

Cottingham Parish Council



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT COTTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES, 9 THE COTTAGES,
MARKET GREEN, COTTINGHAM
AT 3:00pm ON WEDNESDAY 11TH MAY 2022

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: Green, Kemp, Knight, & Medini
 Clerk: Kay

229 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made

230 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

231 **Exclusion of the Public: The Committee will decide if, due to the confidential nature of the business to be conducted, it is advisable that the public and press be excluded**

232 TO DISCUSS ONGOING STAFF ISSUES

232.1 Cllr Green stated unequivocally that the content of the meeting was confidential and must not be discussed with any third party

232.2 Cllr Green updated Cllr Knight on Personnel issues that had arisen since she was last able to attend a Personnel meeting

232.3 The Clerk informed the Committee that, following advice received from ERNLLCA, it would not be appropriate for the Personnel Committee to attempt to address internally the complaint that he wished to make against a Councillor and that it would, instead, need to be reported straight to East Riding of Yorkshire Council, which he intended to do.

232.4 Cllr Knight expressed concerns regarding Personnel minutes, including draft minutes, being in the public domain on the Parish Council website. The Clerk informed the Committee that, in order to meet legal and transparency obligations, they needed to be available but stated that he did not share them on the Parish Council Facebook page or the two Cottingham Community Facebook pages, like he does with Full Parish Council and Planning Committee minutes, as he does not believe it is an appropriate forum for them, and that, following negotiations with administrators of the Cottingham Community group, it does appear that administrators are no longer sharing them and are content to let him post appropriate minutes on the Parish Council page and share them to the group with comments turned off. Cllr Knight asked if the Personnel minutes being available for public viewing

in either the Parish Council office or the library would meet transparency rules. The Clerk did not believe that it would but that he would check with ERNLLCA

Resolved: Clerk to contact ERNLLCA regarding Personnel minutes

232.5 Cllr Green informed the Committee that, following the last meeting where a complaint against the Clerk and social media was examined and dismissed, she had made slight alterations to the response letter to the complainant and that it would now be sent

232.6 The Committee highlighted concerns they had regarding the Cottingham Unity group and the impact it was having on the wider Council. In particular, they were concerned that if the Clerk attended meetings of the group as the Clerk rather than as an individual, it might confuse the public into thinking the group was acting in conjunction with the Parish Council or with its approval. The Clerk stated that he had attended one meeting, along with the Chair of the Council, and had intended to attend future meetings so that the Parish Council was shown to be willing to engage with the group but that if it was causing concern he would happily stop attending, especially as the three Parish Councillor members of the group could report back to the Council.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 4pm

Signed:
(Chairman of the Parish Council)