

# **CIVIL PARISH OF ELLOUGHTON-CUM-BROUGH - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2013 AT BROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: 10 Town Councillors and 8 members of the public

### **1. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2012**

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 of the Town Council introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that the holding of an Annual Parish Meeting is a duty under the 1972 Local Government Act. It is required that the Chairman of the Town/Parish Council must chair the meeting if he, or she, is present. This is not therefore, a Town Council Meeting, but rather a meeting of Electors to confirm our status as a Civil Parish.

As in previous years the Chairman of the Town Council gave a brief report before opening the meeting to the public for questions and discussions. He also thanked the Community Led Planning Group for their time and effort on the Community Led Plan.

#### **Chairman's Report**

"This year I intend to steer away from the mundane and to speak about what really matters. The ERYC Land Allocations Proposals and their Local Plan (Making it Happen) are central to our on-going concerns. We already have over development, over population, inadequate road capacity, inadequate parking, inadequate service provision, over-stretched medical services and a loss of our village identities. But the ERYC intends to inflict even more development on us.

In addition to the estimated 200 houses still to be built on the Bovis development, there are proposals for 750 houses south of the railway line on the airfield, 148 houses on Welton Low Road and houses and a large roundabout between Lowerdale and Welton Low Road. This equates to an additional 3000 people.

I also want you to be aware that if Brough South goes ahead, it will significantly change the shape, and character, of Brough and re-locate the commercial centre to south of the railway line. It will also draw even more people in from the outlying villages as it is proposed to include a large supermarket and other commercial outlets.

The Town Council, and a few residents, have responded to the ERYC proposals at every stage – but it is looking highly likely that the Secretary of State will approve the overall plan. I thank those residents who have taken the time to write to the ERYC.

I also must make reference to the Community Led Planning Group that has worked tirelessly for the past three years to gather, and document, the views of residents. It is to their credit that they have managed to persuade the Planning Officers to accept their draft report as evidence in the latter stages of the consultations associated with the Local Plan and the Land Allocations.

We must now await the final versions of the Planning Reports and to see if the Secretary of State signs them off as being agreed plans. If he does sign them off we must conclude that proper consultation and democracy has not yet reached the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Before I open the meeting to the Public I want to remind you that Town Council Meetings are preceded by a 15 minute time slot where members of the public are welcome to express their opinions or to ask questions. Additionally we have held, and will continue to hold, Public Meetings to inform the public of specific issues and to seek your opinion.

Full Council is normally held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month here at the Petuaria Centre. Committees Meetings are normally held on a Wednesday evening at our Office on Skillings Lane."

### **3. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Following questions surrounding the renaming of the Parish Council to Town Council the Chairman explained that the parish had already been designated as an Urban Development Area by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council over 16 years ago. Renaming the Council a Town Council did not give the parish any different status in that respect, nor did it give the Council any additional powers. However, it did significantly increase the profile of the community. In recent years it has been clear that the decision making processes that affect health, education, employment and infrastructure have seriously under estimated the needs and relevance of the community because strategic planning is focused around the recognised towns not urban development areas. The community's population is now over 10,000 and is much larger than the majority of the recognised towns in the East Riding. Brough already acted as a service centre for a much wider population, so it is important that the community is seen, heard and recognised.

The Town Council Chairman also explained about issues relating to the Town and Parish Council Code of Conduct which Members must adhere to. He explained that the Town Council can and does respond to consultations by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council on planning and other matters. Public opinion is taken into account and public meetings have been held. Campaigns against housing developments and/or petitions cannot be led by the Town Council but can be resident led.

Although an election had been called for a recent casual vacancy on the Town Council, there had been only one candidate. The Chairman encouraged residents to stand for the Town Council in the next local council elections to be held in two years time.

*The meeting closed at 7.30pm*