**East Cottingwith Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 11th January 2018, in the village hall at 8pm.**

**Present:** Peter Rhodes (Chair), Steve Ashton. Clare Cornmell, Dave Griffith, Julie Harrison, Neil Hobbs, Duncan Morter; Noel Joy (Clerk); and 3 members of the general public – Joan Burnett, and Linda and Paul Lemkes

**1.** There were no declarations of interest

**2. Public participation**: Joan Burnett wished to speak to Item 5, sewage problems and road repairs

**3.** The **minutes** of the meeting held on **9th November 2017** were signed as a correct record.

**4. Matters arising:**

a) **Hedging on Ball Hall Lane** (5a). The Highways Department would be contacted again, to ensure that remedial work was carried out before March.

b) **Christmas Trees** (5d). Payment of £480 for the 2016 and 2017 trees was authorised.

c) **Liaison with IDBs** (8). Both IDBs had been contacted.

d) **Back Lane** (9). Informal consultation was complete: no objections had been raised, although one respondent had asked for further information. ERYC officers will deal with this respondent’s questions and go to public consultation, which takes 6 weeks: then a formal order is placed.

e) **Play Area** (10). The annual inspection had been satisfactory: some low risk items would be resolved. No additional funding support is likely to be necessary in 2018/19.

f**) Harry Last’s bench** (11). Neil Hobbs reported that work had been completed; it had been funded by Ecopa; the Council thanked Mark Beevers for carrying out the powder coating at no cost, and both Mark and John Beevers for the concreting.

**5. Sewage problems and road repairs.**

Thanks largely to Steve Pickman’s work with the water authorities, it had now been confirmed that three kilometres of new rising main would be provided from the pumping station down Langrickgate Lane to Willow Tree Farm, starting in spring 2018. This would finally resolve the problems with sewage. There would be considerable disruption for up to 6 months.

The Highways Department had already been contacted to endeavour to ensure that the opportunity was taken to upgrade Langrickgate Lane and other highways and footpaths involved. A request would be submitted to make any planings available to improve some East Cottingwith lanes.

Joan Burnett pointed out that issues could be more quickly and easily resolved if Councillors could be involved in more networking with other agencies, especially ERYC District Councillors. Neil Hobbs suggested that the Parish Council should involve District Councillors, perhaps inviting them to meetings. Joan also said that residents should be encouraged to make the Council aware of any skills they had which could be of benefit.

**6. Telephone box.**

BT had not yet completed the decommissioning of the phone box.

One firm had quoted to supply all necessary materials and advice to renovate it.

It was agreed that Clare Cornmell would make enquiries to ensure that there was sufficient expertise in or around the parish to carry out the work, either using parts provided by Unicorn or sourced locally; and Julie Harrison would liaise with Mrs Tonge.

**7. Finance**

Reports on finance to 31st March 2018 and budgets for 2018/19, as attached to the minutes in the minute book, were received and approved.

It was agreed to set the precept for 2018/19 at **£5,000.**

Donations to the village hall were discussed, and it was agreed that the Village Hall Committee be invited to send a representative to the next meeting of this Council to consider matters further.

Appropriate amendments would be made to the asset register (phone box, bench).

Mr Pickman was thanked for his willingness to act as internal auditor.

Payment to the Clerk was increased by £100 a year.

**8. Planning**

Approval to 17/03605/PLB, White House Farm, was confirmed.

Approval to 17/04059/PLF. Brewers Barn, was confirmed.

Receipt of ERYC’s Local Plan Scoping Report was noted.

**9. Signposting**

The provision of a stop sign at the B1228 junction had also been supported by Melbourne and Seaton Ross Parish Councils.

The Highways Department would be requested to consider the renewal of general sign posting in the parish.

**10. Popup pub**. The 22nd December event had produced approximately £316 each for the church, Ecopa and the village hall. The Council noted how successful the event had been and expressed their thanks to all concerned.

**11.** A list of other correspondence received during November and December 2017 was noted.

**12.** Date of next meeting**: 8th March 2018.**

.