



ALLERTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Unconfirmed Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 195 Allerthorpe Village Hall on Monday 27th September 2023 at 7.30pm

Present:

Debbie Forster	Chairperson
Sim Wilkinson	Vice Chairperson
Mike Sutton	Parish Councillor
Kevin Wright	Parish Councillor
Clare Metcalfe	Parish Councillor
Jane Smith	Parish Clerk
Leo Hammond	Ward Councillor

195.1 Apologies and Welcome

Lesley Mace	Parish Councillor
Chris Mace	Parish Councillor

There was 1 member of the public present. There were no members of the press present.

Ms Forster welcomed everyone.

195.1a Pre-meeting submission by parishioners in attendance

None

195.2 Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests, including any dispensations of pecuniary interest

None

195.3 To confirm minutes of the previous meeting:

PC Meeting 194. 28th July 2023 The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record, proposed by Mrs Metcalfe, seconded by Mr Wilkinson and signed by the Chairperson.

195.4 To receive general information/correspondence

Dog Litter bins – following the previous meeting the Clerk contacted the Dog Warden at ERYC, who visited the area near the south end of Back Lane and along the track towards Allerthorpe Woods. She did not find any evidence of dog waste bag litter at the time, but said she would keep it in review, and to contact her if the situation worsened. Mr Wright said people were still leaving dog waste bags on the floor. The Clerk asked him to send her photos to pass on to the Warden.

Telephone Box – the Clerk contacted BT with photos showing the poor state of the telephone box. It has been put on their repair schedule and will have new panels fitted and will be repainted in 2024.

Overhanging trees near Golf and Country Club entrance – the Clerk was contacted by Melbourne Parish Clerk re the trees on the tight corner after the Golf Club entrance. Ms Forster had already reported it to ERYC. The trees have now been cut back.

Lack of wheelchair accessibility in Allerthorpe – the Clerk reported how difficult it was for wheelchairs to negotiate the large gravel area in front of the Plough Inn. The only alternative to getting to e.g. the Village Hall from the North end of the Village was to travel on the road in to oncoming traffic round the sharp bend .

Mr Hammond said to contact the owners of the Plough, (Stonegate). As guardians of the common land in front of the Plough they must make sure it is accessible.

Councillor Hammond then addressed the Council:

ERYC design code – Mr Hammond explained about the ERYC Design Code. The government are changing the way planning works, to ensure that local councils and communities have more influence. It should be ratified by Full Council by January 2024. The Parish Council and individuals can respond. He asked the Clerk to put it on the website and group email.

Councillor Hammond said that a new job has been created at ERYC to enforce planning criteria for caravan sites.

Devolution – ERYC is at present in negotiation with the Government. Councillor Hammond is doing a Q&A session on Facebook to members of the public to inform them of what it will entail.

Speeding – Councillors Hammond and West are asking for a review of speeding policies. They feel policies should be more flexible so that local area can be targeted.

Police and Crime Commissioner - has released more money for bodycams to be used by Speedwatch volunteers, meaning that two, rather than three, volunteers are able survey traffic at one time.

Police numbers – are increasing in Pocklington, and the rural crime team has three more officers.

Councillor Hammond left the meeting.

195.5 To Agree Finance

a. Current financial position

i. Transaction reports, receipts and payments, 21.07.2023 – 23.09.2023.

There was one receipt of £1, for testing the new system of dual authorisation online payments.

Six payments totalling £1,100.72 were made during this period: 2 net salary payments for the Clerk; 1 office supplies purchase; 1 payments for plants; 1 payment testing the dual authorisation online payment; 1 payment for a stopped cheque which was refused by Santander.

ii. Summary of receipts and payments. 01.04.2022-23.09.2023

Total receipts are £6,967.97

Total payments are £17,362.68

iii. Bank reconciliation: On 23.09.2023 the bank balance was £10,547.12

Mr Wright checked and signed that the bank reconciliation and the bank statement agreed.

iv. Asset register. There have been no alterations to the Asset register since the last meeting.

b. New banking arrangements.

After some initial teething problems the dual authorisation is now working.

The Clerk's salary is now paid by monthly standing order until March 2024.

The debit cards have been received from Barclays but haven't been needed to date.

195.6 Village Hall

Mr Sutton explained that the Village Hall has received additional grants of £17,000 from UK SPF. These are being used for the disabled toilet, larger front entrance hall, accessible ramp by the front door and professional renovation of the wooden hall floor.

£5,000 has been spent on much needed damp proofing the hall walls.

The completion date will be the third week in October, and the Grand Opening is on Saturday November 4th

Mr Sutton asked if the Parish Council would consider paying for the painting of the inside of the Hall. The motion was proposed by Mr Wright, seconded by Ms Forster and unanimously agreed.

195.7 Broadband

Mr Mace sent a message in his absence that he was concerned about Broadband speeds in Allerthorpe. There was a mixed response when councillors and parishioners were asked if they were satisfied with current speeds.

Mr Mace has suggested that we should;

- Send a letter to BT/Openreach
- Ask villagers to record their received speeds at their routers at various times of day using the BT app. Screenshot and send in to Mr Mace for assessment.
- Speak to Seaton Ross parish about the procedure they used to register with KCom.
- Ask interested residents to register their interest with KCom.

The Clerk said that Allerthorpe PC had registered interest with KCom in January 2022 and quite a few residents had also done so at that time.

The Clerk will contact BT and KCom and work with Mr Mace to collate a survey of broadband speeds in the parish.

195.8 To adopt the following policies:

- a. Standing Orders
- b. Code of Conduct

Mrs Metcalfe proposed and Mr Wilkinson seconded that both reviewed policies should be adopted..It was unanimously agreed. Ms Forster signed each policy.

195.9 To review the following policy:

Financial regulations.

Two changes were suggested by the Clerk, to reflect our new banking arrangements.

Mrs Metcalfe proposed and Mr Wilkinson seconded that the changes should be made and the policy adopted. It was unanimously agreed. Ms Forster signed the policy.

194.7 Planning

Applications since last meeting

31/08/23 23/02050/PLF Double stacking of existing shipping containers and construction of covered access walkway at first floor level with associated access stairs.

Bond House, Pocklington Airfield

Bond International Ltd

Object on grounds of lighting causing glare at roundabout.

Proposed by Mrs Metcalfe seconded by Ms Forster

Decisions since last meeting

04/08/23 23/02363 Allerthorpe Conservation Area: T1 Rowan- prune branches away from telephone lines and reduce remaining canopy to match by approx. 1-1.5m

. T2 Cherry – crown lift branches by 1-2m to allow better clearance for vehicles.

T3 – Acer-prune branches away from telephone lines and reduce remaining canopy to match (by approx. 1-1.5m)

Chalcroft, Main Street

Mr Mike Sutton
GRANTED

31/08/23 22/01976/PLF Change of use of land for the siting of 3 holiday lodges with associated landscaping, erection of a staff/office building and increased size of pond (Revised scheme of 22/01976/PLF)

Land NE of the Reas. York Road, Barmby Moor.

Mr W Farrow
DECLINED

195.11 Allerthorpe Golf and Country Park

The clerk sent another letter to the Golf Club expressing concern about the lack of footpath between the entrance to the Golf Club and Allerthorpe village. There has been no response.

195.12 Waplington Lane

The Parish Council has had no further involvement with the uncertainty of who owns a part of Waplington Lane.

195.13 Thornton Lane

There is nothing further to report.

195.14 Trespass Group

No updates at this time.

195.15 Community Speedwatch

There have been a few surveys taking place, but it will be more difficult as the winter approaches.

195.16 Date of next meetings

22nd November 2023

24th January 2024

27th March 2024

Extraordinary meeting 11.12.2023

195.17 Meeting Close

8.48pm.

Signed Date

Appendix 1

County Hall Beverley East Riding of Yorkshire HU17 9BA Telephone (01482) 393939
www.eastriding.gov.uk
Lisa Nicholson Interim Director of Legal & Democratic Services

To All Parish Councils



Councillor Leo Hammond

Wolds Weighton Ward

Dear Clerk,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's, Cabinet member (also sometimes referred to as Portfolio Holder) for Planning, Communities and Public Protection. The community aspect of my role includes Parish and Town Council Liaison. I thought it would be useful for me to explain what my role in relation to you and your council is and give you an update on where ERYC is with trying to improve communications with you.

I very much see my role as Portfolio Holder as strategic, in the sense that I am here to help improve the relationship between Parishes and ERYC. As a Parish Councillor myself, and as one the East Riding Councillors who represents the ward with the most parishes, I asked for this responsibility when I was asked to take a seat on the Councils Cabinet. This is because I know what a crucial service you deliver for our residents, and how important it is that both councils work together to support our communities. As Portfolio Holder, I am not here to help you deal with individual day to day issues, such as a specific pothole, that should be raised either directly with the council using My Account, or through your own ward councillors who will be able to help you resolve this. I am instead here to help resolve strategic issues, such as communications issues, or if a certain service of the Council does not seem to be working with Parishes. Generally, though if you feel you have an issue you think I can help with, please do not hesitate to contact me, and if I cannot resolve it myself, I will try to advise on who can.

I am sure many of you will be aware of the 2018 Review into ERYC's communications with Town and Parish Councils. Though, slightly hindered due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, I am glad to say that the outcomes and recommendations of this review have in the main been implemented, such as the creation of a My Account Profile for every parish, and the establishment of cluster meetings with council officers. However, even with this work, the most recent survey of how parishes feel about communications with ERYC (done in 2023) shows that there remain serious issues. The main three being: long response times, long phone hold times, and lack of clarity about which council officers to contact.

To address these remaining issues, I am very happy to inform you that the Council has decided to launch what I have termed an 'Open Door' for Town and Parish Clerks to use to directly access the Council. This is in early stages, but I can confirm now that this will consist of at least two council officers whose role will be to take communications from Town and Parish Clerks and ensure issues get to the right council departments and teams to action. Crucially, this 'Open Door' will have a dedicated phone number, so that telephone communication as well as online can be utilised. Today (13th July 2023) the Council's Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee determined to support this proposal (I have attached the YouTube link if any of you or your Councillors are interested in watching the debate – the item is discussed at 1:01:38 into the video). Work will now take place to establish this function, with the aim of having it operational by the end of this year.

Extraordinary meeting 11.12.2023

I must emphasise the fact that this 'Open Door' facility is in no way shape or form supposed to replace My Account, and day to day issues such as broken streetlights or dog fouling should still be reported through this channel initially. If this channel does not produce an outcome, then that is when the new 'Open Door' system should be used by the clerk to a council to chase up the outcome. The 'Open Door' is also intended to be used for a clerk to be able to raise more complicated issues with the Council which cannot be easily reported through My Account.

I would also like to make clear that the 'Open Door' is not intended to stifle or replace any current working relationships with officers or ERYC Ward Councillors. If you as a Clerk already have a contact within a certain team who helps you, or if your Ward Councillors help you to resolve issues, please do not stop using these avenues of contact. I as a Ward Councillor try to work as close as I can with the Town and Parish Councils, and Parish Meeting in my ward to address local issues, and fully intend to continue to do so with my fellow Ward Councillors. I know many other Ward Councillors feel the same way. So, this new initiative is in no way supposed to replace the work done between Ward and Parish Councillors. It is simply intended to give you as Clerk a direct link to ERYC if needed.

I will update you further on this once we have a full picture of how the 'Open Door' will function. I think it is important that this is an evolving picture, and once it is established, it is reviewed with feedback from Clerks to see if it is working and if it can be improved.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leo Hammond', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Councillor Leo Hammond

Portfolio Holder for Planning, Police and Communities
Wolds Weighton Ward

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