**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

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

**at 9.05 pm on Thursday 11th May 2023**

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

P. Shervington, D. Parapen, S. Jones

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

**Members of the Public**: Three (3)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

1. **NEW COUNCILLORS**

The Chairman extended a warm welcome and offered congratulations to Dayalan Parapen and Simon Jones, on being elected as parish councillors.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman acknowledged the remaining members of the public who had stayed on after the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Council and asked if any of them wished to address the Council on any item on the agenda. Two indicated a wish to do so, one who wished to refer to **item 9: Correspondence** and the other item **6 (e) Blocked Drains.**  The Chairman agreed for both matters to be brought forward.

Before seeking further information in relation to **Correspondence**, the parishioner concerned wished to pay his own tribute to Peter Rhodes. He thanked him for his work on the Council and the practical experience which he brought to meetings. He went on to ask if any response had been received from the developer of Land North of Middleton Farm, concerning the fear that damage/disturbance to the telephone box and post box may be caused during construction work. The Clerk confirmed that a response had been received and an assurance given that care and consideration would be taken not to interfere or disturb the two important heritage items.

**Blocked Drains –** the parishioner raising this item updated the meeting with her understanding of the situation, following the attendance of county council (ERYC) workers sent to address the problem of flooding near to The Elms. It was confirmed that it was not possible to carry out a detailed survey, due to the fact that the drains and gullies were full of chippings and other debris. Also, a water leak had been detected between Nos.4 and 7 Swan Garth. She called on the parish council to put pressure on ERYC to progress the issue as a matter of urgency. Councillor Griffith shared his frustration at trying to contact Yorkshire Water about the leakage. It was agreed that the parish council would address the issue again. **Action: Clerk**

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS**

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Cornmell, and agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting, held on 9th March 2023 and the Extraordinary Meetings held on 16th March 2023 and 28th March 2023 be accepted as a true record.

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

Councillor Griffith gave an account of the situation at the wood. Despite the recent heavy rain, the trees were coping well and good growth was apparent. He hoped that some hard core could be provided at the entrance to the site. A local parishioner had kindly arranged to cut the grass.

**Action: Councillor Griffith**

1. Notice Board

Councillor Shervington reported that he had managed to find a buyer for the spare notice board and £50 was handed to the Clerk/RFO in payment. As yet, refurbishment of the notice board at the bus shelter had not been started.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. Langrickgate: maintenance of verges

Councillor Shervington referred to earlier discussions on this subject. He had made several attempts to obtain an assurance from ERYC that they would adhere to the agreed cutting regime but without success. The verges were due to be cut in June and he would continue to press ERYC to confirm that this would take place. Councillor Leo Hammond was supportive of the Verges Group’s efforts to encourage wildflowers and wildlife in the area.

The Clerk confirmed that, following the last meeting, he had made a further request of Highways that they return and complete the cutting of the overgrown hedge in Langrickgate Lane. The work was still outstanding and a further chase-up would be made.

**Action: Councillor Shervington/Clerk**

1. Repairs to Play Area

Councillor Cornmell expressed in greater detail, the situation at the play area, as outlined at the earlier Parish Meeting. Following the latest ROSPA inspection, some of the wooden beams on one item of play equipment were rotting and in need of replacing. Difficulty had been encountered in trying to find a contractor willing to carry out this work. After her own recent inspection, it was suspected that additional work was needed, which would come at a considerable cost. Prior to the suggested Working Group being formed, she sought a way forward, rather than spending money needlessly on an item of equipment which may have outlived its usefulness.

After a lengthy debate it was agreed, that the piece of equipment concerned be removed as quickly as possible by a suitable contractor and, in the meantime, it be taped off and put out of use to prevent injury.

**Action: Councillor Cornmell**

1. Blocked Drains

**Dealt with under public participation.**

1. Potholes

It was noted that some of the potholes had been repaired whilst others had not. The cracks in Postern Lane had not been attended to despite a number of requests to ERYC and the intervention of Ward Councillor Leo Hammond.

**Action: Clerk**

1. East Riding Council: Community Governance Review

The Clerk confirmed that the proposed changes to the parish boundary line had been agreed by Melbourne and Ellerton and Aughton parish councils.

**Action: Clerk**

1. Coronation of HM King Charles

Full use had been made of the Coronation Grant, received from ERYC, to purchase commemorative mugs which had, or would shortly be, distributed to young persons within the parish. Councillor Cornmell agreed to provide the necessary report to the County Council on how the monies had been spent.

**Action: Vice-Chairman/Councillor Cornmell**

1. School Bus Service

The Clerk reported that he had again asked, without success, that ERYC share the outcome of its findings into safeguarding, following an earlier incident, when the school bus was involved in an accident and children were left to make their own way to school. A further request would be made.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **FINANCE**
2. Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 1/4/2023 £6,728.66

+ Receipts to date £4,946.31

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£11,674.97

-Payments to date £ 370.26

Current Account Balance at 11/5/2023 £11,304.71

1. Payments

Proposed by Councillor Cornmell, seconded by Councillor Shervington and **resolved** that the following payments be made:

ERNLLCA- Membership Fee (paid1/4/23) £ 314.05

Eon-Next-Electricity (paid by Direct Debit 18/4/23) £ 56.21

Kaye Middleton & Co – Payroll Services £ 120.00

G. Fillingham- Grass-cutting £ 422.40

C. Stevens – Flags £ 11.88

**TOTAL £ 924.54**

1. Receipts

ERYC – Coronation Grant £ 500.00

ERYC – Parish Precept (1st Payment) £4,400.00

Hotline Group Ltd – Credit (damaged Coronation mugs) £ 46.31

**TOTAL. £4,946.31**

1. Financial Report

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

previous financial periods.

1. Annual Audit Report

The accounts for the financial period 2022/2023 had been audited by a local parishioner when all matters were found in order. The Council extended its thanks to the auditor, who had carried out the task at no cost to the Council.

1. Governance Statement

Consideration was given to the Annual Governance Statement.

**Resolved** -all areas had been properly addressed.

1. Annual Accounting Statements

Consideration was given to the Annual Accounting Statements.

**Resolved** – that the statements were an accurate record of the Council’s accounts.

1. Certificate of Exemption

Consideration was given to the Certificate of Exemption.

**Resolved** – that the Certificate of Exemption be approved.

1. Bank Mandate

**Resolved –** in addition to the two existing approved signatories, that the Vice-Chairman be added to the mandate.

**Action: Chairman/ Vice- Chairman**

1. **PLANNING**
2. Permission

The following permission was noted:

23/00660/PL- Erection of two storey extension to side and single storey extension to side and rear (revised scheme 22/00905 PLF): Hagg Bridge House, Hagg Lane, Storwood YO42 4TF

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. **MEMBER’S REPORTS**

The Vice-Chairman offered thanks to a local parishioner who had recently carried out cleaning work on a road sign. She also mentioned that a sign in Redcap Lane was in need of attention. Not being an item on the agenda, it was hoped that remedial action would be taken in due course.

Councillor Cornmell indicated that the play area was currently closed due to mole traps having been set. She also wished to put on record her thanks to the Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee, the Vice-Chairman of the Council and others for all the effort that went into the arrangements to celebrate the Coronation of HM King Charles.

Councillor Griffith made mention of the litter bin at the bus shelter and the earlier promise at the time of ‘the village walk-about’ that ERYC would replace it. Not being an item on the agenda, it was hoped the matter would be resolved in due course.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

8pm, Thursday 13th July 2023

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.15pm.