

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Earswick Parish Council meeting held in Earswick Village Hall on Wednesday 20th August 2008

Present:	Councillors	W Gambold M Leach P Norman S Wiseman
	Clerk	S Leach
	Responsible Finance Officer	S Millson

Members of the public present: J Nicholson, I Jones, D Jones, J Hepworth, J Gambold

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Anderson

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Norman declared a personal interest in item 8.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Councillors agreed the minutes of the meetings of 18th June and 11th August as a true record.

4. Officers and Representatives Reports

4.1 Clerks Report

- The sports equipment is more badly damaged than first thought but the replacement parts from Lappsett will be ordered providing the cost does not exceed £250. **Action:SL**
- Mrs Thompson and City of York legal department have now been notified of the Parish Council decision not to take over the nature reserve and the copse.
- Councillors were notified that they will need to update the register of Interests in line with the new Code of Conduct. **Action:SL+Councillors**

4.2 Responsible Finance Officers Report

- a. Councillors discussed the bank reconciliation
- b. The following expenditure was authorised
 - £500 – Martin Whittaker for the removal of the bike shed
 - £90 – Village hall for hire for the Parish Council meetings
 - £15 – River Foss Society, annual subscription
 - £5.86 – Sarah Millson, Stationery

Councillors further agreed to reimburse Councillor Anderson up to £100 for the damage caused to his chainsaw during the recent working party.

5. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were dealt with by the Clerk using delegated powers.

- a. 08/01788/FUL – 114 Strensall Road – Dormer to rear. No objection
- b. 08/01797/FUL – 4 Whitelands – single storey rear extension and porch to front. No objection.

6. Drainage in the Public Open Space

Mr Andrew Thompson has approached the Parish Council for compensation for damaged crops, which he claims is due to problems with the land drains on both land owned by the Parish Council and land owned by Mrs Barbara Thompson. Councillors agreed to commission an independent expert investigation. City of York Council has agreed to carry out the investigation and Councillors agreed an expenditure of up to £2000 for this work. Mrs Thompson's solicitor has agreed that they would be willing to contribute half the cost of the investigation into the problems with the land drain where it passes under her land.

Action:SL

7. Dates of Future Meetings

Councillors agreed to meet bi monthly on the second Wednesday of the month from October to December and then from January 2009 onwards.

Action:SL

8. Grass Cutting within the Scented Garden

Councillors clarified that the contract to cut the grass within the hedge surrounding the garden would now cover the cutting of the grass on the higher, outer level and that Martin Whittaker would be compensated for the loss of the contract to cut the grass within the garden itself by being asked to cut the equivalent amount of grass within the goal mouths instead.

Action:SL

9. Country Land and Business Association

Councillors agreed to invite representatives of the association to come to a meeting to discuss the benefits of joining.

Action:BG

10. Appointment of a Legal Representative

Councillors agreed to research the cost involved and the benefits of appointing a legal representative for the Parish Council in light of the amount of land that needs to be managed which borders other land owners.

Action:BG

11. York as a World Heritage Site

Councillors agreed a response to the request for views on the proposal for York to become a world heritage site.

Action:BG

12. Restoration of the Width of the Footpaths to the River

City of York require the width of the footpaths to be maintained before they will maintain the surfaces. Advice has been received that, due to the chemicals that need to be used the area will need to be sealed off for 24 hours after application. Councillors therefore agreed to approach City of York Council to explore the option of their carrying out the necessary work at the Parish Council's expense.

Action:SW

13. Items for Information/ Next Agenda

- City of York has clarified that Hoggs own the hedge on Strensall Road and need to be pursued for action to cut it. **Action:SL**
- Hoggs have been referred to the debt recovery section at City of York Council for no payment of the section 106 monies on Ilford Court.
- City of York council has confirmed that the highways and lighting within Fosslands is ready to be adopted and they are completing the necessary paperwork.
- The next team ward meeting is on 2nd September at 4.30 and the next public ward meeting is 9th October.
- The clearance of the ditch is to be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Shirley Leach
Parish Clerk