**East Cottingwith Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 12th January 2017 in the village hall at 8pm**

**Present:** Peter Rhodes (Chairman), Steve Ashton, Julie Harrison, Neil Hobbs, Duncan Morter (to item 3a); Noel Joy (Clerk); and 15 members of the general public (Joan Burnett, and 14 for Item 3a)

**1. Apologies** for absence were received from Clare Cornmell and Dave Griffith.

**2.** Steve Ashton declared an interest in Item 7b.

**3. Public Participation:**

**a) Boundary Farm, Application 16/03076/PLF.**

After presentations by the applicant, and by those with concerns, it was agreed, after a full discussion, that this Council had no objections to the application, which was supported as a purely educational, and not as a social enterprise.

However, there are a number of provisos which will need to be considered in detail by the East Riding Planning Authority, as follows:

* Noise levels must be kept to an acceptable minimum at all times
* Car parking arrangements must not cause potential hazards on the roads in the vicinity of the farm
* There must be proper arrangements for the management of sewage and waste products generally
* Overnight stay accommodation must be limited to a maximum of 12 people

Generally, there must be no further developments of this enterprise without further planning approval.

These recommendations would be submitted to ERYC on 13th January, as previously agreed.

**b) Trespassing on the ings**

Following recent incidents, this Council wished to remind everyone via the website that there is no “open access” land within the parish. This includes the full extent of the ings, where walkers (and dogs) should remain on authorised rights of way.

**4.** The **minutes** of the meeting held on **10th November 2016** were signed as a correct record.

**5. Matters arising:**

**a) Access and rights of way on the ings:** Natural England and ERYC were between them re-examining the provision of gates or stiles, and considering the establishment of a permissive right of way. The Environment Agency will also be involved in these discussions in due course.

**b) Back Lane gates: i**t was understood that the status of this right of way was now being examined as a top priority. It was agreed, therefore, that ERYC officers be reminded of this Council’s letter of 23rd January 2013, which had never been responded to, detailing the precise reasons why the gates should not have been erected and why they should be taken down.

**c) Bus service: t**he Tuesday bus service 196 had now been reinstated. The Council expressed its thanks to all those who had helped to achieve this.

**d) Mill Lane: t**he Council was displeased to learn that, in reaching the decision to name Mill Lane as Whitegate Lane, the wishes of residents had been misrepresented. Although the matter was now closed, it was agreed to make these concerns known to the officers involved and to local ERYC Councillors.

**e) Bus shelter: i**t was agreed to ask York Construction Services to install a simple soakaway.

**f) Jubilee Wood: a** financial statement had been circulated. Steve Ashton gave a progress report. In particular, fencing would be erected on 12th February between 10am and 12 noon: any assistance would be welcome.

**g) Telephone kiosk: p**ossible future uses so far suggested include a book exchange and a food bank. The Council was pleased to hear that interim arrangements for the food bank were working well. No timetable was yet available for the availability of the kiosk.

**h) Highways and hedges: n**o reply had been received to this Council’s email of 13th November about the condition of Langrickgate Lane, and the overgrown hedges on Ball Hall Lane. Mr Beevers was thanked for cutting the hedge on Langrickgate Lane between Canal Lane and Postern Lane.

**i) Christmas:** the Council thanked all those involved in arranging the switching on of the Christmas tree lights and the carol singing round the village.

**6. Finance**

**a) Village hall grant: a** letter of thanks had been received.

**b) Grass cutting contract**

It was confirmed that George Fillingham would provide the grass cutting service in 2017/18, at previously agreed prices.

Both parties were interested in a longer term agreement, and it was agreed to ask the firm what sort of price guarantees they would be prepared to give.

**c) Finances for 2017/18**

A report on the end of year position, the proposed budget for 2017/18, and the amount of the precept, was approved as follows:

**i) Current financial year**

Balance at 1st April 2016 £9,662.73

At 31st December 2016 £10,084.45

Estimated at 31st March 2017 £9,500

**ii) 2017/18 Budget**

Estimated Expenditure Grass Cutting £1,800

Clerk £1,100

Village Hall £1,000

Zurich Insurance £850

Streetlights £550

Npower unmetered £500

Jubilee Wood £500

Christmas Tree £200

Playground lease £200

Playground inspection £120

Npower metered £100

Petty Cash £30

TOTAL £6,950

+balancing sum = £7,000

Estimated Income VAT returns £200

Rent £130

Miscellaneous £170

TOTAL £500

Net expenditure **£6,500**

**iii) 2017/18 Precept**

The precept would be set at **£5,000,** as in 2016/17, and ERYC would be informed accordingly.

**7. Planning**

a) The approval of **16/03075/TCA**, Amelia Cottage, was confirmed.

b) The approval of **16/03858/TCA**, The Knoll, was confirmed.

c) Application **17/00069/TCA,** Ings Cottage, was approved.

**d) Concerns: Cherry Tree Farm and Willow Glade Farm**

It was agreed to contact ERYC Head of Planning about two recent issues: the administrative handling of **16/00030/REFUSE**, Cherry Tree Farm; and the missed communication on **16/02994/PLF,** Willow Glade Farm.

**8.** A list of **other correspondence** received during November and December 2016 was noted.

**9. Any other business**

**a) Website Training and Transparency Code**

In the light of recent correspondence on the above, it was agreed to contact ERYC’s IT department to take up the previous offer of free training, for one or two people, to use the website as effectively as possible.

It would in any event be ensured that all the extra information needed to meet the requirements of the transparency code would be provided.

It was noted that the possibility of reinstating some form of **Village** **Feast** was being considered.

**10.** Date of next meeting: **9th March 2017**.