**EAST COTTINGWITH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom videoconferencing at**

**8.20 pm on Thursday 6th May 2021**

**Note: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic emergency, and Government advice on holding public meetings, members of the public and the press were given direct access to the meeting and the opportunity to take part.**

**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**: None.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

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

Proposed by the Vice-Chairman, seconded by Councillor Stevens and agreed that the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting, held remotely, on 11th March 2021, and the Extraordinary Meetings, held remotely, on 25th March and 8th April 2021 be accepted as a true record.

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

Councillor Griffith confirmed that the picnic bench had been ordered and was awaiting delivery. Arrangements were in hand to prepare the ground in readiness for its installation. A number of new trees had been planted and had needed to be watered due to the recent dry weather.

Councillor Shervington made mention of an offer of a mower for use in the wood. So far as his efforts to resolve drainage issues; the county council had yet to respond.

**Action: Councillors Griffith and Shervington**

1. **Storwood Notice Board**

Councillor Shervington reported that the notice board had still to be fixed to the bus shelter. A local parishioner had the matter in hand.

**Action: Councillor Shervington**

1. **Pot Holes**

The previously reported potholes in Church Lane, Main Street; Green Lane; Swan Garth and Canal Lane, had still not been filled, despite ERYC having again been contacted about this issue. Councillor Stevens noted that yellow markings around some of the holes seemed to indicate that the county council was dealing with matter. There was still no response with regard to cracks in Postern Lane.

**Action: Clerk**

1. **Land Registry**

The Vice-Chairman updated the meeting on his efforts to register land owned by the Towns Land Trust with HM Land Registry. He had not received any acknowledgement of the application, although a cheque in respect of the registration fee had been cashed.

**Action: Vice-Chairman**

1. **Broadband**

The Vice-Chairman confirmed that leaflets had been distributed to each household within the parish, outlining the proposed fast fibre broadband roll out programme offered by KCOM. As previously reported, the scheme depended upon 30% of households registering an interest. As of the date of the meeting, 24 households had registered and a further 18 needed to do so. Details had also been circulated via social media and the parish newsletter. Unfortunately, there was a misconception that by registering an interest there was a commitment to take up the service. That was not the case, nor was it that if a householder had a telephone contract with another provider, they would have to switch to KCOM. He asked that members re-double their efforts in an attempt to reach the 30% threshold.

**Action: Vice-Chairman and all Councillors**

1. **FINANCE**
2. Bank reconciliation

Balance at 1/4/2021 £2,758.11

+ Receipts to date £4,400.00

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£7,158.11

Current Account Balance at 6/5/2021 £6,706.27

1. Payments 2020/21 Financial Period

17/3/21 Eon- Electricity £ 19.79

17/3/21 Npower- Electricity £ 22.69

17/3/21Npower-Electricity £470.95

17/3/21Npower-Electricity £287.04

24/3/21 R & J M Henley-Trees £126.72

24/3/21 D Griffith-Owl Box £ 90.00

24/3/21 D Cornmell-Clerk’s Salary £286.24

24/3/21 D Cornmell-Clerk’s Expenses £ 41.80

24/3/21HMRC-PAYE £ 71.60

**TOTAL: £1,416.83**

1. Receipts

NIL

1. Payments 2021/22 Financial Period

16/4/21 ERNLLCA-Membership Fee £294.41

16/4/21 Kaye Middleton & Co-Pay Roll £120.00

16/4/21Eon-Electricity £ 15.12

16/4/21 D Cornmell-Clerk’s Expenses £ 22.31

**TOTAL: £ 451.84**

1. Receipts

ERYC Precept 1st payment £4,400

1. Financial Report

The Clerk/RFO referred members to his end of year accounts presented at the Annual Parish Meeting. He sought confirmation that the previously agreed payment of £200 to the Village Hall Committee be made for hire of the village hall. So far as remote meetings via videoconferencing was concerned. Legislation enabling that means of working was due to terminate on 7th May. He sought views on the continuation or otherwise of the Zoom subscription.

**Resolved-** that a payment of £200 be made to the Village Hall Committee, in respect of hire of the hall. The Zoom subscription to be terminated.

**Action: Clerk**

1. Annual Audit Report

A report on the annual audit of the parish council’s accounts was received and noted. Thanks were extended to the local parishioner who had once again carried out this task. A letter of appreciation to be sent to the parishioner concerned.

**Action: Clerk**

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-** thatthe 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 Certification of Exemption be approved.

1. **PLANNING**
2. Application

The following application was noted.

(i)21/01376/TCA-East Cottingwith Conservation Area: Pollard 1no.Leylandii tree (T1) to 1.8 metre pole due to high risk of failure as one stem has already failed and landed on shed roof and caused split down the main trunk; Pollard 2 no. Leylandii trees (T2 & T3) to 1.8 metre pole due to recent exposure from removal of neighbouring trees (hedge) and wounds in the stem which could be a potential point of failure in the future: Rose Garth, Main Street, East Cottingwith YO42 4TN

**Resolved-** that there be no objection to these tree works (dealt with by delegation).

1. Permissions

The following permissions were noted:

(i)21/00526/PLF-Erection of single storey extension to side and rear and erection of garage following demolition of existing garage: Midway, Green Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TT

(ii)21/00416/PLF-Erection of single storey extension to rear: Beacon House, Canal Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TJ

(iii)21/01184/TCA-East Cottingwith Conservation Area: Crown thin 1 no. Conifer tree by 1 metre to tidy the tree as the tree lost a large section during a storm; Crown reduce 2 no. Conifer trees by 5 metres in height due to close proximity to house, is touching electricity cables and is overgrown in all directions; remove 1 no. Holly tree that is growing and killing another tree: The Old Ship Cottage, Church Lane, East Cottingwith YO42 4TL

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

1. **MEMBERS REPORTS**

(i)The Vice-Chairman paid tribute to the work of the Clerk during the past 12 months and the clarity of the accounting procedure he had adopted.

(ii) Members were appalled at graffiti which had appeared on the recently erected footpath signs. A concerned parishioner had attempted to clean it off, only for it to reappear. It was noted that there was a similarity in the handwriting of earlier graffiti on the post box, the offender having some sort of misplaced view on the Covid 19 pandemic.

In bringing the meeting to a close, the Chairman expressed his own thanks to the Clerk for his management of the Council’s affairs and also wished to thank his fellow Councillors for their efforts during a difficult 12 months. He looked forward to a return to face-to-face meetings again.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 8th July 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.59 pm.