**Minutes to the meeting of Thwing & Octon Parish Council held on Monday 16th March 2020 at 7.00pm at the Church Rooms, Church Lane, Thwing**

**Present: Cllr E Peacock (Acting chair) Cllrs A Frost; G Coe; A Bannister; C Oxtoby; P Burdass Sandra Morrison (Clerk to the Parish)**

**451/20** Apologies **–** Cllrs McDermott and Sanders

**452/20** Declaration of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interest - none

Dispensations Issued **-** none

**453/20** It was proposed by Cllr Oxtoby and seconded by Cllr Bannister that the minutes of last meetings held on 10th February 2020, should be signed as a true record. Passed

**454/20** After discussion an agreed response to the Town & Parish Council Charter Consultation was drafted. Clerk to submit**.**

**455/20** A request has been made from Thwing PCC for the Council to overturn their decision made last year not to fund the grass cutting of the church cemetery under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. After much discussion it was agreed that our hands were tied and we must adhere to the policy laid down by NALC and ERNLLCA, and the resolution passed last year that, we were unable to pay for the church grass cutting under Section 137 still stands. Clerk to write to Thwing PCC

**456/20** Tree packs are available from Woodland trust to replace diseased and dying trees within the parish. A survey is needed first to identify which trees are affected. Cllr Coe to obtain quote for survey. Clerk to enquire if funding is available from ER

**457/20** A community group has now been formed to organise and promote VE Day celebrations. Bunting has been purchased, and road closure forms have been submitted (but awaiting public liability insurance from PCC).

**458/20 Correspondence for consideration and resolution**

1. ERNLLCA February Newsletter -circulated and discussed and training dates noted.
2. ERYC have advised that funding to assist with VE Day celebrations is now available. Clerk has submitted an application.
3. Cllrs Frost, Peacock and Coe registered to attend the ERNLCCA Social Media – Engaging your Community Course 24th March 2020 at Bishop Burton College.

**459/20** Traffic concerns on the B1253 and through Octon Village, were discussed, and Cllr Frost as the council representative on highway issues is to contact ER about the issues around the Octon Y junction. Proposed road signage for Octon was also discussed, following Cllr Sanders’ request for a warning sign. It was agreed that the location of a sign must be agreed first, as this may be subject to ERYC approval. Cllr Frost to progress.

**460/20** Lissett Wind Farm Fund is open for applications and Cllr Coe to obtain quotes for repair of Thwing Village Pump to enable the clerk to submit a bid before the closure date of 30th April.

**461/20 Finance**

* 1. It was proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr Burdass that the accounts to date be approved. Passed
  2. It was proposed by Cllr Frost and seconded by Cllr Burdass that a donation of £65 be made under Section 137 to the Play ground Committee. Passed
  3. It was proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr Burdass to approve payment of ERNLLCA Inv SI-691 £67.50 in respect of the Social Media training course. Passed
  4. It was proposed by Cllr Oxtoby and seconded by Cllr Coe that the payment of clerks salary for quarter ending 31st March 2020, plus expenses to date be approved. Passed

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**462/20** A meeting was held on the 13th March with Avieco to kick of the renewable energy feasibility study. The first scheduled community consultation was proposed for April. It was agreed that the sub committee elected to manage the project on behalf of the Council will be Cllrs Peacock, Coe and Frost with the clerk Sandra Morrison acting as secretary and finance officer. Passed

**463/20** The flooding at the Mere and spring sowing, and repairs to banking were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Frost and seconded by Cllr Oxtoby that as the Mere has in the past been used as a tip and the bank contains a considerable amount of rubble, coir matting would be purchased to cover the whole of the bank. This would then been sown with wildflower seed, and the flat areas with grass seed. Seed has already been purchased. Passed.

Further desilting is likely to be required later this year and the clerk is to look for further funding streams to cover costs.

**464/20** It was agreed that Cllr Frost should raise the issue of flooding, on the bend in the road adjacent to the Mere entrance, with ERYC

**465/20** It was agreed that due to the Corona Virus a flyer would be distributed throughout the community giving the telephone numbers of Cllrs Burdass, Coe and Oxtoby as means of a help line.

Cllrs Oxtoby and Bannister to distribute.

**466/20** Communication received from ERYC and from ERNLLCA proposes that during the current Covid 19 crisis, and the shut-down/restriction on public meetings etc., to ensure continuation of the Councils obligations and duties, powers are delegated to the clerk in consultation with the chair. Passed.

**467/20** Repairs needed to the mechanism of the church bells were discussed. The bells having not been rung for at least five years. Whilst the Council do not have the power to support the church as far as building repairs and maintenance, they do have the power to support maintenance of the clock and clock tower. It was agreed that the bells are an important asset to the church and community, and should be repaired to working order subject to cost. It was agreed therefore that quotes for repair of the mechanism should be obtained, with the consent and full agreement of the PCC, following which the clerk will look for funding.

**Signed as a true record**

**Chairman**

**Date**