MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES ON TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs: David Davis (Chair), Susan Davis, Sandra Johnson, Mike Sharpe, Eleanor Robinson, Will Birch, Mel Roper, and Liz Taylor.

Also present: The Deputy Clerk, Ally Moore.

26/AME/053 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Chris Jennison and Wendy Thompson – reasons given and accepted.

26/AME/054 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda

None

26/AME/055 Chair's Announcements

The Chair advised that the groundsmen would be putting up the large Christmas trees tomorrow and that any assistance from Councillors would be appreciated.

26/AME/056 To report any Matters Arising from Minutes of the Meeting held 20th October 2026

The Council discussed the fingerpost sign, which requires either replacement or refurbishment. David Wilson Homes had previously agreed to make a donation towards the work. However, following further enquiries with Laura at VIA, it was confirmed that the fingerpost is already on VIA's list for refurbishment. It was agreed that the timescales for VIA's planned refurbishment should be clarified before proceeding. If the work is likely to be undertaken within a reasonable timeframe, VIA will be asked to carry out the refurbishment. If there is likely to be a significant delay, the Council will approach David Wilson Homes regarding their offer of a donation.

The Deputy Clerk reported that Bartletts would be commencing the tree works shortly.

Regarding the tree Works on the Glebe, the Deputy Clerk reported that the resident had provided a quotation for the proposed tree works from a tree surgeon of his choice. The Clerk had reiterated that the Parish Council wished to appoint a suitably qualified tree surgeon with whom it had an established working relationship and had therefore requested a quotation from Bartletts. This quotation was received shortly before the meeting. Clerk/Deputy Clerk to liaise with the resident the following day to discuss the quotation received from Bartletts and agree how to proceed.

26/AME/057 To consider request to hold a circus on the Recreation Ground

The Deputy Clerk reported that a request had been received from James Richards Circus to use the Recreation Ground from 10th to 21st February 2027. The Council considered the request in light of the ongoing delays to the playing field works and the uncertainty surrounding the availability and condition of the site.

RESOLUTION:
It was agreed not to grant permission for the circus to use the Recreation Ground in February 2027.

Proposed: Cllr Sandra Johnson **Seconded:** Cllr Mel Roper
Agreed unanimously

26/AME/058 To consider a quotation received for repairs to a crack in the wall of the Grade II listed Pinfold, following advice obtained from Rushcliffe Borough Council's Conservation Officer, and to agree any necessary action

The Deputy Clerk reported that a quotation had been received from Stephen Anstey Stonemasons Ltd for the required repairs, amounting to £520 + VAT. A further quotation had also been sought from another contractor and was received shortly before the meeting. The Deputy Clerk advised that this quotation was £850 + VAT.

RECOMMENDATION (1)
It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that the quotation from Stephen Anstey Stonemasons Ltd, amounting to £520 + VAT, be accepted.

Proposed: Cllr Mel Roper **Seconded:** Cllr Liz Taylor
Agreed unanimously

RECOMMENDATION (2)
Cllr Liz Taylor suggested that, following completion of the repair works, a working party be established to undertake general tidying and maintenance of the Pinfold area, including the removal of weeds and sweeping of the surrounding area. It was agreed to recommend this proposal to Full Council.

Proposed: Cllr Liz Taylor **Seconded:** Cllr Mel Roper
Agreed unanimously

26/AME/059 Update on On-Going Projects

Gateways:
No further updates.

Costock Road Dirt Track
Cllr Mel Roper reported that the route had been scraped and that material had been laid in piles, although this remained loose and required compacting. Due to the current wet conditions, the ground was too soggy for this work to be completed, and it was agreed to wait for a period of dry weather before returning to compact the surface.

Cllr Roper confirmed that permission had been given for work on the bridge to proceed. However, the contractor had temporarily moved on to another job while the next stage of the project was being considered.

The Council also discussed attempts to identify the young people who had originally contacted James Naish regarding the project. Despite enquiries with Lesley Way and James Naish's office, their identities had not yet been established. It was hoped that they could be contacted and invited to meet on site to review the work completed so far, establish whether the route met their original requirements and identify any further improvements that may be needed.

Christmas Trees
Cllr Mel Roper and Deputy Clerk reported that the large Christmas trees were now in place and that all lights were working. The smaller trees were also in the process of being installed, with approximately 70% completed at time of meeting.

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Budget
The Chair reported that a budget meeting had taken place on Friday, during which he had reiterated the items on the Amenities Committee's wish list and invited suggestions for any additional projects or improvements. Suggestions included the provision of additional bins, further artwork around the village and the replacement of some existing village planters with seating.

26/AME/060 To Report Correspondence received since the last meeting – for information only

There was no correspondence.

The meeting closed at 19.54pm

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