**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**at 8.00 pm on Thursday 10th November 2022**

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

C. Cornmell, P. Shervington, C. Stevens

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

**Members of the Public**: Five (5)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman welcomed members of the public and asked if they wished to address the Council on any item on the agenda, or on any other issue.

One of the parishioners, supported by the others who were present, wished to draw attention to the planning application in respect of The Old Ship Cottage, previously considered by the parish council and recently before a meeting of the Western Parishes Planning Committee. Extreme disquiet was expressed at what was considered to be inaccurate statements made at the planning meeting. In particular, the assertion that approval had been given in the past to the construction of dwellings in the gardens of Grade II listed buildings within the Conservation Area, one being his own property directly opposite; that complaints had been made by neighbours about the neglected state of that part of the garden on which the new property would be built; that the site had once been part of Corner Farm and had been built on in the past; that only 20% of the plot would be taken up by the new property. These claims were strongly contested. His own property had been part of a grazing paddock not part of the garden of The Well House. Enquiries made of neighbours found no evidence of complaints about the state of the garden on which the new dwelling would be built. An enquiry of the farmer who had owned Corner Farm confirmed that the proposed building plot had never been part of Corner Farm. What was particularly disturbing was the observations of one of the Ward Councillors who spoke in support of the application, contrary to the recommendations of the Conservation Officer; the Planning Officer; the views of the parish council and many local objectors. A decision on the application was deferred pending a site visit and further consideration at the next meeting of the planning committee on 29th November. The Chairman thanked parishioners for their observations and took note of the views of Councillors who again reiterated their earlier objections to this application. This matter was of such importance in protecting the integrity of the Conservation Area that it was considered to be necessary to write to each member of the planning committee setting out, in detail, the objections previously stated.

Four of the members of the public left the meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS**

Proposed by Councillor Ashton, seconded by Councillor Stevens and agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting, held on 29th September 2022, and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 6th October 2022 be accepted as a true record.

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

Councillor Griffith had nothing to report.

1. Notice Board

Councillor Shervington confirmed that he had been in discussion with the parishioner tasked with renovating the notice board. It was hoped to have the work completed within the next two to three weeks. The surplus notice board would be put up for sale in the near future.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. Broadband

The Vice-Chairman reported that KCOM had agreed to hold a session in the Village Hall on Saturday 12th November, to market the services that were available, following the fast fibre rollout programme. The event had been advertised within the parish.

**Action: Vice-Chairman**

1. Repairs to Play Area

Councillor Cornmell advised that she was still awaiting an estimate from the contractor for repair work to the play equipment.

**Action: Councillor Cornmell**

1. Dangerous Junction: Langrickgate/General Lane/Ash Lane

It was reported that, following representations made by Ward Councillor Leo Hammond, East Riding Council (ERYC) had made improvements to the ‘Give Way’ carriageway markings at the junction. A lack of available accident statistics from Humberside Police did not allow ERYC to follow the protocols necessary to upgrade the signage. It was accepted that traffic approaching from Ash Lane was particularly at risk from vehicles travelling in General Lane, often at speed.

1. Back Lane

Remedial action had been taken and it was agreed the matter could be concluded.

1. Langrickgate: Maintenance of Verges

Councillor Shervington indicated that he had been in discussion with members of the Verges Group, with a view to clarifying which areas of the verge should be cut. He would seek a meeting with the County Council’s Highways Department to progress the matter.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. Langrickgate: Overgrown hedge

The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the matter to ERYC and it was ongoing.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **POSTERN LANE**

Councillor Stevens had asked for this matter to be raised at the meeting. Whilst an earlier attempt had been made by Highways to repair cracks in the road surface they had re-appeared and posed a danger, particularly to cyclists. The Chairman reflected on his own knowledge with regard to the construction of the road. The lack of sound hardcore allowed movement in the road surface, especially when clay in the subsoil dried out. It was agreed to report the matter again to ERYC.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **CHRISTMAS TREE**

It was agreed to use the same supplier as the previous year. The Chairman hoped to have the tree in place by the beginning of December. Lighting of the tree to take place on Friday 16th December.

The Vice-Chairman sought approval for the purchase of a plastic box in which to store the lights for the Christmas tree. This was agreed.

**Action: Chairman/Vice-Chairman**

1. **QUARTERLY RISK ASSESSMENT**

Consideration was given to the risks faced by the parish council and the action taken to mitigate those risks. It was **resolved** that no other action was needed.

1. **FINANCE**
2. Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 1/4/2022 £5,197.60

+ Receipts to date £9,581.16

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£14,778.76

-Payments to date £ 2,900.56

Current Account Balance at 10/11/2022 £11,878.20

1. Payments

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

Eon-Next – Electricity (Direct Debit paid 21/10/22) £52.23

D. Cornmell- Clerk’s Expenses £26.32

C. Stevens – Purchase of Union Jack Flag £ 6.99

**TOTAL £85.54**

1. Receipts

East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Precept (2nd payment) **£4,400.00**

1. Financial Report

The Clerk/RFO presented an update on the Council’s finances for the current financial period, a projected spend for year end and a three-year financial forecast.

It was agreed to give further consideration to this item at the next Ordinary Meeting when a decision would be made on the parish precept for 2023/2024.

**Action: Clerk/RFO**

1. **PLANNING**
2. Application

The following application was considered:

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

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

**Action: Clerk**

1. Permissions

The following permission was noted:

22/01865/PLF (revised submission)-Erection of two storey extension to side and conversion of integral garage into additional living accommodation: 1 The Croft, Main Street, East Cottingwith YO42 4UA

1. Appeal

The following dismissed appeal was noted:

22/00028/Refuse-Change of use of land for the siting of a converted HGV trailer for use as holiday accommodation (retrospective application): Land North East of Paradise Lakeside Lodges, Ballhall Lane, Storwood YO42 4TD

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. **MEMBER’S REPORTS**

Councillor Ashton confirmed that a Remembrance Day Service would be held at St Marys Church at 10.30am, Sunday 13th November.

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEM IN CLOSED SESSION**

1. **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE/SALARY REVIEW: CLERK/RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Standing Orders were suspended and the Council went into closed session to consider this item.

The remaining parishioner left the meeting.

The Clerk/RFO left the meeting and did not return.

**Resolved-** that the pay scale for the Clerk/RFO be increased by 5%, with effect from 1st April 2023.

The Chairman agreed to write to the Clerk/RFO.

**Action: Chairman/Clerk/RFO**

Standing Orders were reinstated.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8.00pm, Thursday 12th January 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.