

**Minutes of a Full Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6.30pm at the East Goscote Village Hall.**

Present:

Cllr L Needham (Chair)	Cllr D Cannon
Cllr N Shivers	Cllr C Tate
Cllr V Oakes (late)	Cllr R Axon
Cllr S Gerrard (left at 8pm)	Cllr A Harris
Cllr R Fazackerley	Cllr D Westerveld
Cllr J Poland	
Mrs L Pizer (Clerk)	Mrs C Turlington (Deputy Clerk)

22/240 **Co-option of new members - None**

22/241 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting adjourned)**

None

22/242 **Matters arising from the Police.**

The Chair confirmed that the first beat surgery was planned to be held in the Library on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March between 11am and 12 noon.

Cllr Shivers will visit the PCSO to discuss the Speedwatch data which is evidence of speeding over the limit. He will ask if the speed gun can be deployed.

22/243 **Apologies for Absence:** None

22/244 **To report any declarations of interest** Cllr Cannon regarding the Long Furrow, Library and Greener Goscote; Cllr Shivers regarding Village Hall; Cllr Gerrard regarding Planning Matters and Licensing, Cllr Needham re Greener Goscote

22/245 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meeting (13.02)**

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

22/246 **Matters arising from the minutes.**

22/216 – The first Beat Surgery will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

22/220 – (22/196 / 22/171) – Cllr Axon to draft response to Highways regarding their misunderstanding that we would like a permanent exit onto the bypass – Cllr Axon said that there would be up to 7 new developments over the next 5 years. It was agreed that no letter would be drafted until the Traffic Management plan has been submitted.

22/220 – (22/197) Red Gate – still awaiting a quote from the playground contractor

22/220 – (22/204) Vandalised Tree – we have an oak for the resident.

22/221 – Speedwatch Data has been circulated to all Councillors and the Police.

22/223 – The roundabout seats have been received and will be fitted in the spring

22/223 – Fire Warden Training was undertaken by 2 Councillors and 3 staff.

22/223 – New bin has been ordered.

22/233 – Reaching People Fund has been submitted – we will hear by the end of May.

22/232 – Cllr Shivers asked when the VAS would arrive. The Clerk will chase this up although was aware of a long lead time.

22/247

### **County Councillors Report**

A written report was received – details as follows:

- County Budget - £57m more to support vulnerable people.
- £59m of efficiency savings
- A £509m four-year capital pot for roads, schools and one-off projects.

The financial outlook remains extremely tough with the budget gap set to rise to nearly £90m by 2026. This year's budget totals £512m.

LCC has teamed up with key partners to draw up ambitious principles to tackle climate change, nature decline and carbon reduction. The Leicestershire Climate and nature pact supports national and international efforts to tackle climate change. LCC are calling upon other organisations to sign up to the pact. Cllr Axon asked if this was for Parish Councils to sign up and it was confirmed that we could.

22/248

### **Borough Councillors Report**

Cllr Needham reported that most information is sent via the office emails. She has received comments regarding aggressive dogs off lead on the playing field, accessibility issues around Merchants Common, and anti-social behaviour a current problem at Fleury Court.

She informed Councillors of the new election requirement for a photo ID and the postal vote application which is very quick and easy if you are without any ID

22/249

### **Reports from Representatives on other Committees**

VHMC – Cllr Shivers said that the hall was painted during February half term. In Easter a new sound system and hearing loop will be fitted. During the summer a new floor will be laid. The next meeting is 30<sup>th</sup> March.

PAV/PLAYING FIELD – The Clerk and Caretaker will carry out the checks before the professional inspection.

LONG FURROW – The copy deadline for the next edition is 14<sup>th</sup> March. Included will be feedback from the Parish Priorities, a poster for interest in a garage sale, and the Coronation event poster on the front page. Cllr Cannon asked that everyone who receives a copy carries out a thorough check as there was a typing error on the front page (year of the magazine). The Clerk will send bullet points for the parish news.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Cllr Harris is in touch with the person who previously ran this scheme to take it over.

TREES – Cllr Axon said there were some crab apple trees left over from the planting. Greener Goscote group planted some free trees on behalf of the Parish Council. The areas and locations were agreed at the February meeting. The Chairman said that there seems to have been some misunderstanding as to the location and discussion ensued regarding where they had been planted and the options available (3).RESOLVED that the trees that were planted on the Melton Road frontage would be moved to the back of the area to provide a screening for the houses and have the least effect on the mowing schedule. RESOLVED that the trees on the area by the noticeboard would be planted in the current tree/hedge line adjacent to the field. Cllr Axon thanked the Greener Goscote group for giving up their time to plant these trees for the benefit of the community.

GREENER GOSCOTE – Cllr Cannon circulated a report prior to the meeting:

- The decision was taken to not apply for a Shire Environment Grant at this time, there is more of a need for active volunteers.
- GG will likely assist with recycling and waste management for the Scout Summer Fete.
- General litter picking, tidying, pruning, signage work and maintenance continues.

CLIMATE CHANGE – Cllr Cannon circulated a report prior to the meeting:

- 24 plug plants have been ordered for the Wildlife Verge. It was suggested that a plan for a mowing regime be considered, to include a roadside trim and pathway through so that it looks more managed as well as being natural.
- 45 LCC free trees have been planted, thanks to all those that assisted with this.
- The Reaching People Environmental Fund application has been submitted, with the result by the end of May.

HIRE CHARGES – the Football Working party have reviewed the hire charges. These were circulated and approved. It was noted that the charges will not include marking the pitches out again this year.

LOCAL PLAN FEEDBACK FROM HEARINGS – Cllr Axon attended the hearings and put our points across. He feels that the inspector would favour the developers rather than the community although Cllr Gerrard felt this was incorrect.

SCOUT LEASE UPDATE – the Clerk has now appointed the solicitor to go ahead with this and informed the scout leader that an upfront payment has got to be made.

22/250

### **Proposed Accounts**

Accounts to the sum of £6203.27 were approved for payment by the council. Internal audits will be carried out by the Chair and Vice Chair.

22/252

### **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence received was issued to all Councillors present:

- Increase in costs of waste services. The Clerk produced two sets of charges for the council to consider. Our Contract with Charnwood is on an annual basis and costs have escalated. Resolved to sign a new contract with Biffa subject to confirming the weights and the costs and the colour of sacks required.
- Tree report on the Lime Tree – Clerk to obtain quotes to remove deadwood and branches as per the report.,
- Civility and respect – to be included in our induction folders for new councillors
- Scout request for beer tent – was approved (cans only) and a copy of the risk assessment/licences will be required. Cllr Gerrard declared her interest however the Chair said that a TENs application does not normally go to the Licensing Committee and is decided by officers.
- Damaged sign Melton Road – Clerk has written to Redrow who will replace the sign. Costings for the sign and installation will be obtained.
- Speedwatch data – copies given to Cllr Poland and the police.
- Charity football match – request to use during the summer was approved.

22/253

**Planning Matters**

a) To Ratify response to Redrow Development

The final draft letter was circulated with a total of 7 points for Charnwood's consideration. RESOLVED to approve the letter. Cllr Cannon thanked Cllr Axon for such a detailed letter and many hours of research to put this letter together on our behalf.

b) To discuss S106 Signed agreement.

The Deputy read out the details of the agreement in relation to the outdoor sports facility contribution of £88, 829 which has been awarded to Cossington, Syston Rugby Club and Soar Valley Leisure (a Charnwood managed centre). The Council cannot understand why the village were not awarded any of this money ?.

Discussions had been held with many Charnwood officers at the Clerks meeting last year, and also between the Borough Councillor and Mr Marshall who informed us that we could be allocated funds from this pot. We would like to know how this decision was arrived at, and why East Goscote Parish Council was not considered given its provision of many football pitches and a sports pavilion which is in need of refurbishment. We feel that Charnwood Borough Council have dealt with this section 106 agreement without any consideration to the needs of East Goscote and there has been poor communication throughout. The whole process needs to be reviewed to ensure that the villages that will suffer many years of building/lorries and general upheaval are compensated in some way. RESOLVED a letter be sent to head of Planning at Charnwood, the Chief Executive at Charnwood and our MP. The Clerk will also write a press release.

22/254

**To approve Petty Cash Payments**

This was circulated to all Councillors. Cash in £100.00 Cash out £89.14 The balance carried forward is £18.64. RESOLVED to approve the petty cash payments.

22/255

**Election Information and Packs**

Election packs were given to all Councillors. It was noted that the nomination papers, consent to nomination and home address forms must be returned to CBC between Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and 4.00 p.m. on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April and an appointment must be made by contacting electoral services on 01509 634612 or by email at [electoral.services@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@charnwood.gov.uk). All Councillors should check the list of disqualifications before submitting. Additional information can be found in the presentation the Clerk circulated on 9<sup>th</sup> March. For Councillors to be considered for Chair or Vice Chair they must be elected and attend the A.G.M. in May.

22/256

**Dog Fouling Issues – Proposal Cllr Axon**

Cllr Axon has submitted a proposal for metal signage in up to 6 locations to inform and educate dog owners about responsible pet ownership and their responsibilities to others. He explained his rationale behind the proposal and circulated wording which could be used. He said that he would also like the sign to include other activities which are not allowed on the Playing fields including Trail Biking, Quad Biking, Golf and Horse Riding. Cllr Shivers said that he has been putting up dog fouling signs for months, along with spray painting the footpaths. He asked how they would be enforced and felt that we need to investigate the services of a dog warden – (Queniborough Parish Council have one). He will prepare a proposal for consideration at the June meeting. RESOLVED that a maximum budget of £300 be awarded for signs to be placed around the playing fields.

22/257

**Coronation Event – Final Preparation Update**

The Coronation Working Party met on 7<sup>th</sup> March and the minutes were circulated to Councillors. Additional assistance is needed with setting up the barriers, and tables and chairs before the event; Cllr Oakes and Cllr Westerveld offered to help along with members of the committee. The next meeting is Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at the Plough.

22/258

**Parish Priorities – analysis of responses**

A detailed analysis was given out and discussed. There were 24 responses in total. As the response was very low it was difficult to make any conclusion on what the priorities were. The following were identified as the top priorities for East Goscote albeit less than 10 requests:

- Youth Club was the choice for Young People.
- Outdoor Bowls / Bowling Green – was the top choice for outdoor sports.
- Improvements to the Natural Environment and Sustainability
- Cemetery/garden of remembrance

A draft poster was circulated for inclusion in the next edition of the Long Furrow. The Clerk and Deputy will complete the table for submission to Charnwood listing our priorities. It was noted that during the summer to obtain residents feedback the only way would be to knock on doors.

22/259

**Bus Shelter on Long Furrow – Perspex or Wood**

The Clerk has obtained prices for 6mm thick marine ply. For a total of 3 new sheets to change the back of the shelter to wood the cost would be £117 for the materials. The correct material for the rear of the shelter is UV PCET – a quote was obtained at £111.90 per panel in the plastic. We will look at the possibility of our caretaker installing this and enquire if the supplier can install. RESOLVED to purchase 2 panels.

22/260

**Vehicle access to centre of village – trees or bollards**

At the last meeting it was proposed there was the potential for some of the free trees to be planted at the top of Bracken Dale / Weavers Wynd to resolve the issues with vehicles accessing the pedestrian area. Cllr Axon said that the area was unsuitable for trees. The Deputy Clerk informed the Council of the cost of installing concrete bollards. The area is 7 metres long so a possible 5 bollards would be needed at £92.32 per bollard. Another alternative would be a hedge. 4-5ft hedge plants were found on Amazon at a cost of £95.79 for 25 plants. A budget of £150 was agreed unanimously for the planting of a hedge along the 7 metre area.

22/261

**Maintenance**

- Redrow have admitted damaging the village sign. The Clerk will obtain quotes to replace and install and charge Redrow.
- Cllr Axon asked if the Mound inspection could be added to the Maintenance roles of responsibility list.
- Tree Roots – Weavers Wynd Corner – Clerk to establish house number and between Broome Avenue and the Meadows – all the way along.

22/262

**Items approved for Expenditure.**

Playing Field Signs, Bus shelter repair, Hedge

22/263

**Urgent Items by Permission of the Chairman**

Cllr Shivers and Cllr Oakes said that they would not be completing their nomination forms to continue as a Parish Councillors. The Clerk confirmed that they would remain in office until Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May when new Councillors take office. Our April meeting is the Annual Parish

meeting where reports are issued and our AGM will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> with new elected Councillors are in post.

22/264 **Staffing committee update – Standing order 3v applies.**  
See confidential minute.

22/265 **Date and time of the next Meeting:**  
The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.50p.m.

L Pizer/C Turlington  
14.3.23