

EAST COWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held in the Village Hall

on Monday 26th July 2021 at 7.30 pm

2107.01 Present

Councillors: E. Simpson (ES)(Chairman), A.Smith (AS), N.Smith (NS), P.Stephenson (PS), T Wild

In Attendance

District Councillor S. Watson (SW), County Councillor A.Wilkinson (AW) from 8.35 pm only Clerk: J.Kilsby (JK), Flood Warden B.Denley and 6 Members of the Public

Apologies for Absence

None save Police Community Support Officer, K.Laws (PCSO)

2107.02 Disclosure of Interests

None.

2107.03 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 28th June 2021

It was resolved that the minutes are approved and the Chairman duly signed them in order to verify approval.

2107.04 Chairman's Formal Announcements

None.

2107.05 Police Report

The contents of the PCSO's written report were noted

2107.06 Public Participation

Various members of the public referred to the planning application in relation to the land to the east of Birkby Lane (reference 21/01361/OUT). It was noted that 17 objections have been lodged with Hambleton District Council (HDC) and that sewage and drainage have been raised in particular; there has already been planning permission for development of one site in the village where detailed drainage proposals were first required; there is no inclusion of this site in either the current or proposed Local Plan

2107.07 Planning Applications

1) **It was resolved that** JK should respond to HDC in relation to application reference 21/01361/OUT (land to the east of Birkby Lane) to indicate that:

a) This development appears in neither the current Local Plan nor is there an allocation for it within the emerging plan.

b) The size and nature of the proposed development places it outside the Planning Authority's Interim Policy Guidance on small scale housing development.

c) The current Local Plan already provides for a housing development in the village.

d) Surface water drainage from the site is a concern.

e) Foul water drainage from the site with the proposed linking into the village sewage system is also of serious concern, when it has already been established that the public sewers are running to capacity and foul water has to be pumped from the village.

f) A detailed drainage plan approved by Yorkshire Water Authority is required.

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- g) Increased traffic, coupled with the siting of an access road opposite commercial premises, is regarded as undesirable and potentially dangerous.
- h) Additional maintenance costs arising from the hedging included as part of the landscaping scheme as well as the drainage and cost of maintaining the proposed rainwater catchment tank would need to be provided for in perpetuity.
- i) It is perceived that there is a greater need for rental properties within the village than housing of the type and nature proposed.
- j) The scale of the development proposed would be a dominant feature on the landscape.
- k) The proposed demolition of 3 Birkby Terrace is viewed as an attack on the history of the settlement.
- l) A development of this nature would be without the support of residents of the village, many of whom have already lodged objections direct to the Planning Authority.

2) **It was resolved that** JK should write to HDC concerning reference numbers 17/01123/FUL and 19/01789/FUL (Manor House Farm) to verify whether the landowner had been requested to plant additional trees prior to considering a Freedom of Information request. **It was further resolved that** the issue of a lack of planning permission for the additional burners and generator again be raised with HDC.

3) It was confirmed that application numbers 21/00632/FUL (Cowton Moor House) and 21/00649 (Cornhill Farm) had been granted but 21/00763 (OS field 4600) refused.

4) **It was resolved that** the Parish Council (PC) should indicate to HDC its agreement to the dissemination of a Housing Needs Survey and the appropriate steps as requested to facilitate its distribution by HDC be taken

2107.08 Finance

1) Councillors **received and approved** statements of account for the current year to date and agreed the balances on the Parish Council's bank accounts which had been verified by NS as follows:

Community (Current) Account: £8641.09
 Less unpresented cheques -£ 360.64
 Premium (Deposit) Account: £2988.25

Total: £11268.70

2) **It was resolved that** the payments by cheque listed below be ratified:

£		
115.84	J.Kilsby- Clerk's Wages -July	Local Government Act 1972, s112(2)
£ 244.80	CE & CM Walker Ltd – Grasscutting-June	Highways Act 1980, s96 and Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)

2107.09 Co-Option of a Councillor

It was resolved that the PC should approach individuals personally in order to co-opt a councillor to fill the ongoing vacancy.

2107.10 Communal Tank

In light of concerns raised by a member of the public it was resolved that the PC should investigate the position and JK should check available title deeds to verify the legal position

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- 2107.11 Secure E-mail**
It was resolved that AS should provide costings for proceeding with a hosted domain for gov.uk e-mail addresses for the next meeting
- 2107.12 Parish Council Profile**
It was resolved that JK should respond to indicate the PC's interest in a free social media audit.
- 2107.13 No Littering Road Signs**
It was resolved again that the PC does not wish to proceed with this offer from HDC.
- 2107.14 Ultrafast Broadband**
It was resolved that JK should invite Quickline to give a presentation to the next PC meeting
- 2107.15 Noticeboard**
 It was confirmed that the original noticeboard has now been refurbished and re-erected.
- 2107.16 Risk Assessments and Inspections**
It was resolved that ES and PS will walk around the PC's various assets with the aim of putting forward an updated scheme for assessment/inspection.
 In the meantime it was confirmed that the Play Area and defibrillator continue to be inspected weekly and that the defibrillator's details have been entered on the new national database.
It was further resolved that strimming and pruning be handled by volunteers on a Tuesday morning
- 2107.17 Millennium Wood**
 PS confirmed work is ongoing and **it was resolved that** he will arrange to update the quotation previously received for installation of a post and rail fence.
- 2107.18 Neighbourhood Watch**
 No interest has been expressed by members of the public and **it was resolved that** resurrecting this initiative therefore be abandoned.
- 2107.19 Resilience Plan**
 It was confirmed that all consents have now been received in readiness for circulation of the completed plan.
- 2107.20 Parish Portal**
 It was confirmed that neither ES nor JK had received any further contact concerning the PC's link to this
- 2107.21 Broken Manhole Cover**
 The manhole cover opposite the development on the corner of Wycliffe/Conyers Roads was broken again whilst being replaced. **It was resolved that** ES should report this again.
- 2107.22 County Councillor**
 AW who had arrived too late for the public participation part of the meeting when she would normally speak provided an update on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council

(as appended) and SW concurred that there are still many angles to be determined before the formation of a single unitary authority.

2107.23 Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 13th September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

2107.24 Meeting Closed

There being no further business, ES closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.