

MARCH 2021

# EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



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## All Change at East Leake Parish Council!

The last year has seen huge changes for all of us and East Leake Parish Council (ELPC) is no exception.

After many years' service, Peter Rapley retired from ELPC in April.

In August, Jenny de Villiers resigned from ELPC following her appointment as Vice-President with the Co-Op National Member Council.

In September, Conrad Oatey stepped down from his role on ELPC to pursue other interests, and Len Simmons resigned for personal reasons.

We thank all of these people for the work they have done on behalf of the village community and wish them well.

Vacancies were advertised via the website, noticeboards and Facebook and, following several applications 4 new councillors were co-opted on to the council. We are very happy to have been joined by Richard Miller, Terry Rountree, Nick McGowan and Wendy Thompson.

In September Kevin Shaw took over as Chair of the ELPC and Lindsey Maggs as Vice-Chair.

Committee membership has also changed and details can be found on the ELPC website along with contact information for all of the Council members.

In November the Clerk, Neil Lambert, retired and, after the appropriate recruitment process, the Deputy Clerk, Sue Lewis, was appointed as Clerk. A new Assistant Clerk has also been appointed – Ally Moore started work with the Council in mid-January.

## Flood Warden Scheme

The Parish Council are in the process of applying to join the Flood Warden Scheme. It would be helpful if we had some village volunteers who are not part of the Council.



The role is not intended to be particularly onerous. You will not be required to be involved in dealing with the flooding itself or putting yourself in danger, it is more being an information conduit between authorities and local people, putting flood warning signs up/down etc.

There is some training provided (so you know who to contact about what issues and what information you will receive etc.). If anyone feels they would be interested in helping the village with this role please contact Councillor Nick McGowan ([cldr.n.mcgowan@east-leake.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.n.mcgowan@east-leake.gov.uk)).

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## Gotham Road Playground Update

Further to our last update, our insurer's solicitor was unable to get consent from the installer to appoint a joint expert. Following prolonged lack of cooperation, the solicitor agreed to instead proceed with obtaining our own expert report, with our insurer paying for this. We were instructed not to move forward with any rectification works until this report was finalised.

Unfortunately, the report did not arrive promptly due to the need for additional tests to be conducted and follow up questions to be answered before the report was final.

However, we are pleased to confirm the report has now been finalised and submitted to the insurer and so the Council are now able to proceed with the rectification works at the earliest opportunity.

We appreciate this situation has caused a great deal of frustration to residents including our Councillors. The delays have been highly undesirable but unfortunately mandated by the legal process involved. We look forward to renewing the playground for all residents.

If you have any queries, please contact the Parish Clerk.

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## New Partnership To Tackle Waste Offences

There's set to be even more focus on tackling the nuisance of fly-tipping, waste offences, littering and dog fouling in Rushcliffe in 2021, thanks to a new partnership.

Rushcliffe Borough Council has teamed up with Waste Investigations Support & Enforcement (WISE) for a one-year trial to build on their existing tools to find and where necessary prosecute those who flout the rules. WISE are a specialist supplier of environmental crime services to councils across the UK.

From Tuesday 5th January the new Enforcement Officers have had the powers to issue fixed penalty notices to anyone found contravening the rules, which includes businesses or members of the public.



Their environmental enforcement service will operate across the Borough and will see them look to clamp down on dumped domestic and commercial waste seven days a week and investigate where the waste has come from.

Anyone caught fly-tipping can be issued with a £400 Fixed Penalty Notice or if they are observed littering or failing to pick up after their dog's waste, will be issued with an on the spot £100 fine.

## Exciting Plans for Oldershaw Trust Land

The Oldershaw Trust field on Costock Road was left to the village for the benefit of the youth of the village. For several years now the land has been somewhat neglected, with the only play equipment being an old set of goalposts.

The Parish Council has responsibility for the land and completed a survey in 2016 asking the community to comment on ideas for the future of the field. Following this survey a lot of background work was undertaken and now residents will begin to see the changes that are planned for the field start to take shape.

In 2019 the East Leake Guides planted over 200 trees over the back half of the field. These young trees are currently fenced off as there was some damage caused by users of the area. When the trees are more mature we hope that this will become a fabulous area where wildlife and insects thrive. The government set a target for 30,000ha of new woodland to be planted in England by 2025, and this is part of East Leake's contribution to this initiative.

We are now working on a plan to develop the front half of the field into a natural play area for smaller children aged 2-6 years. As part of this the Tree Warden has been working to establish a hedge along the boundary of the field to increase the safety of the area and prevent children from climbing through the existing 2 bar rails onto the roadside. We are applying for a grant from the Tree council for the hedging plants and we expect that they will be planted by the spring. Work is also being carried out to establish a safe 'airlock' style gate at the entrance to the field.

We are currently in the process of receiving bids from companies to supply the play equipment and aim to offer a shortlist to residents as soon as we can, so that a scheme can be chosen. All being well the play equipment will be in place by the summer.

We plan to change the Oldershaw Trust field to a 'Dogs on Leads' area before the play equipment is installed and in the meantime ask that dog walkers using the area remember that it is a legal requirement to pick up after your dog, there is a waste bin and a dog bin at the site where poop bags can be disposed of, we plan to move this to a more convenient location on the site and would welcome comments from dog walkers as to where they think it should be sited.

For those of you who miss the goalposts, worry not! A new set of goals have been purchased and they are to be installed on the Recreation Ground on Gotham Road.

We look forward to bringing you more details of this project in the next newsletter.



## Through Their Eyes 2020—Future Voices



We would like to congratulate East Leake resident, Scott Belshaw, who has become a published poet at the age of 12! Scott has been chosen for publication in a book showcasing young writers' work, called *Through Their Eyes 2020 - Future Voices*.

Young Writers have been running competitions with schools across the UK to promote poetry and creative writing since 1991 to inspire children everywhere to become confident and passionate writers.

This year's challenge was to write a poem from someone or something else's point of view. Scott entered the competition with his poem titled 'George Floyd Kennings' and was chosen from thousands of entries nationwide.

### 'George Floyd Kennings' by Scott Belshaw

**Nail Biter**  
**Life Fighter**  
**George Griever**  
**Air Breather**  
**Cop Kneeler**  
**Death Dealer**  
**Police Hater**  
**Patience Waiter**  
**Protester Arrestor**  
**Tension Tester**  
**Grief Filler**  
**Race Killer**  
**Human Shooter**  
**Crowd Booter**  
**Riot Runner**  
**Ethnic Shunner**



**Communities are in tatter, black lives matter,  
Help us before homes shatter**



## **Congratulations, Sue!**

On 4th January, Sue celebrated 25 years working with East Leake Parish Council and was presented with a bouquet of flowers by the Chair of the Council.



## **Golden Litter Picker!**

East Leake Parish Council would like to extend their thanks to local resident, Finlay Horn, for helping to keep East Leake free from litter!

Finlay, who is in the 6th Form at Loughborough Grammar College, has volunteered his services for 12 months as part of his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

In total there are five sections to complete at Gold level of this award. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition.



## **Costock Road Pavilion Update**

Efforts to develop new facilities have continued behind the scenes and it's now opportune to give a news update.

Drawings and specifications were completed last year and we have been liaising with the Football Foundation to obtain their funding for new football changing rooms and other facilities. Covid-19 has affected the amount they have available and so we are having to seek other funders and have had to revise our approach into 2 separate phases, a new pavilion building and refurbishment of the brick block.

It is hoped that tenders will be invited soon and returned before Easter. Costs will be separated between the 2 phases.

If all goes to plan, Section 106 funding will be spread across the 2 phases, and the remaining balance, primarily to cover the cost of furniture and equipment, will be the local fundraising target.

Plans for the new Car Park, on the north side of Costock Road, are also progressing – this is to be funded by ELPC reserves and should relieve traffic congestion at weekends

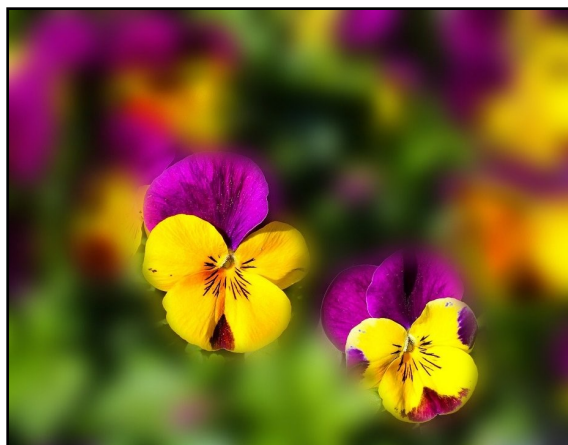
Further details and clarification available on request from Neil Lambert, Project Manager, via the Parish Clerk, East Leake Parish Council, [parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk).

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## Colour in the Village Centre

Last Spring, some of the Councillors with the help of one of the grounds people planted herbs into two of the brick planters by the shops. As these grow we hope that shoppers will enjoy picking a few sprigs to use in their cooking at home – please help yourself!

The other planters were filled with some perennials and bedding plants.



Unfortunately, one of these was vandalised and the new rose planted in the centre of the bed had to be removed to be cared for.

Thankfully, it survived and should reappear in its rightful place shortly. These beds are now planted with spring bulbs so there should be a lot of colour there from March onwards.

The flower bed next to the post office has been tidied up and also has some new bulbs added. This is the start of our efforts to bring colour to the village centre.

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## Lockdown Support

Do you need support during lockdown? The Parish Council is administering some grant funding to support hardship - please contact us if you need help.

Working with East Leake Community Care and East Leake Corona Response, we can put you in touch with volunteers who can help with shopping, collection of prescriptions, regular phone calls, etc., if you are self-isolating, or unable to get out due to bad weather.

We can help you access support from the relevant agencies if you are in financial need and provide short term emergency assistance if you are without food or other essential items. If you are a voluntary organisation or business in difficulty, we may be able to help you find grants or otherwise support you.

We are here to help as an organisation, and our councillors and staff as individuals are all keen to be there for you. Please do not struggle alone.

No more donations of cash or food are needed at this time, but if you are willing to help as a volunteer please email us your contact details and tell us how you could help others locally. We will put you in touch with relevant groups and/or keep your details on record in case you are needed.

This is a difficult time for everyone, but we can get through it together.



## Council Meetings

In March 2020, in line with government guidelines, ELPC moved to online meetings, using Zoom.

All meetings are open to the public as they were when held in the Council Chamber and if you would like to observe or contribute, please contact the Clerk who will explain the procedure to you.

The Rushcliffe Borough Council meetings can also be viewed on YouTube by visiting [www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC](http://www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC).

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## Rushcliffe Borough Councillors

Your three borough councillors are Lesley Way, Kevin Shaw and Carys Thomas, and they provide information and news regularly via their Facebook Page "Independent Rushcliffe Councillors for Leake Ward".

Their contact details are on the Rushcliffe website and they encourage you to contact them for help accessing any Rushcliffe services or if you want to discuss an issue or problem with them. They have access to a community fund and invite bids at any time from community organisations for small grants.

You can also report various issues including litter, fly-tipping and dog fouling via Rushcliffe's online forms - see [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/doitonline](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/doitonline).



## Contact Us

If you have an issue that you would like to raise with ELPC, the best way is to make direct contact with the office or a Councillor. Unfortunately, many resort to Facebook and it is difficult for the Council to respond to queries and complaints with residents as these pages are not scrutinised by ELPC regularly.

If you have an idea you would like to raise, or if you see an issue which you would like us to address, please contact us and we can investigate and/or rectify the problem.

Due to current circumstances we have had to stop holding our Saturday surgeries, but we welcome email and phone conversations.

The Clerk can be contacted by either email ([parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk)) or telephone (01509 852217).

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## Contact Details for East Leake Parish Council

Below are the contact details for all 15 Parish Councillors, the Committees they sit on, and the Wards they represent.

Name	Telephone	Email	Ward
Sara Budzik	01509 559103	<a href="mailto:cldr.s.budzik@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.s.budzik@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Castle
Lynn Forsyth	07932 025523	<a href="mailto:cldr.l.forsyth@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.l.forsyth@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge
Donna Griggs	01509 820708	<a href="mailto:cldr.d.griggs@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.d.griggs@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge
Lindsey Maggs	01509 853109	<a href="mailto:cldr.l.maggs@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.l.maggs@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge
Nick McGowan	07843 605308	<a href="mailto:cldr.n.mcgowan@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.n.mcgowan@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Woodgate
Richard Miller	07980 298006	<a href="mailto:cldr.r.miller@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.r.miller@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Woodgate
Chris Mulligan	07714 381086	<a href="mailto:cldr.c.mulligan@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.c.mulligan@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Woodgate
Eleanor Robinson	07825 161125	<a href="mailto:cldr.e.robinson@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.e.robinson@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge
Mel Roper	07843 010638	<a href="mailto:cldr.m.roper@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.m.roper@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Woodgate
Terry Rountree	07870 563427	<a href="mailto:cldr.t.rountree@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.t.rountree@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Castle
Kevin Shaw	01509 559002	<a href="mailto:cldr.k.shaw@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.k.shaw@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Castle
Liz Taylor	01509 852588	<a href="mailto:cldr.l.taylor@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.l.taylor@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge
Carys Thomas	01509 853975	<a href="mailto:cldr.c.thomas@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.c.thomas@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Castle
Wendy Thompson	07799 220424	<a href="mailto:cldr.w.thompson@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.w.thompson@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Woodgate
Lesley Way	01509 820298	<a href="mailto:cldr.l.way@east-leake.gov.uk">cldr.l.way@east-leake.gov.uk</a>	Stonebridge

Management Committee	Planning Committee	Amenities Committee	Rushcliffe Borough Councillors
Cllr Donna Griggs (Chair)	Cllr Liz Taylor (Chair)	Cllr Sara Budzik (Chair)	Cllr Carys Thomas
Cllr Kevin Shaw (Vice Chair)	Cllr Eleanor Robinson (Vice Chair)	Cllr Lynn Forsyth (Vice Chair)	Cllr Lesley Way
Cllr Lindsey Maggs	Cllr Donna Griggs	Cllr Mel Roper	Cllr Kevin Shaw
Cllr Sara Budzik	Cllr Lindsey Maggs	Cllr Chris Mulligan	
Cllr Mel Roper	Cllr Nick McGowan	Cllr Lindsey Maggs	
Cllr Liz Taylor	Cllr Chris Mulligan	Cllr Lesley Way	
Cllr Eleanor Robinson	Cllr Kevin Shaw	Cllr Kevin Shaw	
	Cllr Carys Thomas	Cllr Richard Miller	
	Cllr Terry Rountree	Cllr Liz Taylor	
	Cllr Richard Miller		

Clerk / Assistant Clerk	Telephone	Email
Sue Lewis (Clerk)	01509 852217	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk">parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk</a>
Ally Moore (Assistant Clerk)	01509 852217	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk">parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk</a>

Nottinghamshire County Councillors	Email
County Cllr Andy Brown	<a href="mailto:cldr.andrew1.brown@nottscc.gov.uk">cldr.andrew1.brown@nottscc.gov.uk</a>
County Cllr Reg Adair	<a href="mailto:cldr.reg.adair@nottscc.gov.uk">cldr.reg.adair@nottscc.gov.uk</a>

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