Clerk: Yvonne Eggleston, Windrush, Main Street, Sutton upon Derwent, YO41 4BN Email: eastcottpc@gmail.com Tel No: 01904 608453

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council, held on Thursday 9th January 2025 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall, East Cottingwith.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs C Stevens (Chair), C Stevens, C Cornmell, S Jones, D Parapen, T Verity 1 parishioner

001/25 To record any apologies for absence: Cllrs N Hobbs, D Griffith, Ward Cllrs L Hammond, P West, D Carey

002/25 Declarations of Interest: None

003/25 To hear any matters raised by attending parishioners: None

004/25 To approve and sign the Minutes of the November meeting:

Proposed: Cllr Cornmell Seconded: Cllr Verity

005/25 To discuss any matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting that are not elsewhere on the Agenda:

i. Jubilee Wood – Cllr Stevens read out a report from Cllr Griffith. The profits from the book published by The East Cottingwith and Storwood Local History and Environmental Group in 2002 were used towards the planting of a wood as a lasting memory. The old brickworks, and later the village tip, became available in 2015. This covered an area of 1.691 acres which had remained fallow under a Stewardship Scheme which had recently ended. The tenancy reverted back to the Parish Council and a request was accepted whereby the book sales profits of £1142.07 and all future money and donations be transferred. Management of the wood was made up of Judi Griffith (Book Group), Dave Griffith and Steve Ashton (Parish Council) with all future proposals to be presented to the Parish Council for discussion and approval.

The only restraining issue that had to be noted was the 11,000 volt overhead electricity cable which crossed part of the site thus putting a restriction to tree planting and recreational activity within a 40 meter width gap under the line.

The biggest issue, however stems from the fact that it is a very wet area in winters.

Work that has been carried out since 2016 includes:

- 1. 225 trees planted in March 2016 by the East Riding Conservation Volunteers Group.
- 2. Village volunteer group planted their own generously donated trees and hung nest boxes in the old hedge in November 2016. Many more donated trees have been planted over the vears.
- 3. A second major planting took place next to Langrickgate in December 2016 with 200 smaller whips being planted by the East Riding Conservation Volunteers Group, paid for by further book money.
- 4. The boundary between the Parish land and adjoining farm land was surveyed and registered with a fence being erected by village volunteers in February 2017, using fencing material paid for by the Parish Council as part of its management of the land.

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- 5. 420 saplings donated by the Woodland Trust were planted by village volunteers for the hedge next to the fence.
- 6. In the Spring of 2017 the Parish Council had a fence and gate constructed by a local contractor as a roadside boundary.
- 7. With the Beast from the East and the record breaking summer heat wave with no rain from April to August in 2018, the wood was allowed to rest.
- 8. A generous donation by Mrs Marjory Norton allowed for a copse of silver birch to be planted in February 2019. She would have been well pleased with the result.
- 9. A further small scale village planting took place in March 2021 to fill in gaps, especially along the verge sides where trees were lost in winter, using book money and donated trees, which included 6 alder saplings.
- 10. A cheque for £1000 was received from Yorkshire Water in gratitude for the friendly way the villagers accepted the upheaval whilst the company replaced a sewage pipe stretching from the Pumping Station near the Village Hall to the crossroads at the end of Langrickgate. It was decided that a bench and table should be provided for the wood. A heavy duty picnic table was delivered FOC from St Austell Cornwall in August 2021.
- 11. In 2021 two owl boxes were erected, with a Kestrel nesting in one of them! Two telegraph poles inherited from an earlier venture, were erected by a Natural England.
- 12. A further 10 Alders were in August 2022, paid for by additional book sales.
- 13. A "road gang" of village volunteers laid some donated bricks near the gate as hard core. More hard core is required with some being promised.
- 14. 2024 was again a very difficult year, being wet and windy at the start with a lot of surface water due the waterlogged soil.
- 15. A heavy bench was donated and erected by two Parish Councillors in October 2024, with a group of the regulars cutting the hedge for the first time since it was planted in 2017.

The wood is now evolving in to a wildlife haven with regular reports of wildlife seen in the wood and flying over. With the earlier mentioned Kestrel and the Barn Owl being seen hunting at dawn and in the evening.

A quiet haven where people can sit and enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside. Very much as Steve Ashton had envisaged.

Wild flowers, planted by the verges group, are to be seen with the bluebells that were planted in 2023 under the old hedge.

The trees are now starting to mature and look more resilient but because this planting has been carried out in stages some are still very vulnerable

Volunteers help to cut the grass and top up the water butt as needed.

The contributed water barrel has been very helpful in very hot dry weather. It meant the trees got a good input of water down the guards and all bar one survived.

Simon Jones has replaced Steve Ashton as the other Parish Council's representative.

A group of 25 volunteers have enjoyed and had fun working in the wood over the last eight years. Thanks also must be given to all those who have donated trees over the last eight years.

ii. Speed Limit signage – having considered the costings for installing Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), it was agreed that they were too expensive. Discussions revealed that there wasn't an appetite for more street furniture in the village but it was agreed that more information is required on the options available before any decisions can be made. Cllr Jones suggested that '20 is plenty' and advisory speed signs be used.

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The Parish Council is keen to receive views from Parishioners on areas that require signage, the area near the Playground being critical and the type that is preferred. Councillors aim to decide on the matter at the next meeting.

- iii. Road Sign: Redcap Lane update: the Clerk has not received a response from ERYC on when the new sign will be erected despite several requests for the information. She will approach Cllr West for help in this matter.**YE**, **PW**
- iv. Mylen Leah Solar Farm: EIA Scoping and Consultation and Regulation 11 Notification has been received from the Planning Inspectorate. This is a lengthy document and those Councillors who are interested in doing so, will feedback regarding the ES scoping for the solar farm before 1st February giving the Parish Council enough time to formulate and submit comments, which the Parish Council has been invited to do as a Consultee.

006/25 Agenda Items:

- i. VE Day 80 Celebrations 8th May 2025: Cllr Hobbs has agreed to approach the Village Hall Committee and the Feast Committee about any celebrations. Mr Peter Rhodes has agreed to light the beacon. NH
- ii. Play Area: Cllr Cornmell will updater at the next meeting.
- iii. Website update: Cllr Jones informed the meeting that the new website is live. He will send a link to Parish Councillors. A few tweaks are still required such as the ability to do searches, a button to enable Parishioners to register for alerts and a 'Contact Us' button.

The Parish Council will receive training on its use. Parish Councillors will be issued with '.gov.uk' email addresses.

A newsletter containing details of meetings, how to register on the website and further details will be sent out in the next 2 weeks to parishioners.

Agendas and Minutes will still be place on the noticeboard.

007/25 Financial Reports:

- a. Bank Reconcilliation: agreed and signed.
- b. Receipts: Compensation from Barclays Bank £50.00
- c. To note and approve any requests for payment received:

Clerk's salary (November & December) – £327.28 Clerk's Travel (January)- £5.80 Public Liability Insurance - £711.55 HMRC (November & December) – £81.80 Agreed by All.

008/25 To note and process any Planning Matters:

Applications to consider:

Crown reduce 1 no. Cherry tree (T1) by 1 metre to clear the roof and gutters; Crown reduce 1 no. Apple tree (T2) by 1 metre to shape the tree; Crown reduce 1 no. Magnolia tree (T3) by 2 metres; Crown lift 1 no. Ash tree (T4) by 4 metres – Southview, Green Lane, East Cottingwith, YO42 4TT - 24/03682/TCA

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Applications Considered: None

Notices of Approval: None
Notices of Withdrawal: None

Notice of Refusals: None

009/25 To hear and note any Correspondence Matters:

i. VE Day 80 Celebrations – 8th May 2025

ii Community Governance Review - Final Recommendations

010/25 Members Reports:

011/25 To conduct any other business by consent of the Chairman under the Local Government Act 1972

24/03738/TCA – Remove 4no. conifer trees (T1) and 6no. Silver Birch (T4-T9); crown reduce 1no. Holly tree (T2) to 1.2 m in height; crown reduce 2no. Greengage trees (T3) by 0.6 metres back to previous reduction and shape – 4 St Mary's Close, East Cottingwith, YO42 4TZ

This planning application arrived after the Agenda had been published. It was agreed that it be circulated to the Parish Councillors who will then submit any comments to the Clerk so that she can reply to ERYC before the date for comments expires.

012/25 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting:

Thursday 13th March 2025 at 8.00pm Items for agenda to be with the Clerk by Friday 7th March 2025

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.