

EAST COWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held in the Village Hall

on Monday 26th September 2022 at 7.30pm

2209.01 Present

Councillors: E. Simpson (ES)(Chairman), T.Cramond (TC), J Green (JG), J. Shields (JS), A.Wragg (AWr)

In Attendance

Clerk: J.Kilsby (JK); District Councillor S.Watson; 2 members of the public

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Y.Jolly; County Councillor A. Wilkinson (AW)

2209.02 Disclosure of Interests

None.

2209.03 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council (PC) on 11th July 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 11th July 2022 are approved and the Chairman duly signed them in order to verify approval.

2209.04 Police Report

The contents of the Police Reports for the period to 11th July to 12th September were noted

2209.05 Financial Accounts

a) Councillors **received and approved** statements of account for the current year to 6 September 2022 and in circumstances where authorisation for online access by the Bank for JG is still pending it was resolved that once such authorisation is granted she will log on to verify the Bank Reconciliation at 6th September 2022 and the balances on the bank accounts as follows:

Community (Current) Account: £10863.24

Less unpresented cheques £ 624.67

Premium (Deposit) Account: £ 2989.61

Total: £13228.18

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

Invoice Date	Description	£	Authority
15.07.22	PG Window cleaning bus shelter glass cleaning	10.00	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1954 s4
August 22	Clerk's wages August	122.67	Local Government Act 1972, s112(2)
24.07.22	ICO	40.00	Local Government Act 1972, s111(1)
1.08.22	CE&CM Walker - grasscutting	254.40	Highways Act 1980, s96 and Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)
25.6.22	Wickes paint (reimburse Cllr Simpson) for Play area	30.00	Public Health Act 1875 s 164; Local Govt Act 1972 Sched 14 para 27; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19;
08.06.22	Defib Warehouse defibrillator battery (reimburse Cllr Simpson)	384.00	Local Government Act 1972, s111(1)
25.06.22	Homebase (reimburse Cllr Simpson) more paint for play area	48.00	Public Health Act 1875 s 164; Local Govt Act 1972 Sched 14 para 27; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19

Chairman signed.....E Simpson.....14th November 2022

It was further resolved that the payments by cheque listed below be authorised:

Invoice Date	Description	£	Authority
5.9.2022	CE&CM Walker - grasscutting August	254.40	Highways Act 1980, s96 and Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)
-September 22	Clerk's wages gross	122.67	Local Government Act 1972, s112(2)
20.9.2022	Playsafety Limited play equipment inspection	84.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, Public Health Act 1875 s164

c) It was noted that JS and JG are now signatories to the bank accounts but that JG is awaiting online access as indicated above.

d) It was confirmed that the period for the exercise of public rights is now in progress and the appropriate documents have been posted.

d) It was noted that no requests for public access were received and **it was resolved that** the PC ought not to opt out of the central procurement scheme.

2209.06 Budget

It was resolved that the reserve for Vehicle Activated Signage (VAS) be retained but that in the meantime TC to contact BRM Limited to ask if it can issue a general request to its contractors/drivers/customers to ensure observance of the speed limit when driving through the village. **It was further resolved that** JK should arrange for the transfer of funds into the Premium Account to ensure that it reflects the reserves held less that for unexpected expenditure which reserve should remain in the Community Account. It was noted that a generous donation by way of a public subscription from two longstanding residents of the village has been received and for which the PC expressed its thanks. This will assist in overcoming the cash flow issues for proceeding with the Jubilee bench and table, as will deferring any expenditure for an email hosting domain as well as from the reserve for VAS in circumstances where the power of virement may be exercised. **It was resolved that** the PC take no further steps to arrange domain hosting, although JS will continue to explore a solution for email communications.

2209.07 Asset Inspections

It was reported that a volunteer with the necessary expertise has undertaken repairs in the Play Area and that other volunteers have tidied the brick bus shelter but it was noted that it needs repointing. It was further noted that: benches have been cleaned, salt/grit bins are sufficiently filled but their contents need breaking down; the noticeboard needs revarnishing and the laptop is likely to require replacement before April 2024. **It was resolved that** TC should contact Hambleton District Council concerning broken dog waste bins and that the contractor should be warned again about strimmer damage at the time the grass cutting contract is reviewed/renewed.

2209.08 Make a Difference Grant Funding Insurance

ES described the intended project on the area of land outside the play area and provided samples of proposed materials for the picnic bench and rubber tile underlay as well as for a replacement planter and is proceeding to apply for a street licence and to which end **it was resolved that** JK provide her with a copy of the PC's public liability insurance. **It was further resolved that** a notice should be placed in the café and shop inviting public donations for the project

2209.09 Parish Portal

In light of the lack of progress in resolving the removal of previous and addition of new councillor access to the portal **it was resolved that** ES should contact D.Flowers in the Highways Department of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC).

Chairman signed.....E Simpson.....14th November 2022

2209.10 Community Assets

It was resolved that ES should forward the Title Plan and Land Registry Office Copy entries to JK to enable submission by her of the application to re-nominate the Beeswing. **It was also resolved that** an application to nominate the Arden Arms should be made because: historically it has provided employment to residents of the village; it is a popular hostelry for residents of the village; the parish of South Cowton does not have a parish council able to make the submission. To this end SW was asked to forward the necessary information and Land Registry documentation to JK

2209.11 Solar Panels

It was resolved that AWR should draft a reply to the response received from AW to provide the information sought.

2209.12 Request Concerning a Memorial Bench

It was resolved that if those making the request agree to direct contact with a councillor then ES should liaise with them.

2209.13 Website Accessibility and Data Protection

It was resolved that TC should undertake the accessibility review for the website and JG that for Data Protection

2209.14 Recruitment of a New Parish Clerk

It was resolved that ES should circulate a draft advert for the position of Parish Clerk prior to its publication by Friday 30th September.

2209.15 Licence for Community Shop

It was resolved that the licence for the area of land belonging to the PC be renewed for another 12 months.

2209.16 Civility and Respect

It was resolved that the PC would ignore the request to sign the Civility and Respect pledge at the present time.

2209.17 Planning applications

- a) It was reported that application number 22/ 00810/FUL (OS Field 4600) has been granted
- b) SW gave a report of the site meeting in respect of application number 21/02338 (West Lane).
- c) **It was resolved that** the only observation in relation to application number 22/01907/FUL (Manor House Farm) is to ensure that the tarmac does not impact on any natural habitat. **It was resolved that** the PC had no observations in relation to application number 22/01906/FUL (Manor House Farm)
- d) **It was resolved that** the PC had no observations in relation to application number 22/02063/FUL (Dragonstone)

2209.18 Public Participation

The blind corner under the railway bridge at Birkby, damage to the bridges over the Wiske at Birkby and the Little Stell at Cowton Station were raised. All have been reported to NYCC

2209.19 Date and time of the next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday 14th November 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

2209.20 Any Other Business

It was resolved that wild flower meadow strips and the need for more volunteers for Community Speed watch be included on the agenda for the next meeting

2209.21 Meeting Closed

There being no further business, ES closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.