

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday, April 17th, 2023.
at 7.30pm at the East Goscote Village Hall

Present: Cllr L Needham (Chair) Cllr D Cannon
Cllr N Shivers Cllr V Oakes
Cllr A Harris Cllr D Westerveld

3 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23/001 **Apologies for absence** Cllr S Gerrard, Cllr R Axon, Cllr C Tate,
Cllr Rhonda Fazackerley, Cllr J Poland

23/002 **To confirm the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting.**
The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday April 13th, 2022, were accepted.
as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

23/003 **Matters arising from the minutes: None.**

23/004 **Matters arising from the Police**
Annual figures were extracted by the Clerk from the website UK Crime Stats which gave a breakdown of offences and a total number of 142 crimes at East Goscote for the period Feb 22 – Jan 23. There were 92 for the previous 12 months (Feb 21 – Jan 22). Cllr Shivers said that this was a large increase for a small village. He will visit the beat surgery to speak with our PCSO to ask what action is being taken to reduce crime.

23/005 **Chair's Report**
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
She had produced a written report included in everyone's papers.
Some of the issues covered were: -

- Council and Staff
- Planning
- The cost of vandalism – this year amounted to £637
- Dog Fouling
- East Goscote Library
- The Parish Phone App
- Neighbourhood Watch
- The Snow Warden Scheme
- The Long Furrow Magazine
- Speedwatch Scheme
- Coronation event
- Tree work
- Council meetings – change to a Monday evening
- Police Beat Surgeries
- The Parish priorities survey
- The Christmas event
- Greener Goscote work
- Next year's projects

The Chair paid tribute to our County Councillor, MP Mr Argar, and our PCSO's for all their hard work. She also thanked the Council staff team for all their hard work this year. A special mention was given to Cllrs Axon, Cannon and Shivers who have undertaken many projects for our village over the last few years and have gone above and beyond to serve our village.

There were no questions.

23/006

Finance report

The annual report was issued to everyone present, along with information about the precept. The 2023/24 budget would be £87,975.00 with the precept at £66,900. This equated to a cost of £71.80 for a band D property.

Projects for 2023/24 include a new gate for the playing field, air conditioning for the parish office and savings towards a new vehicle.

There were no questions.

23/007

Borough Councillors Report

Cllr Needham issued a written report which included the following topics:

- Land off Melton Road - Comments have been made by our Borough Councillor to reflect her view that the density of housing was too high, remediation measures would cause excessive noise, disruption, and loss of privacy to nearby housing and a much wider buffer was required along the woodland area to preserve the natural habitat. Our Borough Councillor is also working with the Parish Council to try to secure some better pedestrian access to the proposed site. Regular quarterly meetings with Redrow will allow the Parish Council and Borough Councillor to have the most up to date information for residents along with the opportunity to raise issues or concerns.
- Charnwood Local Plan 2021-37 - The Local Plan hearings were attended by our Borough Councillor to support the Parish Council and residents view that East Goscote and surrounding areas were taking an unfair amount of the "other settlement" allocation and that there were issues with service provision, particularly public transport, and access to healthcare.
- The Budget was approved at Full Council in February with the main points being: -
 - A rise in Council Tax of 3.52% which equates to £140.47 per year for a Band D property.
 - Local elections are taking place on May 4th and photo ID will be required.
- Members Grants – Was awarded to the village hall to pay for the induction loop.

There were no questions.

23/008

County Councillors Report

A written report was issued to everyone with the agenda.

- Leicestershire are still the lowest funded County council in the Country.
- LCC has a commitment to be net zero by 2045. A climate and nature pact has been created – an agreement to work together between 40 organisations.
- Cllr Poland continues to work on a wide range of issues during the past 12 months including speed monitoring, traffic issues, helping businesses, protecting green spaces and other matters for residents.

Cllr Poland thanked the Parish Office staff, our Borough Councillor, and our MP Edward Argar.

23/009

East Goscote Village Hall Update

All members received a copy of the annual report with their agenda.

Details included were:

- Grants received totalling £3000 for a new pa system/induction loop.
- £7096 invested in the hall last year with new internal doors and the main hall was repainted.
- Lots of occasional bookings and a basic life support demonstration
- The committee celebrated the 30 years' service of Mrs Pizer with an afternoon tea and gifts.
- For 2023 the hall will have a new floor installed, new noticeboards and a new matting type floor in the porch.
- A climate action plan has been completed.

Thanks were noted to the village hall committee and staff along with all the regular users of the hall whose funding helps us to make all the improvements to the hall.

23/010

Matters arising by permission of the Chair

- One resident said that one of the biggest issues for the village was inconsiderate parking, especially around the school area. There are also more cars parking on pavements around the Long Furrow.
The chair replied that we are aware and have instructed the school "camera car" to visit twice to deal with this. She also suggested that the resident visit the beat surgery to speak directly to the police who can deal with this. Another suggestion was to contact the school as a resident and ask them to inform the parents of the complaint.
- Traffic lights on Melton Road - One resident pointed out that the traffic lights continue to be out. This is the fifth time in only a few months. All have been reported by the Parish Council. The Parish Council will contact the highways dept and our County Councillor to ask that investigations be conducted into the wider fault.
- Cllr Oakes said that some children set a fire on the playing field "dog walk" area. Cllr Shivers will inform the police at the next beat surgery.
- One resident said that his Toyota garage has informed him that all Parish Councils are to have electric chargers. The chair asked to see this information as we were not aware of any policy to do that or any grants available.
- One resident thanked Cllr Cannon for planting the wildflowers on the grass verge.

Approval of the April accounts would be by the Chair/Clerk and Vice Chair, and they would be ratified in May.

All annual reports for 2023 are now featured on our website in the "reports" section.

The AGM will be held on Monday 15th May at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. It was noted that the election was uncontested with a total of 5 Councillors being elected. There are currently five vacancies.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

L. Pizer

18th April 2023