

# EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Earswick Parish Council meeting held in Earswick Village Hall on  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>J Jenkin (Chair)</b>
		<b>S Wiseman</b>
		<b>W Gambold</b>
		<b>D Baxter</b>
	<b>Ward Councillor</b>	<b>I Cuthbertson</b>
	<b>Responsible Finance Officer</b>	<b>J Cook</b>
	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>S Leach</b>

**Members of the Public: M Leach, J Nicholson, P Leveson, I Jones, B Driver.**

## **1. Apologies for Absence**

None received.

## **2. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda**

None received

## **3. Minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> December 2006 and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

Councillor Gambold proposed the minutes as a true record. All agreed.

## **4. Officers and Representatives Reports**

### **4.1 Clerks Report**

The bus stop sign, which was blown down in the gales remains in the bus stop and needs refixing. **Action:SL**

The Councillors attention was drawn to a planning application for a touring caravan site across the River Foss in Haxby. Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would object to this application. **Action: SL**

### **4.2 Responsible Finance Officers Report**

Royal Bank of Scotland Current Account No.11589436 Balance as at 29/12/06	£500.00
Royal Bank of Scotland savings Account No.11589444 Balance as at 29/12/06	£7048.55
Lloyds TSB Business Account No.2118947 Balance as at 29/12/06	£14611.26
Lloyds TSB Financial Markets Bond Ref. No. LD85147358RD	£100,000.00

#### Uncleared Cheques

Cheque No 391	£102.50
Cheque No 397	£14.00

#### Uncleared Deposits

Deposit No 64	£46.42
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Total Free Assets £22089.73

Total Ring Fenced Assets £100,000.00

Total Assets £122,089.73

Mrs Cook presented the budget report to the meeting.

An asset register is now being compiled and Councillors agreed that it should include a column to record the replacement cost for all tangible items. **Action: JC**

#### **4.3 Burial Board Report**

A meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January. The new building is nearing completion and potential problems with parking have been discussed with City of York Council and the undertakers. Another request has been received to exhume cremated remains but no decision has been made yet regarding a possible refund.

#### **4.4 Foss Internal Drainage Board Report**

No planning applications pertaining to this parish have been received. The drainage board is to remove the wire and post fence along the riverbank and create new fences from the motorcycle barriers to the river. The Board have recommended that some pond maintenance be carried out in the summer and they will provide a quote for carrying out the work.

#### **4.5 Neighbourhood Watch Report**

Outdoor Christmas decorations were stolen from Lock House Lane during the Christmas period and shrubs have since been removed from a front garden in Shilton Garth Close. Residents have been advised to report suspicious vehicle activity in Lock House Lane car park direct to the police.

Two quad bikes have been reported driving across the front gardens of properties on Fosslands at 4.30 in the morning.

#### **4.6 Village Hall Report**

Next meeting 31<sup>st</sup> January

#### **4.7 Earswick Sports & Leisure Club**

Bowling Green - Councillors discussed the possibility of installing metal gates in place of the present wooden gates and opening the area to all residents once the benches are fixed to the ground. **Action:SW**

Social club – Councillors agreed to ask the Village Hall committee to consider taking on the organisation of an annual social event for the village.

Tennis Courts – Following discussion Councillors agreed that the tennis courts be made available for the use of all residents from 1<sup>st</sup> April. The courts will continue to

be kept locked as at present and the code is to be given to residents upon payment of £10 per annum, or part there of, per household. The code will be changed each April unless a problem arises such as vandalism when the code will be changed and all paid up households will be notified.

#### **5. Planning Applications**

06/02721/FUL – 122 Strensall Road – amendments to plots 5,6,7 to include a conservatory to the rear. No objection. **ACTION:SL**

#### **6. Precept for 2007/8**

Following discussion Councillors agreed to set a Precept of £12500 **ACTION:SL**

#### **7. Transfer of Land from the Thompson Estate to Earswick Parish Council**

The transfer agreement was discussed and councillors agreed that further clarification was needed regarding the use of the money to be transferred. Councillor Jenkin was authorised to sign the agreement pursuant to Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 relating to the payment of moneys and land at Old Earswick subject to satisfactory clarification. **ACTION: JJ**

#### **8. BMX Track and Toddler Play area.**

The RoSPA inspection has now taken place and it is expected that a satisfactory report will now be forthcoming. The Inspector also checked the equipment in the Toddler Play area and found that although it meets the British Standards current at the time of installation approximately 10 years ago it does not meet the current European Standards. However this does not mean that it needs to be replaced.

The Inspector has recommended that an Activity assessment be carried out for the whole village once the swings have been replaced, as it should score very highly.

Councillors agreed an additional spend of £25 to cover the cost of carriage to deliver the new swing seats as this had not been included in the quote previously received. **ACTION: SL**

The surface of the toddler play area needs blasting again and it was agreed that City of York be approached to seek advice on what type of preparation can be used safely to reduce the build up of algae. **ACTION: SL**

#### **9. Payment of Expenditure**

£41.70 – S Leach expenses for flowers and postage

£2.67 – S Wiseman – expenses.

£88.13 – Signs Express

£128.67 – J Cook for RFO wages

£325.83 – S Leach for Clerks wages

#### **10. Management of Public Open Space**

The tree mentioned at the previous meeting has now been moved. The enclosed POS has been inspected by a civil engineer from the Foss Internal Drainage Board who has also checked the hole by the path. He has recommended that the hole be dug out to check if it is a damaged land drain or a spring. Martin Whittaker is to be asked to dig this out. **ACTION: SW**

The engineer has checked the culverts across the ditch in the enclosed POS and advises that only general maintenance is required. Councillors agreed that the Foss

Internal Drainage Board would be the contractor of choice when the vegetation needs clearing out.

**11. Parish Plan**

item deferred

**12. Ward Funding**

no items at present.

**13. Items for the Newsletter**

Double yellow lines, information for prospective Councillors, advert for Village hall committee members. The village hall fundraising event, the arrangements for use of the tennis courts, dogs not allowed in to the play ground – must be left outside.

**14 – Items for the Next Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February.**

Mrs Cook gave her apologies.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Shirley Leach  
Parish Clerk