**East Cottingwith Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday, 14th May 2015 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

**Presen**t: Peter Rhodes (Chairman), Steve Ashton, Dave Griffith, Julie Harrison, Duncan Morter; Noel Joy, Clerk; and one member of the general public – Fiona Bruce.

**1. Membership of the Council**

The Chairman welcomed two new members: Steve Ashton and (in her absence) Clare Cornmell; and thanked the two retiring members, Lorna Jessop and Jim Smith, for their services.

**2. Apologies for absence** were received from Clare Cornmell and Neil Hobbs

**3. Declarations of Interest**: there were none.

**4. Election of Chairman**: Peter Rhodes was unanimously elected.

**5. Election of Vice-Chairman:** Neil Hobbs was unanimously elected.

**6. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2015** were signed as a correct record.

**7. The Chairman’s Annual Report** (final version dated 14th May), which had been previously circulated and a copy of which is attached, was taken as read and approved, with the following comments:

* It was noted that there would be further consideration of the need for a speed limit in East Cottingwith;
* Peter Rhodes agreed to speak again to the land agent considering the regularisation of tenancy arrangements;
* It was noted that Dave Griffith, with Joan Burnett, had previously produced the equivalent of a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

**8. The Annual Financial Report**, which had been previously circulated and a copy of which is attached, was taken as read and approved, with the following comments:

* The detailed official report, copies of which were made available at the meeting, was approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk, for submission to the external auditor;
* Brian Cottam was thanked for his work on the internal audit;
* It was noted that funds for the reclamation of VAT had now been received.

**9. Progress report on current issues** (including all matters arising from the minutes)

a) **Grass cutting** contract: was now working satisfactorily.

b) **Unsightly areas of land**: a letter had been received from ERYC which has now been circulated. It was unlikely, but not impossible, that any remedial action could be taken

c) **Proposed Derwent bridge**. It was reaffirmed, after considering the debate at the public meeting on 14th March, that any further effort to continue with this proposal would be opposed by this Council.

Steve Ashton asked if there was a possibility that any sources of funding which may have been identified by the proponents of the bridge could be accessed for use on other more appropriate schemes. It was agreed that anyone interested in this should follow it up on a voluntary basis.

d) **Christmas tree lighting**. Julie Harrison reported that a quote for the provision of an electrical supply had been received, in the sum of £912 including VAT. It was agreed to approve this payment, and noted that the work would be undertaken in 9 weeks from the receipt of the payment. Professional advice would be taken to ensure the safety of the installation.

e) **Provision of defibrillator**. The defibrillator was shortly to be delivered. Julie Harrison was asked to liaise with the electrician about its installation either in the bus shelter or, temporarily or permanently, at the village hall.

A free day’s training was available by Yorkshire Ambulance Service for anyone interested: it was emphasised that good publicity about the defibrillator and the training day was essential.

f) Compilation of **asset register**. It was agreed to start work on this and consider a provisional register at the next meeting. Some items for inclusion were identified as follows: the two pieces of land currently rented by Mr Beevers and Mr Fozard; the cemetery; the play equipment; the defibrillator; the Christmas tree lights; the salting equipment; and the bus shelter.

g) Future of the **telephone box**: the Council’s argument to retain the telephone box and a working phone had been submitted, and there had been no reply.

h) **Back Lane drainage**. A site meeting had been held on 6th May, attended by Dave Griffith, Julie Harrison, Mr John Williams, and ERYC’s drainage engineer. Proposals were examined, and the engineer agreed to consider the options and endeavour to get funding.

Unfortunately, during the site visit an area of Japanese **knotweed** had been discovered: this has been reported to the appropriate authorities.

i) **Village task force**: Dave Griffith and Noel Joy would attend the meeting on 2nd July. It was agreed that ERYC’s attention should again be brought to the condition of Ball Hall Lane and Langrickgate, as well as the streets within the village.

j) **Website**: a setup form has now been received, and it was agreed that Steve Ashton, Neil Hobbs and Noel Joy should meet to progress this as quickly as possible.

10. **Correspondence** received.

A list is attached. Two items had been received more recently:

* Information from Humberside police about a telephone scam operating in the area and targeting vulnerable people. It was agreed that this should be put on the notice board, and submitted for inclusion in the parish newsletter.
* Correspondence between ERYC and Mr Barlow about alleged discrepancies in the conduct of the 7th May election. The matter had been resolved and is now closed.

11. Date of next scheduled meeting: **Thursday 9th July**, 8pm, village hall.

**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on Thursday, 14th May 2015 in the Village Hall at 9pm**

**Present**: Peter Rhodes (Chairman), Steve Ashton, Dave Griffith, Julie Harrison, Duncan Morter; Noel Joy; Fiona Bruce

1. **The minutes of the meeting held on 29th May 2014** were signed as a correct record.

2. **Letting of the lanes** were agreed as follows:

Mill Lane: Fiona Bruce

Walloways Lane: Joan Burnett

Langrickgate: Neil Hobbs

Ings Lane: Dave Griffith

Postern Lane: Steve Ashton

3. **The Chairman’s report** was received.

4. **The financial report** was received.

5. **Matters raised**:

* **Conservation on the verges:** Fiona Bruce reported on current work, and the Council offered its support.
* **Back Lane gates**: Steve Ashton raised this, and Dave Griffith agreed to take the matter up again with ERYC.
* **State of highways**: it was agreed that ERYC’s attention be drawn to the unsightly and potentially dangerous debris on the edges of General Lane – Noel Joy to contact Highways; and that some thought be given to the management of the pond at the entrance to the village.

6. The next Annual Parish Meeting will be on **Thursday, 12th May, 2016**.