

SUMMER 2023

EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



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www.east-leake.gov.uk



ARMED FORCES
COVENANT



MEET YOUR NEW COUNCIL 2023-2027



Cllr Eleanor Robinson
(Chair)



Cllr Donna Griggs
(Vice-Chair)



Cllr Jason Billin



Cllr William Birch



Cllr David Davis



Cllr Stefano Forlani



Cllr Lynn Forsyth



Cllr Cllr Chris Garbett



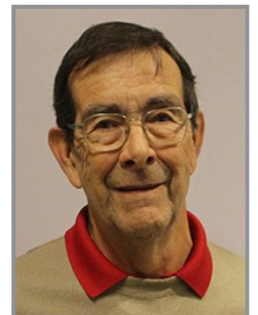
Cllr Chris Jennison



Cllr Mel Roper



Cllr Mike Sharpe



Cllr Kevin Shaw



Cllr Liz Taylor



Cllr Wendy Thompson

Full contact information,
including details of
committees, are available
on our website:
www.east-leake.gov.uk

SATURDAY SURGERIES

We are pleased to announce the return of the 'Saturday Surgeries' to East Leake!

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, then please come along to the Parish Council offices (dates and times listed below) and speak to a Rushcliffe Borough Councillor and/or a Parish Councillor who be happy to meet and assist you.

Surgeries will be held from 10am-12pm on the first Saturday of every month (the next meeting will be Saturday 5th August 2023).

FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

By now you will have noticed the new impressive archway into the Friendship Garden (formerly known as The Rest Garden), funded by the 'Reach Rushcliffe' fund.

This garden space in the centre of the village was purchased by the Parish Council in July 1968 from the East Midlands Electricity Board.

The area is well maintained by our Parish Council groundsman, Adey, and some volunteers. Recently a raised bed has been added which can be used as a community garden.

So if you feel like coming along with your trowel and doing a bit of weeding, you would be very welcome. Currently there is a display of wildflowers.

Two new seats have been put next to the existing bench in front of the garden to encourage people to meet and socialise and plaques to mark the Coronation of King Charles III have recently been added.

In addition, the Memory Board (which was previously on the Pinfold) has been placed in the garden for the names of loved ones to be added as a sign of remembrance.

This is a lovely peaceful area which can be enjoyed by all in East Leake.



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER

The Local Development Order (LDO) for redevelopment around the Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station was passed by Rushcliffe Borough Council on Thursday 13 July with a split vote.

The LDO will allow businesses to forgo regular planning rules for 25 years to help speed development on the site. All councillors agreed to the principles of sustainable, well-paid jobs and were in favour of investment in the green economy and redevelopment of the brownfield parts of the site. However, many are deeply concerned that democratic oversight is being reduced substantially. Some have concerns about the large greenfield site on the South side of the A453 that is included in the Order, where fields and woodland habitat are in danger of being lost to monstrous industrial buildings.



Leake Ward Councillors offered an amendment to do something about the predicted increased traffic through our villages and loss of habitat but this was narrowly voted down. Our three Borough councillors say they will continue to campaign strongly on these issues and for greater consultation, transparency, and democracy in the process as plans are taken forward.

Councillor Carys Thomas

CLIMATE ACTION



EAST LEAKE

To Mow, or Not to Mow? – That is the Question

It's certainly not proving to be a simple one.

You will have noticed (and possibly even commented on) various areas of vegetation that have been left to grow, rather than being mown with the frequency of previous years, around East Leake.

This is part of a national initiative referred to as No Mow (not just in May), designed to leave areas to grow, to provide habitat for wildlife, including hedgehogs and much needed pollinators and endangered species of invertebrates.

This initiative seems to have created some (often heated) debate in our community, including suggestions 'Council' have forgotten to mow, or are just plain lazy. Neither is true.

For context: the open spaces and roadside grass around the village are managed by THREE different Councils. East Leake Parish, Rushcliffe Borough and Nottinghamshire County. Each have contracts with their staff or contractors that have been agreed for this year.

With my convenor's hat on, I have been meeting with the different councils, gathering information and facts, working with them all to try and create a village-wide approach for the active and passive management of ALL the open spaces and areas of grassland / verges.

The aim is to have attractive, semi-wild (but actually well-managed) areas which allow wildlife to flourish, enrich our community, and provide an increase in biodiversity helping to counter species-loss that is at an all-time high.

This takes time. We need to allow nature to take its course and then augment what is there, reducing some species of plants and increasing others, including sowing appropriate native wildflowers that will provide the attractive swathes of colour we would like to see, rather than just 'overgrown grasses' that seem to be causing most of the negative comments.

I ask ALL residents to please, be patient, be kind to one another and let's work together to provide habitat for wildlife, to improve soil health as we play our part in achieving positive outcomes for our village, for nature and all our futures.

Want to get involved?

Contact the group via the Parish Clerk -
parishclerk@east-leake.gov.uk

Councillor Jason Billin
Convenor – Climate Action East Leake



Meadow Park looking lush

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF EAST LEAKE

Dear fellow citizens of East Leake,

I am writing this to inform you about the issues with litter, which have escalated recently. It has been polluting our well-loved village for years. However, I believe the worst is yet to come if we do not act now. I need your help to overcome the masses of litter that flood our brooks and woods – just a few more seconds is all you need to properly dispose of your leftovers and prevent possibly thousands of animals' lives from coming to a fateful end. Litter harms our village. Litter harms everyone.



Our village has many wonderful shops that will struggle to stay open due to lack of visitors. East Leake will slowly lose more and more people as they start to move to litter free areas. Do you really want to live in an unhappy, litter-full community? The amount of litter dropped each year in the UK has increased by 500% since the 1960s. We must do something. We need to do something about this, and fast. Will you help me?

Your favourite animals that you love to see on your walks to the park are soon-to-be endangered and are desperately calling for help. Most creatures cannot live in these litter-filled conditions which we walk by every day. Are you really okay with watching animals choke to death because of YOUR waste? The Canal and River Trust state that England could be plastic free in a year if every visitor picked up one piece of litter. Consider just picking up one piece of litter the next time you go on a walk; you never know, it could save an animal's life! Otherwise, your pet that you love and adore - with your whole heart – could be next...



Think of how horrible our society will be in future. Think of those foul smells. Think of the saddened faces of those yet to live in our village. Do you not feel guilt for ruining the Earth for future generations? Did you know that around 50% of people admit to littering in the UK? Does this include you? Why litter on the floor when there are hundreds of bins around East Leake?

Our village is being torn apart by mountains of litter. I need your help to bring an end to this abhorrent littering, even if it is just East Leake. A few more seconds is all you need to greatly help the planet to thrive again. We all must play a part in this vital act to save our home. Why not help us and be part of the solution? After all, every piece of waste properly disposed of could be an animal's life saved!

Yours faithfully,

Holly Frith, age 11
Millside Spencer Academy, East Leake



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