

## **MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 September 2018 IN THE PARISH ROOM**

### **Present**

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

### **Item 1 - Introduction and Apologies**

No apologies received.

### **Item 2 Public Questions**

None

### **Item 3 – Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

### **Item 4 - Matters arising from Minutes**

#### **Lights on Lowthorpe**

The street lights are now working along Lowthorpe.

#### **Holiday Cottage Lights**

Letters were delivered to holiday homes in the village where there has been an issue with outside lights being left on by guests. A positive response was received from the owner of No. 39, who has updated his guest pack with information on turning off the lights and the importance of 'dark skies' within the National Park.

#### **Grass Cutting**

The grass is much improved from earlier in the year, but an Item is due on the November agenda to look at going out to tender for this contract.

### **Item 5 – Correspondence**

- Pippa Merrick/Catherine Whitbred – Elizabeth Barnett Charity Representative.
- YDNPA – Autumn Parish Forum details.
- NYCC – Grass cutting of verges in the village. PC to maintain these areas as per last year.
- RDC – Alterations to the electoral register.
- Paul Morris owner of 39 East Witton – letter regarding outside lighting.
- RDC – Richmondshire Local Plan Review – Consultation ends 31/10/19
- Yorkshire Air Ambulance – Letter of thanks for the donation of £847.00 from the Tour de Yorkshire weekend.
- RDC – Request for early setting of the Parish Precept. See Item 7a.
- Lower Wensleydale Area Partnership – meeting on 26.09.18.
- Friarage Hospital Stakeholders Report 2018 – noted
- YLCA – White Rose update – August.
- YDNPA – The Pub is the Hub.
- NYCC – Stronger Communities drop in event.
- Alastair Downie – Trees & Village Green works.

## **Item 6 – Planning**

### Consultations:

RDC – Amendment to change of use application for use of 2 paddocks to site marquees for events at Jervaulx Abbey, Jervaulx – No Comments.

### Decisions:

None

## **Item 7 – Accounts**

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

### Expenditure (Since May Meeting)

Yorkshire Air Ambulance	£847.00
S L Sayer	£266.59
HMRC	£ 66.60
Farm & Land Services	£384.00
S L Sayer	£266.59
HMRC	£ 66.60

### Receipts

TDY income	£847.00
TDY Funding from RDC	£1,400.00
NYCC Grass Cutting	£173.91

The balance stood at **£2,188.78**

## **Item 7a – Setting the Precept**

RDC have asked Parish Councils to set the precept as early as possible, so that the financial arrangements can be put in place as smoothly as possible.

Proposed - To increase the Parish Precept by 3% (cost of living) = £100 extra per annum.

Resolved - To increase the Parish Precept by 3% (cost of living) = £100 extra per annum.

The precept sum is therefore increased to £3350.00 for 2019/20. **Clerk to contact RDC.**

## **Item 8 – Any Other Business**

### 100 Year Anniversary in 2019, of the granting of a Market Charter for East Witton

This is a very popular footpath which is in a very poor state. It would be nice to mark this occasion in some way. Perhaps host a market on the village green. This event will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

### Footpath between Cover Bridge and Jervaulx

The footpath is currently in a very poor condition. The riverbank area is no longer grazed and is very overgrown, with some parts being virtually impassable. When the Environment Agency had a duty of maintenance for the banks of the river the footpath was in an excellent condition.

This is a very popular path which is an asset to the Parish. Who is responsible? AF advised that it is the landowner and not NYCC. RW was keen to see the area strimmed or cut mechanically to get rid of the blackthorn etc. Councillors to pass on information about who owns the land to RW, who will try and see if a solution can be reached.

### RDC Litter Bins

Cllr Fairhurst advised that RDC are replacing litter bins throughout the District. RDC Cllrs. are pushing for recycling bins to be provided rather than mixed rubbish. RDC are

maintaining that the cost of the recycling type bins is beyond their budget, but RDC Councillors are pushing for this type of bin. One way or the other, the bins will be replaced.

East Witton residents' complaint regarding slurry spreading.

Complaints have been received about slurry being spread over the public footpath leading down from Braithwaite Lane to the stepping stones. In this area the footpath is close to the wall, so it was thought that the contractors could be told to leave a strip at the edge of the field without slurry on it. The smell was particularly bad due to weather conditions.

CD advised that this particular field was going to be ploughed and therefore would not have slurry spread on it for quite some time. The rotation of crops meant it was difficult to have rules about how and when the slurry was spread. Councillors acknowledged that the village has working farms within it, and that was all part and parcel of living in the countryside.

Thanks were passed on to Clifford Dent via CD for notifying the PC when slurry of the days when slurry would be spread and for making sure that any slurry was washed off the road straight after completion of the job.

RW noted that the stile to the aforementioned field was damaged. This has been done by Metcalfe Farms contractors. No decision taken on reporting the matter to YDNPA.

**Item 9 – Date of the next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 14 November 2018, commencing at 7.30pm in the Parish Room.

MF will book this.

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

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**Signature**.....

**Date**.....