

# Beswick Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 11 November 2015

**Present:** Councillor Ian Reid (Chair), Councillor Jackie Plowman, Councillor Kenny Quinn, Councillor Mary Scaife, ERYC Ward Councillor Phyllis Pollard (for part of the meeting), David Allan (Clerk to the Council), and two parishioners.

### 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor June Feasby.

### 2 Declaration of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests

No declarations were made.

### 3 Minutes

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2015 were approved (after deletion of Councillor Quinn's name from minute 12).

### 4 Installation of Eel Passage, Wilfholme Landing

Councillor Reid referred to minute 11 of the meeting held on 8 July 2015 and reported that, following further work carried out by the contractor, the situation was now satisfactory. His report was noted.

### 5 Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities

Councillor Quinn referred to minute 8 of the meeting held on 9 September 2015, and reported on progress towards setting up a Beswick Parish Council website, to be hosted by ERYC but maintained by the Parish Council, in compliance with the Dept. for Communities & Local Government Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities. A domain name, beswickparishcouncil.org.uk, had been registered, a banner photograph for use on the website had been produced, and further advice had been sought from ERYC on procedures for building the website.

The report was noted. It was agreed that Councillor Quinn and The Clerk proceed to set up the website and report again to a future meeting.

### 6 Bus Shelter (Northbound), Beswick North

Councillor Reid and The Clerk referred to minute 9 of the meeting held on 9 September 2015, and reported on subsequent developments:

- a. Updated estimates for repairing or replacing the vandalised shelter had been obtained; the cheapest were £1,093 + VAT for repair and £1,846 + VAT for replacement (including demolition and disposal of the existing shelter).
- b. The Council's insurers had confirmed their willingness to pay £993 (i.e. the repair cost less a £100 excess stipulated in the policy) towards either repair or replacement, whichever the Council chose.
- c. Towergate AIUA, insurers for the driver whose tractor had damaged the previous (wooden) shelter, had confirmed their willingness to pay up to £3,108.50 (the replacement cost), either as a payment

to the supplier of the replacement (glass) shelter, or by paying for a further replacement shelter now.

- d. ERYC had been asked if they would kindly consider providing and funding a new concrete or tarmacadam base nearer to the road, to give a better view of approaching buses. Following a site meeting, ERYC had indicated their willingness to do so, and to make related improvements to the footpath, in the current financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Quinn, and agreed that Towergate be asked to pay More Than Shelters (supplier of the now vandalised replacement shelter) their invoiced charge of £3,108.50.

It was further proposed, seconded by Councillor Scaife, and agreed that ERYC be thanked for agreeing to provide a repositioned base and, as soon as that had been done, a new shelter be installed at a cost of £1,846 + VAT, to be financed by a contribution of £993 from the Council's insurers and £853 from the Council's own funds.

## **7 New Surface Water Drain, Main Street, Kilwick**

Councillor Reid referred to minute 12 of the meeting held on 9 September 2015, and reported on subsequent progress and problems in the ongoing surface-water drainage works. Work had been ongoing for about one month and the contractor's operative had estimated completion would take at least two more weeks. ERYC officers and Ward Councillors had received two complaints about the prolonged nature of the work and its inconvenience. Councillor Quinn suggested that the difficulties encountered were at least partly due to the inadequate small-scale plans given to the contractor, poor or non-existent power cable protection, and the inefficiency of standard cable/pipe detection equipment. It is understood that a blockage in the outlet pipe towards Kilwick Beck (on privately-owned land) had now been cleared by Mr Gary Lancaster.

Councillor Reid also drew attention to damage to the verge on Lockington Lane as a result of storage of plant and equipment and spoil and gravel. The contractor's operative had indicated that damage will be made good on completion of the works, by grass seeding a dressing of new topsoil.

## **8 Planning Application, Kilwick Gardens Plant Nursery (ref. 15/01516/PLF)**

Councillor Pollard reported that the application was to be considered by ERYC's Eastern Area Planning Sub-Committee on 16 November at 2 pm. It was agreed that Councillor Reid attend if possible. [Note from The Clerk: Cllr Reid has subsequently been advised by ERYC Democratic Services that the comments submitted by Beswick Parish Council had been incorporated in the Sub-Committee Agenda papers; and that further concerns were best addressed to the Planning Officers. Cllr Reid will, therefore, not attend; Cllr Pollard will be attending and had agreed to ensure the Parish Council's concerns are addressed].

## **9 Parish Finances**

The Clerk submitted a report on the Council's current financial situation and outlook for the remainder of 2015-16. After allowing for all expected income and expenditure (including the new bus shelter, minute 6 above) it was expected that the Council would have a year-end reserve of approximately £2,500. The report was noted.

## **10 Public Transport**

Councillor Scaife reported on a recent meeting organised by ERYC to discuss public transport needs. ERYC had invited each parish to appoint a 'Transport Champion' to research local transport needs and possible solutions and improvements. After discussion it was resolved to take no action at present.

## **11 Beswick Footpath 18, Wilfholme Bridge/Three Jolly Tars**

Councillor Reid reported on a problem of access along the short footpath (c. 175 m) between bridleways Watton 19 and Lockington 4. The footpath is effectively unusable at present because of fencing and the proximity of the sloping bank of the Beverley-Barmston Drain. The problem had been investigated by ERYC (with members of the Parish Council in attendance) some years ago, but there has been no progress in securing a safe passage for walkers.

It was proposed by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Quinn, and agreed that The Clerk write to the Joint Access Forum (ERYC & City of Hull) suggesting re-designation of the footpath as a bridleway, to increase connectivity and encourage use of the countryside both on horse and on foot, and that Lockington and Watton Parish Councils be duly informed.

## **12 Policing matters**

Following a recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting in Beverley, Councillor Plowman reported on prospective reductions to police staffing, in particular PCSOs, which could lessen future police-community liaison.

Councillor Plowman also reported on a letter received from ERYC Community and Crime Reduction Resilience Officer conveying a warning issued by Humberside Police about recent crimes. In particular, elderly and vulnerable people were warned not to allow anyone in their homes unless they know or are expecting them. Warning posters had been supplied, which Councillor Plowman would display on the parish notice boards.

## **13 Correspondence received**

The Clerk circulated copies of the following recent correspondence:

- a. ERYC Youth & Family Support Service - re youth provision projects and funding. Agreed to refer this to The Village Hall Committee.
- b. ERYC Community Partnership Co-ordinator – re British Heart Foundation initiative. Agreed to refer this to Beswick & Watton School.
- c. ERYC Archives Service – re Parish Councils Photograph Survey. Agreed to invite Mr David Johnson to consider the request.
- d. British Red Cross, Yorkshire – re funding for a new Fire and Emergency Support Vehicle. Agreed to take no action at present.
- e. ‘Frack Free East Yorkshire’ – re meetings to consider fracking in this area. Agreed to take no action at present.

## **14 Rough Sleeper survey**

ERYC had asked for the Council’s participation in the survey to be conducted countywide on the night of 18 November. Agreed that this be done and the outcome reported to ERYC by The Clerk.

## **15 Next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Kilnwick Village Hall.