

**MINUTES OF THE EAST WITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 June 2020  
via Zoom.**

**Present**

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

**Item 1 - Introduction and Apologies**

None.

**Item 2 – Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. De Vaal declared an interest in Item 11.

**Item 3 Public Questions/Participation**

None

**Item 4 – Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Clerk to sign on behalf of Chair due to coronavirus restrictions on meetings.

**Item 5 – Exemption Criteria – External Audit**

To certify East Witton Parish Council as exempt from external audit for fiscal year 2019/20  
Resolved: EWPC are exempt

**Item 6 – Annual Governance Statement**

Resolved to note the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2019/20 included at page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20. The appointed internal auditor is Julie Greenslade

**Item 7 – Accounting Statement 2019/20 (Section 1)**

Resolved to approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 for East Witton Parish Council on page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20.

**Item 8 – Accounting Statement 2019/20 (Section 2)**

Resolved to approve Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2019/20 for East Witton Parish Council on page 6 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020

**Item 9 – Publication of Documents 2019/20**

Resolved to approve the publication of documents required by Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, SI 2020/404 The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 SI 2020/404 The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities

**Item 10 – Accounts**

Payments approved:

19.03.20	YLCA Membership 2020/21	£125.00
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19.03.20	Marquess Downshire	£1.00
19.03.20	S L Sayer (clerks' salary)	£266.59
19.03.20	HMRC	£66.60
26.03.20	Adam Curtis Website	£130.00
25.03.20	Sarah Sayer (McAfee LLC)	£94.99
26.03.20	Wrigleys Solicitors LLP	£600.00
26.03.20	T P Jones & Co LLP	£73.20
31.05.20	Zurich Municipal	£431.17
08.06.20	East Witton Parish Room	£48.00

	<b>Receipts</b>	
28.04.20	Parish Precept RDC	£3,450.00
08.06.20	NYCC - grass	£173.91

Current budget situation noted:

Income to date (£3641.41) including balance b/f from 2019/20 and petty cash	£5000.99
Expenditure to date 2020/21	(£479.17)
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£ 4521.82</b>

#### **Item - 11 Highway Query outcome**

The Clerk wrote to NYCC Highways. The response advised that it was not a Highway issue if tractor is road legal. If causing an obstruction report to NY Police, or seek negotiations with owner.

Resolved to seek negotiations with the owner. Cllr Wells to speak to the owner and see if the tractor can be moved off the highway for the Summer months.

#### **Item 12 - Access to Fell**

A letter was sent to East Witton Estate agents, Strutt & Parker and the gate is now accessible in line with the access arrangements in place for the permissive footpath. Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Strutt & Parker.

#### **Item 13 - Coronavirus**

Councillors commented that they hadn't been contacted directly for support but noted that neighbours and carers in the community were helping each other and there had been a good community spirit in the village with social distanced singing and chatting.

#### **Item 14 - Correspondence**

Correspondence noted.

<b>From</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
Corido	Bench ready for delivery	Delivered
NY Police	Monthly updates	Noted
NALC	White Rose Updates	Noted
YDNPA	Coronavirus Community Fund Open	Noted
PFK Littlejohn	Annual Return Instructions	Actioned
RDC	Community Support in response to Covid-19. Business ratepayers support fund	Advised Parish Room Committee – grant applied for
Citizens Advice	Update to Services	Poster

NALC	Briefing on Remote Meetings	Noted
NALC	Advice regarding Annual Meeting of the PC	Agreed to postpone
NYCC	Consultation on Developer Contributions for Education	Noted
A Goulthorpe	Grass cutting not commencing due to Coronavirus restrictions and maintenance company not supporting/mending the machinery	Noted. Villagers and Councillors cut the VG during this period.
YLCA	Support the Community	Noted
YDNPA	Parish Forums cancelled	Noted

#### Correspondence sent from 12 March – 12 June 2020

Recipient	Description	Comments
Strutt & Parker	Letter to EW Estate advising of the gate access to the Middle Fell being padlocked.	Strutt & Parker to instruct gamekeepers to remove chain and padlock.
NYCC Highways	Email to Highways regarding tractor outside 2 Fell View	Reply advising not a Highway issue if tractor is road legal. If causing an obstruction report to NY Police, or seek negotiations with owner.
Names removed	Letter advising of NYCC response.	Item on the Agenda for June

#### **Item 15 - Planning**

To consider planning applications received (Appendix 1)

Reference No.	Proposal	Comment	Date
R/89/16E	full planning permission for siting of Shepherds Hut for use as holiday accommodation at 22 East Witton	None	Consulted 16/03/20
20/00169/FULL	Full Planning Permission for Demolition of Existing Agricultural Building and Erection of a Steel Portal Framed Building for Equine Purposes at Fleets Farm, East Witton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4SR	Broadly support but queried height and extended yard boundary	Consulted 16/04/20 Response 07/05/20
20/00169/FULL	Full Planning Permission for Demolition of Existing Agricultural Building and Erection of a Steel Portal Framed Building for Equine Purposes (New Location Plan (Repositioned Site Area to Avoid Flood Zone - Dated 2nd June 2020) at Fleets Farm, East Witton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4SR - AMENDED PROPOSAL	No Comments	Consulted 02/06/20
R/89/115N	Householder planning permission for construction of raised decking area in garden (retrospective) at Grange Farm, East Witton	No Comments	Consulted 04/06/20

#### **Planning Decisions**

Reference No.	Proposal	Decision	Date
R/89/1D	Full planning permission for creation of parking area (retrospective) at The Chapel, East Witton	Withdrawn	02/04/20
R/89/103M	Full planning permission for erection of agricultural building to cover an existing livestock feed area and to encompass a new area of additional space for feeding livestock at Lowthorpe Farm, Lowthorpe, East Witton	Granted	24/01/20  (omitted from March sheet in error)

To consider any other planning related issue:

Cllr. Dent raised a query in respect of 1 Jervaulx Cottages, which was currently undergoing restoration. No planning application has been received for the work. Clerk to contact Richmondshire District Council to query if the work was being undertaken as permitted development.

**Appointment of YLCA Representative**

Cllr. Dent was appointed as the Parish Council YLCA representative.

**Item 16 - To note matters for information and items for next meeting agenda**

Quoits Pitch Covers

Cllr. Fullerton raised the issue of the condition of the quoits pitch covers. They are rotten and dangerous. It was noted that there is no longer a quoits team or a committee responsible for the upkeep. Is it a PC matter?

Cars Parking on the Village Green

Cllr. Wells raised an issue in respect of overnight parking on the village green outside No. 26 East Witton. To monitor and if a regular occurrence, the Estate be notified.

Highway Verges – Braithwaite Lane

Concerns have been raised by villagers over the spraying of the field boundaries by the new owners of East Witton Lodge. This has killed off a lot of the wildflowers on the adjacent verges to the highway. This is a real shame as the verges are a haven for insects and bees and are rich in diverse species of wildflowers and grasses. It was thought that a letter to the new owners asking that the spraying be limited to the land in their ownership, with care not to spray the verges, would be appreciated.

**Item 17 - To confirm date and time of next meeting**

Date of the next meeting is 09 September 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

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

Signature.....

Date.....