**East Cottingwith Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th September 2016 in the village hall at 8pm**

**Present**: Neil Hobbs (in the chair), Steve Ashton, Clare Cornmell, Dave Griffith, Duncan Morter; Noel Joy (Clerk); and one member of the public, Joan Burnett

**1. Apologies** for absence were received from Julie Harrison and Peter Rhodes

**2**. There were no declarations of interest

**3. Public Participation: state of riverbank**. Joan Burnett referred to the state of the riverbank. There is serious and growing concern that it has become totally overgrown with weeds, and Himalayan balsam has spread on to it. The proliferation of weeds is not only affecting an amenity but also causing problems in adjacent farmland. It should be mown regularly, but this is not happening. It was agreed to contact the Environment Agency, emphasising the urgency of the problem.

**4.** The minutes of the meeting held on **14th July 2016** were signed as a correct record

**5. Matters arising**

**a) Boundary Farm** (Minute 3). No reply had yet been received to the Council’s letter of 25th July sent to the planning department.

**b) Condition of cemetery** (Minute 5a). The grass cutting firm has replaced the damaged flower holder and sent flowers to Joan Burnett by way of apology

**c) Gate to the Ings** (Minute 5b). It had finally been decided that the gate was the responsibility of the highways department, and a site meeting was being arranged, to be attended by Dave Griffith and Noel Joy.

**d) Jubilee Wood** (Minute 5d) Dave Griffith gave a progress report on the development of Jubilee Wood. A decision was still awaited on the precise boundary line: it was agreed that this matter be pursued urgently with the land agent.

**e) Gates on Back Lane** (Minute 5e) It had been agreed that this matter would also be considered at the site meeting about the gate to the Ings.

**6. Finance update**

**a) External audit.** The external auditors had approved the Council’s accounts for 2015/16. The report is attached to the minutes in the minute book.

**b) Asset register**. The Council’s management of the asset register had also been approved. A list of assets is available on the website.

**c)** The current balance stands at **£11,730.12**, with £15.49 in petty cash.

**7. Planning update**

**a) The Well House**: the decision to approve applications 16/02014/PLF and 16/02724/TCA was confirmed

**b) 4 St Mary’s Close:** the Council approved application 16/02768/PLF

**c) Cherry Tree Farm**: the Inspector’s ruling was awaited.

**8. Bus Service:** representations had been made to retain the Tuesday service 196. Details are on the website.

**9. Streetlights**: unmetered electricity: Northern Powergrid has updated their records and issued an Unmetered Supplies Certificate. It is likely that the cost of electricity to the Council will reduce as a result. The Council’s streetlights have been added to the asset register.

**10. Street name** for Mill House Farm: It was agreed to recommend that the road between Redcap Lane and the B1228 at Ellerton Common should be called Mill Lane, as it has been known locally.

**11**. A list of **other correspondence received** in July and August had been circulated.

**12. Any other business:**

**a)** It was agreed to make further enquiries about the state of **overgrown shrubs** at the north end of Ball Hall Lane

**b)** The Council received ERYC’s Draft **Rural Strategy** 2016-2020 dated 2nd September.

**c)** The Council received ERYC’s Draft **Housing Strategy** 2016-2046 dated 9th September.

**13**. Date of next meeting: **10th November 2016.**

**14. *Item taken in camera***

**Bus Shelter**: after further discussion, it was agreed that the repairs and alterations to the bus shelter would take place as previously proposed. All correspondence would be retained.