

MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2018 IN THE PARISH ROOM

Present

Mrs Mary Fawbert	Chairman
Mrs Michele De Vaal	Vice Chairman
Mr Richard Wells	Councillor
Mr Alan Fullerton	Councillor
Mrs Christine Dent	Councillor
Ms Sarah Sayer	Clerk to the Council

Item 1 - Introduction and Apologies

Apologies received from District Cllr Fairhurst.

Item 2 Public Questions

An email has been received from Peter Nesbitt regarding the village Christmas tree. This will be Peter's last year for organising the tree, and he has requested a donation of up to £40 to cover the cost of electricity and other items associated with this event.

Resolved: to provide funding up to £40 as per the request.

Cllr Wells offered to write an article for the February edition of Bridge Magazine, thanking Peter for sorting out the village tree over the years and highlighting the opportunity for villagers to take it on in the future.

Item 3 – Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Item 4 - Matters arising from Minutes

Holiday Cottage Lights

Two cottages were sent letters about the guests leaving on the outside lights (12 & 39 East Witton). Unfortunately, lights are still being left on at No.12, and there is an issue with the blue bin being left out. **Clerk to contact Yorkshire Cottages, Leyburn so that they can make the necessary arrangements.**

Market Charter 100 Years- 2019

2019 will be the 100-year anniversary of the granting of a market charter for the village. Councillors thought it would be nice to do something to mark the occasion. A village BBQ in May/June was a possibility. Discuss at the March meeting.

Footpath between Cover Bridge and Jervaulx.

Ian Smith had advised Cllr Wells that the vegetation would be cut back. Cllr de Vaal reported that the area was much improved, possibly due to the vegetation dying back naturally. Fleets Farm own the land and should keep the footpath clear of obstruction.

Stile at Braithwaite Lane Footpath

YDNPA Rangers have replaced the damaged hanging gate which was reported to YDNPA by the Clerk after the September meeting.

Item 5 - Correspondence

- NYCC -Poster regarding North Yorkshire Local Access Forum, recruiting voluntary members.
- RDC – Richmondshire Community Building Network Meeting, advising of a get together to look at issues affecting village halls.

- YDNPA – Parish Forum Meetings cancelled due to lack of support (only 1 norther PC interested (EWPC)).
- YDNPA – tree works application granted. Work has been carried out by Ed Staveley.
- YLCA – Notice regarding a 3.4% increase to the 2019/20 subscription.
- YLCA – Auditors struggling with workload, so audit reports have not all been signed off. **Clerk to chase it up.**
- RDC – Notification of election dates for PC's. 02 May 2019. Meeting for Clerks is on 7th or 13th March 2019.
- Richard Westman- email regarding services available for land-based work via veterans. The 'Land Warriors' do cut grass and he is keen to tender.
- Peter Nesbitt – email regarding the village Christmas tree. See Item 2.

Item 6 – Planning

No Consultations. No Decision Notices to report.

Item 7 - Accounts

The Statement of Account was read, approved and signed by The Chairman.

Expenditure (since September meeting)

Miss S L Sayer (Clerks salary)	£266.59
HMRC	£ 66.60
Yorkshire Woodland Management (Tree Works)	£ 300.00

Receipts (since September meeting)

Parish Precept	£1,625.00
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The balance stood at **£3,513.78**

Item 8 - Grass cutting contract 2019/20

Councillors resolved to go out to tender for next seasons grass-cutting. This was to ensure that public money was being spent in the public interest and to gauge the competitiveness of the current cost.

Clerk to invite quotes from:

Alastair Downie, Farm & Land Services – Pateley Bridge
Land Warriors - Catterick
Barry Robertson - Catterick

The tender will be based on the cost per cut of all areas of the village green (12-13 cuts/year) and cutting the grass around the memorial slightly less.

Item 9 – Any Other Business

Small Legacy

Cllr Wells advised Councillors that a sum of money had been gifted to the village by a person who was keen on nature conservation. Two ideas were put forward on how best to spend the money:

1. Plant new trees to replace the trees which have been felled, possibly Whitebeam. This is a requirement of the tree consent.
2. Put up bird boxes to encourage breeding of Pied Flycatchers. A total of 10 bird boxes should be put up on trees in locations around the river and the heronry.

Telephone Kiosk

Sarah Fleck has dusted and tidied the kiosk. The books are popular with a good turnaround. The kiosk is well used and supported. Cllr Wells to thank Sarah for her time.

Flesh Beck

It was reported that there is no water in the beck and maybe there should be. The PC investigated this a few years ago and no leaks were evident, nor was anyone extracting water. The water table is very low in this location and it has been a very dry year, so possibly nothing of concern at present. Monitor water levels over the coming months.

Item 10 – Date of the next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 13 March 2019, at 7.30pm in the Parish Room.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY PUBLIC QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE CLERK AT LEAST 3 WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING.

Signature.....

Date.....