**East Cottingwith Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 13 September 2018 in the village hall at 8pm**

**Present**: Peter Rhodes (in the Chair), Neil Hobbs, Steve Ashton, Clare Cornmell and Dave Griffith.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Julie Harrison and Duncan Morter.
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2018 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. Resignation of the previous Clerk – **Agreed that the Parish Council note Noel’s reasons for his resignation and thank him for his hard and much valued work as Clerk to the Parish over the last 3 ½ years.**
5. Future clerking arrangements – the Parish Council had received one application following the previous Clerk’s resignation – **Agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would interview the applicant.**
6. Matters arising:
   1. Hedging on Ball Hall Lane (minute 4a) – East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) had carried out some work to the hedge. **Agreed that the Clerk write to ERYC to acknowledge the work it had carried out and request more substantial work to cut back the hedge take place in 2019.**
   2. Gates on Back Lane (minute 4b) – ERYC had confirmed there was a public right of way along Back Lane. The Council discussed its legal position in relation to any action it could take to remove the gates and gate posts,

**Agreed that – (a) that gates were illegally erected and it would be desirable for them to be removed; and**

**(b) the Clerk write to ERYC to ask it to clarify ownership of the land along which the public right of way ran and the posts were located and to request clarification on how the gates could be removed and by whom.**

* 1. Sewage Pipe (minute 4c) – The Chairman had received a letter from ERYC which stated the sewage pipe along Langrickgate Lane was to be replaced. This would require the road to by closed for a period of time while associated work was being carried out. **Agreed details of the work and road closure times be put on the village website and in the parish magazine.**
  2. Phone Box (minute 4d) – This had now been renovated. Cllr Harrison would contact Mrs Tong to update her about renovations to the phone box – **Agreed that £750 be approved as the costs of renovation of the phone box**
  3. Debris near Hagg Bridge (minute 4e) – There was timber on the left hand side of the road if driving towards York between Hagg Bridge House and Storwood Nurseries **Agreed – Clerk to report the issue to ERYC**
  4. WW1 Centenary Celebrations – members discussed issues including the purchase of a There But Not There figure, the lighting of the beacon and ERYC’s centenary grant funding. Cllr Ashton also informed councillors that the vicar had identified a member of the parish who had given his life for the country but was not listed on the existing memorials.

**Agreed that – (a) the Parish Council would purchase one of the There But Not There Figures at a cost of £42;**

**(b) the Chairman would organise the lighting of the beacon and provide prosecco, crisps and nuts;**

**(c) Cllr Griffith would find out the time for lighting the beacon;**

**(d) Cllr Cornmell would apply to ERYC for a centenary grant on behalf of the Parish Council for the events taking place in the village; and**

**(e) the Parish Council would fund a plaque in the church to commemorate the person not on the existing memorials.**

* 1. Overpayment of VAT reimbursement (minute 7) – will tally this up at next reimbursement.
  2. Data protection regulations registration (minute 8) – the Clerk informed memebrs that the Parish Council must register with the Information Commissioner’s Office – **Agreed that the Clerk complete the registration.**
  3. Overgrown footpaths (minute 9) – deferred to next meeting.
  4. Hypericum bush (minute 11) – completed.

1. Planning matters:
2. 18/02660/TCA Old Post Office – notice - noted
3. 18/02579/VAR Oak Cottage – approved (1 against)
4. 18/02839/TCA 7 St Mary’s Close – notice - noted
5. Npower contract – still waiting for the contract.
6. Correspondence – noted
7. Any other business –
   1. Councillors discussed the number of applications to fell trees in the parish and the overall effect on the reduction of trees. It was suggested that the Parish Council ask the ERYC tree preservation officer to attend a meeting next summer to discuss tree management in the parish – Cllr Griffith agreed to organise
   2. Village fete – this had been a great success and the Parish Council wished to give thanks to the people who were involved in setting it up, the volunteers who worked hard on the day and to the people who attended and made it so successful
   3. Members also discussed the possibility of purchasing one or two marquees for use if the village fete was to be established as an annual event and donating these to the village hall to hire out
   4. Millennium Wood – Margery’s nieces had donated £300 in her memory of Margery which would be used to plant a copse of silver birches around the Owl Box – Cllr Griffith said there was £500 still in reserve which would be used to buy additional trees – he also said that the wood would benefit from a fence along the edge which would cost in the region of £1,500. He thought that once the fence was in place they would possibly be eligible for a Woodlands Trust grant to purchase a hedge. It was agreed that any invoices for any trees would go to Chairman for monitoring.
   5. Christmas Tree – a rootless tress would be purchased this year but the Parish Council would consider whether to buy a rooted tree in future years. It was agreed to put the item of the November agenda and Cllr Griffith would talk to Henley’s Nurseries.
8. Date of next scheduled meeting: **8 November 2018.**

Meeting ended at 9:50pm