**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, East Cottingwith**

**at 8.00 pm on Thursday 6th July 2023**

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

 D. Parapen, S. Jones, P. Shervington

**In Attendance:** D. Cornmell (Clerk to the Council)

**Members of the Public**: Six (6)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence was received from Councillor Shervington, who was not present at the start of the meeting, due to a prior engagement, but joined the meeting at 8.12pm.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Jones declared an interest in **item 6, Horse Riding on Footpaths**, as a member of his family was an equestrian. He took no part in the debate.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and asked if there were any items on the agenda that they wished to discuss.

A number of those present wished to speak about **item 6: Horse Riding on Footpaths**; **item** **7: Access to the Ings and Signage**; and **item 8: Engagement with the Local Community.** The Chairman agreed for those matters to be brought forward.

So far as **item 7**, a parishioner referred to the concerns which he had raised at the Annual Parish Meeting. These were outlined in detail and related to the stance taken by Natural England in denying access to the flood-bank and the signage which that body had erected. He referred to the submission made by Bubwith and Ellerton parish councils for the path along the flood-bank to be included on East Riding’s Definitive Footpath Map. In his view, 20 years or more use could be proved. A number of the other members of the public expressed a contrary view and a lively debate ensued, with points for and against being put forward. Councillors expressed their views with the consensus of opinion being that a neutral position had been adopted by the parish council in the past and that position should remain, until ERYC came to a decision about the status of the path and access rights. **Item 6** was then discussed, when a parishioner, who operated livery stables; was a landowner with a public footpath crossing his land and who confirmed that he had given permission for horse riders to use the path. The Chairman confirmed that where permission had been given this was in order, otherwise it was unlawful for horses to be ridden on public footpaths**. Item 8,** had been placed on the agenda at the request of Councillor Jones. He stated that both he and Councillor Parapen were new to the parish council and he felt that there was scope for better engagement with the local community. By way of example, he cited that few people in the parish knew about the steps taken by the Council to maintain the precept at its current level. Also, were parishioners aware that Jubilee Wood was a community asset? A lengthy debate then ensued about the origins and status of the wood and how best to communicate with the local community. Members of the public expressed various views on how the situation could be improved. The Chairman brought the debate to an end with a request for Councillors to bring

forward, at the next meeting, firm ideas on how to effect better engagement/communication with parishioners.

**Action: All Councillors/Clerk**

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ANNUAL MEETING ORDINARY MEETING AND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Jones, and agreed that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting; Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting, held on 11th May 2023 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 1st June 2023 be accepted as a true record.

1. **ONGOING ITEMS**
2. Jubilee Wood

Mentioned under public participation.

1. Notice Board

 Councillor Shervington reported that work on renovating the notice board had yet to commence. Mention had been made, during public participation, about an alternative site for the notice board, which would be looked at.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. Langrickgate: maintenance of verges

 Councillor Shervington indicated that, finally, contact had been made with ERYC’s contractor and that the verges had now been cut. The Clerk had, once again, sought an assurance from ERYC that the overgrown shrubbery, near to Willow Tree Farm Shop, would be dealt with. It had been confirmed that the work was in hand and should be completed in the near future. The Vice-Chairman raised the issue of the overgrown footpath leading out of the village. The Clerk confirmed he would report the matter to ERYC.

**Action: Clerk**

1. Repairs to Play Area

Councillor Cornmell reported that two pieces of defective play equipment had been removed; that the mole issue had been resolved and the Play Area was now open. Despite an appeal for interested parties to join with her in forming a Working Group, to examine future use, no one had come forward. It was agreed to await the next ROSPA inspection in September.

1. Blocked Drains

The Chairman read out a response received from Ward Councillor Leo Hammond. The drains had been inspected and attended to by ERYC. Some further remedial work was needed and in hand.

1. Potholes

The meeting heard that repairs to cracks in Postern Lane had been carried out by ERYC.

1. East Riding Council: Community Governance Review

The Clerk indicated that there had been no further communication from ERYC on the progress of the review.

**Action: Clerk**

1. School Bus Service

Councillors had sight of an email from the Director of Children and Young People, Education and Schools, prior to the meeting. The response received indicated that the CCTV on the bus had not been viewed, following accident damage, but the operator had been asked for an explanation. It was claimed that the driver had reported the matter and a replacement bus called for. The majority of pupils had remained in situ, whilst others had left and were picked up by parents and taken to school. ERYC was of the view that there was not a safeguarding issue if all the children had remained on the bus, as they had been asked to.

Councillor Shervington had concern that ERYC was washing its hands over the matter, but acknowledged that there was nothing more that the parish council could do.

1. **HORSE RIDING ON FOOTPATHS**

Dealt with under public participation.

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

Dealt with under public participation.

1. **ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**

Dealt with under public participation.

1. **80th COMMEMORATION OF D-DAY**

It was agreed that this should be an agenda item at the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **BEES**

The Clerk made mention of a request received from a member of the public, not resident within the parish, seeking a site for a beehive. It was agreed that Jubilee Wood was not suitable but if any local landowner could assist, they should contact the Clerk.

1. **ROAD SIGN:REDCAP LANE**

The Clerk referred to the fact that this was mentioned at the last meeting under Members Reports but was not on the agenda. The matter had been referred to ERYC.

1. **LITTER BIN: BUS SHELTER**

The Clerk referred to the fact that this was mentioned at the last meeting under Members Reports but was not on the agenda. The matter had been referred to ERYC and was being attended to.

1. **NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SURVEY**

The meeting heard that a request had been received for the Council to take part in the survey. The Clerk reported that it was lengthy in nature and completed on-line. He had been one of 5,000 people, chosen at random, to take part. In doing so, he had reflected the views of the parish council and hoped that this would suffice. It was agreed not to submit an additional response to the survey. The Clerk’s response represents the views of the parish council, informed by numerous previous discussions.

1. **FINANCE**
2. Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 1/4/2023 £6,728.66

+ Receipts to date £5,664.57

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 £12,393.23

-Payments to date £ 924.54

Current Account Balance at 6/7/2023 £11,468.69

1. Payments

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Jones and **resolved** that the following payments be made:

G.Fillingham- Grass-cutting (paid 10/6/23) £ 422.40

G.Fillingham- Grass-cutting/Removal of Play Equipment £ 782.40

D.J.Cornmell- Clerk’s Salary £ 243.85

D.J.Cornmell- Clerk’s Expenses(travelling/stamps) £ 64.95

HMRC-PAYE £ 162.40

 **TOTAL £1,676.00**

1. Receipts

HMRC- VAT Re-claim £ 658.26

P. Shervington(Boroughbridge Allotment Society) £ 50.00

- Sale of Notice Board

Letting of the Lanes £ 10.00

 **TOTAL £** **718.26**

1. Financial Report

The Clerk/RFO presented an update of the financial position for the current financial period.

1. **PLANNING**
2. Application

Consideration was given to the following application:

23/01402/PLF-Change of use of existing agricultural building to offices, gym and storage, installation of timber cladding to external walls, installation of new roof and solar panels: Hall Garth Farm, Church Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TL

**Resolved-** that no objection be made to the proposed change of use.

**Action: Clerk**

1. Refusals

The following refusals were noted:

(i)23/00542/PLF-Change of use and internal alterations to office and kitchen/butchers preparation area to allow conversion to a dwelling (Retrospective Application) (Re-submission of 22/03255/PLF): Willow Tree Farm Shop, Langrickgate Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TQ

(ii)22/03885/PLF-Erection of detached dwelling and garage and widening of existing vehicular access: Land South of Sycamore Bungalow, Main Street, East Cottingwith YO42 4TN

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A list of correspondence received since the last Ordinary Meeting was noted.

1. **MEMBER’S REPORTS**

The Chairman made mention of a remote presentation by ERYC’s Planning Department, which he had taken part in. Some useful information had been gained, particularly relating to the Local Plan and the consultation process, as well as Material Considerations, to be taken account of when considering planning applications.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

 8pm, Thursday 14th September 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed a 9.45pm.