**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall,**

**East Cottingwith, at 8.00pm on Thursday 2nd February 2023**

**Present:** Councillors P.Rhodes (Chairman), N. Hobbs (Vice-Chairman), D. Griffith, P.Shervington, C. Stevens,

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

**Members of the Public:**  One (1)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C. Cornmell.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The member of the public wished to comment on all three items on the agenda. In respect of **Planning,** he was of the view that, as the property was within the Conservation Area, the Council needed to take into account earlier observations made in respect of another property within the Conservation Area which was objected to. In particular, he had concerns about conversion of the barn. The Clerk advised that he had received information, prior to the meeting, that the barn was to be the subject of a separate application. In respect of the **flagpole and flying the flag**, he had no strong views but wondered if a permanent presence detracted from those special occasions when the flag should be flown. So far as the **school bus service and school admissions,** he queried what the role of the parish council was in such a matter. The Clerk advised, that whilst the Council had no specific powers in this respect, it was able to express a view on behalf of its parishioners.

1. **PLANNING**

Consideration was given to the following application:

(i)22/02885/PLF- Erection of two-storey extension to rear: Hall Garth Farm, Church Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TL

After a lengthy debate, and after taking into account that conversion of the barn was said to be the subject of a separate application, it was **resolved,** on the basis of the application as currently presented, to **object** on the following grounds:

* whilst not against, in principle, an extension to the main dwelling, there is serious concern about the many references in the application to conversion of the barn into what is described as a garage, offices, a gym and a change of use, without any detailed information being provided.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **FLAGPOLE: FLYING OF THE UNION FLAG**

Following debate, it was **resolved** to erect the flagpole and fly the union flag, this year, Coronation Year, and to review the matter next year having regard to the view of the village as to whether the flag should be a permanent feature.

**Action: Vice-Chairman**

1. **SCHOOL BUS SERVICE/SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

The meeting heard of the many instances of late when the school bus service, from the village to Woldgate School, fell far short of the service that was to be expected. Vehicle breakdowns; drivers who were unfamiliar with the route and late arrivals were a matter of grave concern to parents and children. In particular, a recent occurrence, when the bus was involved in an accident at Seaton Ross, resulting in some children being abandoned at the roadside, whilst others were given lifts in cars with adults from outside their respective families, had serious implications. Concerned parents had reported these matters to the school, East Riding Council (ERYC) and Ward Councillor Leo Hammond. Councillors agreed that there was a serious safeguarding issue involved, as well as the poor service provided by the operator. It was **resolved** to draw the matter to the attention of the Director of Education at ERYC, in the expectation that positive action be taken to see an improvement in the situation.

A change in the school admissions policy at Woldgate School was noted.

**Action: Clerk**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.58 pm.