**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, East Cottingwith, at 8.00 pm on Thursday 6th October 2022**

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

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

**Members of the Public** Nil

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Rhodes (Chairman), D. Griffiith and C.Cornmell.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

1. **PLANNING**

Application

The following application was considered:

22/03060/VAR-Removal of Condition 1 (holiday/recreational use only) and Condition 2 (not to be occupied as a main residence) of planning reference 15/03065/PLF for alterations and change of use of redundant farm buildings to form one holiday cottage(revised scheme 04/03881/PLF) to allow use as a residential dwelling: Grange Farm, Langrickgate Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TB

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

**Action: Clerk**

**Councillor Shervington joined the meeting at this point.**

1. **LANGRICKGATE LANE: MANAGEMENT OF VERGES**

The Vice-Chairman drew attention to a feeling by some within the parish concerning the state of the verges in Langrickgate Lane, which were considered to be untidy and the role of the Verges Group in leaving stretches uncut until hay making took place in late Summer.

Councillor Stevens made mention of her own observations and a complaint which she had received concerning the hedge, near to the Pig-in-the Willow butcher’s shop, which was overgrown and restricted the vision of drivers of motor vehicles.

The Vice-Chairman felt this was an issue which should be dealt with separately. He asked Councillor Shervington for his views on the complaints which had been received by the parish council.

Councillor Shervington, a member of the Verges Group, gave a detailed explanation of where he believed the problem lay. In the past, there had been an informal agreement with East Riding Council (ERYC), which had a responsibility for cutting the verges in early June, to leave certain stretches of the verges in order to encourage the flora and fauna. The Verges Group supported biodiversity and felt such an arrangement was a positive step towards improving the environment. Unfortunately, there appeared to have been a breakdown in communication recently between ERYC and its contractor on which sections of verge should be cut and those which could be left. He gave a commitment to contact ERYC, arrange a meeting with a representative of the Council and its contractor, in order to draw-up a more formal agreement, and report back at a future meeting. He recognised the need to maintain road safety at all times and hoped that a better understanding could be reached which would satisfy all parties.

Councillor Ashton was of the belief that the complaints which had been raised came after the recent serious road accident, where there was a natural concern about road safety.

The Vice-Chairman summed up the position of the parish council.  Councillor Shervington was thanked for his willingness to make contact with and meet officers from ERYC.  The parish council remains supportive of the Verges Group and the initiative to promote biodiversity along the verges within the village with the proviso that road safety was maintained and not compromised.

The Clerk agreed to contact ERYC about the overgrown hedge which had been previously mentioned.

**Action: Councillor Shervington/Clerk**

1. **DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING**

8.00pm, Thursday 10th November 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.