

TOWN OF ELLOUGHTON-CUM-BROUGH

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 6.30pm ON TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2012 AT BROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, CENTURION WAY, BROUGH

There is a duty under the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 Paragraph 14 for residents to hold an Annual Town Meeting (annual assembly) of local government electors. It is not a Town Council meeting but if the Chairman of the Town Council is present they must chair the meeting.

Present: 11 Town Councillors and 6 members of the public were present at the meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2011

It was agreed unanimously that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2. REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded the public that the holding of an Annual Town Meeting is a duty under the 1972 Local Government Act. It is not a Town Council Meeting but a meeting of electors to confirm the status of a Town or Parish.

Rather than give the usual wide resume of what has happened during the past year, the Chairman concentrated on just two issues that drastically affect the whole community.

a) Town Council Status - A year ago it became very clear that the East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) had two agendas, one for the Towns and one for the Villages. This is demonstrated across many aspects of their remit, including consultation with communities, street scene maintenance, forward planning focus, spatial strategies and civic identity. Whilst we had assumed that we were being treated as a Village by ERYC, it became clear that we were not on the Village Schedules and not on the Town Schedules – we were in effect “off the radar”.

Following a request at the Annual Parish Meeting in April 2011, the Town Council gave serious consideration to adopting ‘Town’ status. As a result the Council resolved to be called a Town Council instead of a Parish Council. The benefits have been immediate and tangible and ERYC now give us full recognition as a Town in every aspect.

b) Planning and Development - We are still “in discussion” with ERYC Forward Planning regarding their Core Strategy for the coming years. Dealing with the Forward Planning Officers is a real challenge, the Town Council is concerned at the lack of democratic accountability and we await the publication of their Forward Strategy document which was promised for Spring 2012. The core issue is the clear desire by the ERYC Forward Planners to pursue a massive expansion of what they consider to be “Brough”. This is not what we consider to be “Brough”.

For the Future - The Tesco application has been withdrawn, so outstanding issues as of now are the Brough South outline planning application which is to be determined by the ERYC Strategic Planning Committee on 26th April 2012 and the BAE Systems site, its medium and long term usage and the affects on our community.

3. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A member of the public felt that now the Tesco application has been withdrawn ERYC will be more likely to approve the 'Brough South' application. She had asked ERYC on what grounds in 2008 they had changed part of the use to housing without any consultation and without informing the Town Council. She felt the decision had been made illegally and is pursuing it. The Chairman confirmed that the Town Council had not been consulted, or informed, of the decision. The member of public further asked "where is the proof of the need for housing". The Chairman explained that housing targets and criteria for where to build are set by Central Government. Lengthy Discussion took place. It was noted that ERYC had written to 150 objectors inviting 5 representatives to attend a meeting with the Strategic Planning Committee at County Hall on 24 April 2012 to state their case for objection to the 'Brough South' development.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting at 7.10pm.