (Standing order 3v invoked) Public and press are asked to leave the meeting.

Date of next Meeting: **Precept Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at 1.00 p.m.**  
**Full Council Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 6.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 9.04 pm

L. Pizer/C Turlington  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2022