

<u>EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL</u>

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Monday 18th September 2023 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr L Needham (Chair)	Cllr D Cannon
Cllr C Tate	Cllr S Gerrard
Mrs R Fazackerley	Mrs A Harris

2 members of the public	
Mrs L Pizer	Mrs C Turlington

23/081 **Co-option of New Members**
None

23/082 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**

1 member of the public raised some concerns, including:

- It has become difficult to see when using the cycle path from East Goscote to Queniborough due to an overgrown hedge. He requested that the hedge be cut back, or mirrors be installed. Cllr Needham asked him to send the photographs he has, and she will follow this up.
- The weeds in the gutters is having a negative impact on the state of the village, and he asked if they could either be killed or scraped off. The Clerk will contact the relevant authorities as this will require a combination of LCC weed spraying and CBC carriage way sweeping. Cllr Needham asked to be copied into anything that is sent as she has also been made aware of this issue in other areas.

1 member of the public said that she was attending the meeting to follow up on the hedge at Bracken Dale / Mercers Way. Cllr Needham explained that this was on the agenda for later in the evening and that if she didn't want to wait then the Clerk will email her tomorrow; this was agreed.

23/083 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Poland

23/084 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow Magazine and Greener Goscote, Cllr Needham re Greener Goscote, Cllr Fazackerley re Village Hall and licence to cultivate.

23/085 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 13th July 2023**
The minutes of the meetings held on 13th July were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

23/086 **Matters arising from the Minutes**

- 23/036 – Cllr Needham gave an update on the Anti-Social Behaviour at Fleury Court: the team leader has said that a Community Protection Notice has been issued which if isn't abided by can be escalated. She has requested more information about this.
- 23/053 – The report for the Lime Tree has been received and forwarded to Charnwood.
- 23/060 – School Hedge has been cut. The school advised that the hold-up was by the contractor who is part of County Council. It was resolved to lodge a complaint with the school and LCC and request they implement a plan to stop this happening each year.
- 23/065 – The police have advised that they are currently too short staffed to carry out additional patrols.

- 23/068 – Trees adjacent to the Tennis Court that had failed have been removed.
- 23/068 – Electric charging points (LCC scheme) Neither Merchants Common or the VH car park are highway and cannot be considered as part of the LCC scheme.
- 23/068 – Investigating EMA Flight Path Funding is still to be done.
- 23/070 – The resident has contacted the office and will arrange for the fence to be repaired.
- 23/070 – Clover Walk – The Clerk has received a map from LCC which identifies which areas are privately owned and she will investigate this further. Cllr Needham mentioned she has also received reports of fly tipping in Tailors Link.
- 23/070 – Our Ex-Cllr has said that he would be happy to volunteer again as tree warden if the Council have clear plans re the environment. It was agreed to put a sign on the noticeboards, website and in the Long Furrow.
- 23/075 – Our Deputy Clerk has carried out the “Introduction to CILCA” training and will require the latest edition of the Charles Arnold Baker Local Council Administration at a cost of £141. RESOLVED to purchase with a budget of £150 utilising the contingency fund.

23/087 **Matters arising from the Police**

The police were absent from the meeting, and we have been informed that there have been no crimes reported this month.

23/088 **County Councillor’s Questions**

Cllr Poland emailed all Councillors with a written report prior to the meeting. This included information regarding authorities and local communities working together on climate change. More information can be found here:

- Net Zero Toolkit: <https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/parish-councils/net-zero-toolkit>
- Leicestershire Climate and Nature Pact: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/net-zero/sign-up-to-the-leicestershire-climate-and-nature-pact>

23/089 **Borough Councillor’s Questions**

Cllr Needham had nothing additional to report but did provide Councillors with a template letter to object to a planning application in Rearsby on an individual basis if they wished to do so.

23/090 **Reports from Reps on other Committees**

VHMC – The new floor in the main hall and porch have been fitted, and the porch and storeroom have been decorated. The VHMC are marketing the hall to try to secure new regular bookings. Two table tennis tables have been purchased for use in the hall. The VHMC have a sum of £217 left of their grant and would like to request if they could have a new welcome sign for the porch and new pads for the defibrillator. This was approved. The next Meeting is 3rd October.

LONG FURROW –. The deadline for Articles is October 1st. A new editor has been appointed – C Turlington – The article for the Christmas event will be included.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Playground checks for August were carried out by Cllr Tate, Cllr Harris is due to carry out September’s checks.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – No report.

TREES – No report.

FOOTBALL MEETING UPDATE – Keys have been issued to the Senior and Junior

teams. The junior team will be holding training sessions on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday mornings and do not require use of the pavilion. Their line marker will be stored in the store area adjacent to the porch. The under 7/8's pitch is not being hired (paid for) but the under 8's are using the field for training sessions.

WILDFLOWER VERGE – Cllr Cannon sent in an update. The verge was accidentally strimmed and then raked off following advice. It will be cut by Roma at an additional cost on their last cut of the year.

REACHING PEOPLE GRANT UPDATE – The desktop survey has been completed but reports are yet to be received. The first guided nature walk was fascinating and focused on the “dog walk area” to the rear of the playing field adjacent to the train line. It was attended by 2 Councillors, the Deputy Clerk, residents, and contacts from related projects. The second walk last Saturday looked at the trees through the centre of the village. Cllr Cannon proposed the third walk takes place in the Spring and this will be arranged in due course.

GREENER GOSCOTE – Councillor Cannon issued a written report for Councillor information.

23/091

Proposed Accounts

Accounts to the sum of £6314.37 were accepted by the Council for August and £4579.82 for September. The bank reconciliation and relevant statements were checked along with the invoices and signed off by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

23/092

Correspondence

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

- Annual Risk Assessments – a quote of £350 has been received for the risk assessments and it was RESOLVED to proceed with this.
- Pavilion Lights – a quote of £542.75 has been received to carry out essential electrical work at the pavilion. It was RESOLVED to proceed with this.
- Response to streetlight query regarding the light being the wrong way at Bracken Dale / Mercers Way – LCC have advised this is the correct way. Cllr Needham will investigate this further.
- Response to streetlight query regarding leaving the lights on throughout the night – LCC have advised that to leave lights on all night police support is required and they are currently waiting for the police to respond.
- Response to streetlight query regarding additional lighting – LCC have advised that they would be unable to install additional lighting due to the utilities in the area. It was RESOLVED to go back to LCC and propose they can have access via the village green.
- Dog Warden feedback – 10th August and 11th September – this will be considered at the next meeting.
- Email from Ex-Cllr advising he doesn't wish to continue as tree warden
- Notes from the Clerks Operational Meeting 14.9.23
- Flood Warden Information

23/093

Planning Matters

P/23/1235/2 – Residential development 160 dwellings, Melton Rd, Queniborough – object response ratified

P/23/1236/2 – Residential development 100 houses to land at Melton Road, Queniborough – Object – response ratified

P/22/2279 – Amended plans from Redrow homes. The number of homes to be built has increased from 256 to 258. A response was circulated and ratified.

P/23/1341 – 9 Ploughmans Lea – no objections.

P/23/1383/2 – Melton Road, Rearsby – Jelson – 56 houses – A response was circulated and approved – Object. Cllr Needham said that Rearsby are trying to get as many

individual responses as possible.
Cllr Gerrard left the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

- 23/094 **Bracken Dale Hedge – Summary Paper Issued – Consider Options**
The Clerk issued a paper containing details and facts surrounding the installation of the hedge. Written feedback was obtained from LCC and the Police, and the Fire Service confirmed that the engines carry hoses to access properties that are not easily accessible. This was discussed in detail and several options carefully considered. It was unanimously RESOLVED to keep the hedge and write to the residents explaining that the Council did consider removable bollards however, letting vehicles onto the green would then be in breach of our own byelaws and the Highways act. A copy of the summary paper will be hand delivered to residents along with a covering letter. Additional hedge plants will be purchased to replace the ones that have died. To be added to a future agenda to consider other areas.
- 23/095 **Council Insurance Policy Renewal – 3 quotes – Spreadsheet issued**
The Clerk obtained quotes from Hiscox, Zurich and BHIB for consideration by the Council. A comparison spreadsheet was issued.
RESOLVED to proceed with BHIB for a 3-year long term undertaking.
- 23/096 **To ratify our Parish Priorities to submit to Charnwood**
The Deputy Clerk compiled a list of priorities based on feedback from the resident's survey in 2023. Councillors were asked to review and update this form which is used when Charnwood allocates S106 monies. RESOLVED to resend as it is before the deadline of 22nd September, with Councillors sending through any proposals to the office to update in a month. Considering alternative options for the Redrow S106 allotment funding is to be discussed at a future meeting.
- 23/097 **To discuss the Christmas Events**
- Elderly Afternoon Tea event – It was previously agreed to be held on Saturday 9th December between 1.30pm and 4pm in the village hall. The vintage singer has been booked. Cllr Fazackerley said that the budget required for the hall, singer, and food amounts to £380.34. The application form for tickets (Max 60) will be in the next edition of the Long Furrow. RESOLVED to agree the budget.
 - The library has confirmed that they are doing the Santa event on Friday 8th December from 6.30pm. They have enough gifts from last year so will not require any this year. The library will put together a poster for the Long Furrow.
 - If we have permission to install lights on the tree outside the hall the price to install is the same as last year: £675.00 + VAT. The Clerk advised the tree has been checked for safety following recent storm damage. RESOLVED to install the lights subject to permission being granted. Cllr Tate to make a proposal to look at alternative for future years.
- 23/098 **To Consider quotes for a new Kissing Gate on the Jubilee Playing Field**
The Clerk issued copies of 3 quotes that she has received for a new timber kissing gate for the playing field adjacent to the pedestrian crossing. There is a budget of £700. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk go back for further clarification and to check if a new hard standing area is required. To be added to the next agenda.
- 23/099 **To consider a Licence to Cultivate with the VHMC for the flower bed on Melton Rd.**
(Cllr Fazackerley took no part)
The Clerk has circulated a draft licence to cultivate based on the previous licence between the Council and the Guide group. This was approved and Cllr Needham signed the licence on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 23/100 **To consider the updated CCTV policy**
The Deputy Clerk has written an updated CCTV policy which was circulated for Councillor consideration. RESOLVED to adopt the updated policy.

- 23/101 **To consider cutting the playing field perimeter hedge – quote received.**
The quote to trim the playing field hedge sides and top amounts to £300. Cllr Cannon said that the ecologist has advised leaving the hedge a little wider and taller and he will obtain clarification on measurements so that the contractor can be given a correct specification to work to. RESOLVED to proceed.
- 23/102 **Electric car club information sent to Councillors – Any Further Action.**
Information has been circulated for Councillors to consider if they feel it is a viable proposition for the Council to get involved in. After considering the scheme it was RESOLVED to confirm our intention to proceed based on resident support. An article will be included in the next edition of the Long Furrow to ascertain if a steering group can be created to take this initiative forward.
- 23/103 **Community Safety Scheme Fund – Possible CCTV Scheme – Specification?**
The Clerk issued details of this fund and how Mountsorrel had been successful in applying for funds. The first detail to be agreed is to where the CCTV cameras should be located within the village. The closing date for round 2 is 2nd October and round 3 is 8th January 2024. After discussion it was RESOLVED that no further action be taken.
- 23/104 **Correspondence from Brookside Athletic to consider a long-term lease.**
A letter has been received from Brookside Athletic concerning a long-term lease for the pavilion and football pitches commencing next season. The Clerk is arranging a meeting with Charnwood, as this is something that was raised when we discussed funding for the pavilion. Many of the funds available to teams are only possible if they have security of tenure. RESOLVED to explore this further.
- 23/105 **To receive the results from the Mound Survey**
CBC have received the report but have not shared this with EGPC yet.
- 23/106 **Update from the Staffing Meeting - Confidential**
Standing order 3v was invoked – members of the public and the deputy Clerk were asked to leave.
- 23/078 **Maintenance**
A completed sheet has been received from Cllr Fazackerley identifying areas of work required in the Lilac Way area.
- 23/079 **Items approved for Expenditure**
Local Council Administration Book
Remaining Village Hall Grant
Annual Risk Assessments
Pavilion Electrical Work
Replacement Hedging
Insurance
Afternoon Tea Event
Christmas Lights
Cutting of Perimeter Hedge
- 23/080 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**

Date of next Meeting: **Monday October 16th, 2023, at 6.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

L Pizer
19th September 2023