**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom videoconferencing at**

**8.00pm on Thursday 24th September 2020**

**Note: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic emergency, and Government advice on holding public meetings, members of the public and the press were given direct access to the meeting and the opportunity to take part.**

**Present:** Councillors P. Rhodes (Chairman), N.Hobbs (Vice-Chairman),S. Ashton,

C. Cornmell, P. Shervington, C. Stevens

**In Attendance:** D. Cornmell (Parish Clerk),

**Members of the Public**: 3

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D. Griffith.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman agreed to bring forward items 14 (a) (ii) Planning Application – Wold View and 5 (b) Hagg Bridge, as members of the public wished to make comment.

**Planning Application – Wold View**

Two members of the public indicated their awareness of the revised application but did not wish to comment further.

A third member of the public expressed the view that, whilst there had been some modification of the original proposals, which were to be welcomed, she still had concerns and wished to register her objections. These concerns centred around the large number of persons that were likely to frequent the premises and the impact on the village. A lengthy debate then took place, with Councillors putting forward their views on the subject. The Chairman summarised their concerns, which related to the change of use of the land and loss of its agricultural designation, to facilitate a dog walking business; the threat posed to road safety as a result of the siting of the car park and likelihood of multiple vehicle movements to the site; the scale of the development and its impact on the village and its residents and noise pollution, as a problem had already been identified as a result of the setting off of fireworks at the existing premises. It was unanimously agreed to object to the application on those grounds.

**Action: Clerk**

**Hagg Bridge**

The Chairman gave an update, following a recent visit to the site. Work was progressing at a pace and looked near to completion. Councillor Ashton made mention of information circulated on social media, which indicated that East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) looked towards the scheme being completed by the end of October.

**Village Pond**

Whilst not on the Agenda, two members of the public drew attention to the fact that the pond appeared to be empty. It was confirmed that the pond was privately owned and was a matter for the owners and not the council.

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ORDINARY MEETINGS**

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Ashton and agreed that the minutes of the last Ordinary Meetings, held, remotely, on 18th June and 10th September 2020, be accepted as a true record.

1. **ONGOING ITEMS**
2. **Coronavirus: Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting**

Consideration was given to the latest Government advice and it was agreed to postpone the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the parish council to a date to be fixed.

**Action:** **Clerk**

1. **Hagg Bridge**

Dealt with under public participation.

1. **Neighbourhood Watch**

Councillor Ashton confirmed he was still circulating information of interest via the council’s website and social media. It was agreed that this was no longer an ongoing item.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **Jubilee Wood**

Councillor Shervington indicated that he had yet to make contact with a representative of ERYC in relation to the issue of blocked drains in proximity of the wood.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. **Storwood Notice Board**

Councillor Shervington acknowledged that there had been little progress in the matter since the last meeting. The intention was to use the notice board as a replacement for the one at the bus shelter. A meeting had been arranged with a parishioner who would hopefully carry out the work and a costing obtained.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. **Memorial: Soldier of World War II**

Councillor Ashton confirmed that the memorial had yet to be received. This and other issues in relation to the Church building itself had yet to be resolved by the Parochial Church Council.

**Action: Councillor Ashton**

1. **Flagpole**

Confirmation had been received from ERYC that planning permission was not required to erect the flagpole. The pole itself was being stored at the village hall. It was agreed that this was no longer an ongoing item.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **Cctv cameras**

Enquiries made of ERYC; the Highway Authority and the police had failed to trace who was responsible for siting the cameras. It was agreed that this was no longer an ongoing item.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **OVERGROWN HEDGE: LANGRICKGATE LANE**

Members heard that complaints had been received from several parishioners about the state of the hedge. It was acknowledged that there was a long-standing issue about ownership of the hedge but, in the past, ERYC had cut it and sought to place a charge on whoever was the owner. **Resolved –** that ERYC be requested to cut the hedge again. In particular, the height of the hedge needed to be reduced as well as a corner area which was obstructing the view of road users. An alternative suggestion was that the parish council arrange for the work to be carried out by a local contractor and that ERYC meet the cost.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **OVERGROWN PATHWAY: BACK LANE**

Councillor Ashton informed the meeting that he had received complaints about the state of both sides of Back Lane. The Chairman referred to a past legal action taken against ERYC, when it was decided that the county council was responsible for maintaining the lane. **Resolved -** that ERYC acknowledge its responsibility for the upkeep of the lane and requested to take remedial action.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **SIGNAGE: ACCESS TO THE INGS**

The Clerk made reference to a complaint he had received from a parishioner about Natural England’s failure to make the promised alterations to the signage concerning access to the Ings. It was confirmed that Natural England had, again, been contacted about the matter but, as yet ,had not responded.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **CALLING OF MEETINGS**

The Clerk drew attention to the observations of a parishioner, concerning the failure to post a physical notice of the requirement to call meetings of the parish council, within the required time period. It was confirmed that recent legislation had removed this requirement but that such notification needed to be given on the parish council’s website.

1. **PLAY AREA INSPECTION**

Councillor Cornmell made mention of a recent inspection of the play area which had been carried out by ROSPA. Two items of equipment had been identified as being in a dangerous condition. Immediate action was necessary to take them out of use. Estimates for replacement/repair were being obtained. Whilst East Cottingwith Outdoor Play Association (ECOPA) had ceased to exist, there was still sufficient monies to carry out the work. Attention was drawn to other pieces of play equipment and a mosaic which needed remedial action. It was hoped to carry out this work at the same time at minimal cost, with the possibility of assistance from the Towns Land Trust. It was recognised that there would be a need for future budgetary provision in the parish council’s finances to cover future replacement/repair of play equipment.

**Action: Councillor Cornmell**

1. **RISK ASSESSMENT**

Consideration was given to the Quarterly Risk Assessment. It was agreed that sufficient steps had been taken by the parish council to mitigate all known risks.

**Action: Chairman/Clerk**

1. **ELECTRICITY CONTRACTS**

The Clerk drew attention to a past decision of the council to terminate electricity contracts with Npower and switch to a Service Level 1 Agreement with ERYC, for the supply of electricity, as well as maintenance of street lighting equipment. A considerable cost saving would be achieved as a result. Three accounts were involved, two relating to the unmetered supply of electricity and one for a metered account. The new Service Level 1 Agreement would only apply to the unmetered accounts. ERYC’s Lighting Manager was taking the necessary action to bring the changes about, which will be effective from 1st January 2021. Notice needed to be given to terminate the two contracts with Npower and this was in hand.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **FINANCE**
2. Bank reconciliation

Balance at 1/4/2020 £ 4,478.28

+ Receipts to date £ 8,056.00

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£ 12,534.28

Current Account Balance at 24/9/2020 £ 9,512.61

1. Payments

Payments made under delegated authority:

26/6/20 D.J.Cornmell – Clerk’s Salary £ 286.44

26/6/20 D.J.Cornmell – Clerk’s Expenses £ 34.10

26/6/20 HMRC -P.A.Y.E. £ 71.40

8/7/20 Npower- Street Lighting £ 58.22

21/7/20 G. Fillingham- Grass-cutting £1,152.00

1/9/20 Information Commissioner- £ 40.00

Data Protection

1/9/20 G. Fillingham – Pest Control £ 60.00

**TOTAL £1,702.16**

1. Receipts

23/9/20 ERYC- Precept (2nd payment). **£3,500.00**

1. Financial Report

The Clerk/RFO, presented an update on the Council’s finances.

1. **PLANNING**
2. Applications

The following applications were considered:

(i)20/02648/PLF- Erection of porch extension to side: The Bungalow, Canal Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TJ.

**Resolved –** that there be no objection to the proposed work.

**Action: Clerk**

(ii) 19/02244/PLF-Conversion of former garage building to dormitory style accommodation intended for holiday use, with associated external and internal alterations, including raising the height of the eaves and ridge, installation of roof lights to both sides and erection of porch to side and change of use of land from agricultural to dog walking area(AMENDED DESCRIPTION AND PLANS):Land and buildings North West of Wold View, Langrickgate Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 2TQ -**Dealt with under public participation.**

(iii)20/02596/PLF-Erection of two storey extension to rear and single storey extension to rear and side following demolition of existing single storey projection and porch: Ings Cottage, Postern Lane, Storwood YO42 4TG

**Resolved –** that there be no objection to the proposed work, subject to any observations from Rural England.

**Action:** **Clerk**

(iv) 20/02733/TCA-East Cottingwith Conservation Area – Fell 1no. Spruce tree due to tree exhibiting signs of stress in tree canopy, poor leaf growth and shedding secondary branches, exposed roots, the lifting of the adjacent path, drainage inspection plate and paving slabs and close proximity to the garage, drainage and oil central heating tank: Paddock House, Church Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TL

**Resolved –** no objection to this tree work (dealt with by delegated authority).

**Action: Clerk**

1. Permissions

The following permissions(with conditions) were noted:

(i)20/01586/CLP- Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed siting of a caravan for use as a welfare/office facility by agricultural workers ancillary to the agricultural use of the site: Land South of Woodside Lodge, Ballhall Lane, Storwood YO42 4TD.

(ii)20/01788/TCA-East Cottingwith Conservation Area- Crown reduce1 no. White Poplar Tree(T1) by 6 to 7.5 metres due to tree becoming far too big; Pollard 1 no. tree (T2) to 3.6 to 4.2 metres: School House, Church Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TL.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A list of correspondence, received since the last Ordinary Meeting and dealt with by delegated authority, was noted.

1. **MEMBERS REPORTS**

Councillor Ashton drew attention to two missing footpath signs and requested ERYC be notified and asked to replace them.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8.00pm,Thursday 12th November 2020

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.46 pm.