#### **EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

# Minutes of Earswick Parish Council meeting held in Earswick Village Hall on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008

Present: Councillors W Gambold

M Leach P Norman

Clerk S Leach

**Members of the public present:-** J Hepworth, J Hepworth, J Nicholson, I Jones, J Gambold, A Woodward, M Woodward, S Millson, J Gill.

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Wiseman, Councillor Anderson and Mrs Cook (RFO).

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

None received.

# 3. Minutes of the meeting of 9th January 2008

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

## 4. Officers and Representatives Reports

## 4.1 Clerks Report

- The newsletter has been circulated around the village.
- The date for the pond clearance has been moved to 1st March

#### 4.2 Responsible Finance Officers Report

- a. The bank reconciliation was discussed by councillors.
- **b.** Authorisation of Expenditure

£209 Odd job services for maintenance

£1125.42 – Thomas Sport for sports equipment

£500 maximum for Mole Control

Councillors resolved to only have the kick around area cleared of moles in future

**c.** Councillors agreed to interview to appoint to the RFO vacancy. Councillor Gambold is following up the appointment of an internal auditor.

#### 5. Planning Application

The following planning application was dealt with by the clerk using delegated powers.

08/00015/FUL 5 Earswick Chase – conservatory to rear – no objection.

#### 6. Insurance for the Scented Garden

The project has requested that the Parish Council pay £270 for the public liability insurance for the first year of the project, as the existing policy held by

the Parish Council does not cover this area. Councillors resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

#### 7. Playing Field Association.

Councillors resolved not to go ahead with the Playing Fields Association proposal to hold the football pitch under a Deed of Dedication.

### 8. Ward Committee Grant Applications

City of York Council has asked for the views of the Parish Council on the process for making application to them for Ward Funding. Councillors were in favour of the general principal contained in the proposal but felt that the system could be inequitable to smaller parishes.

Action:SL

#### 9. Parish Charter

Councillors discussed their response to the consultation being carried out by YLCA on the Parish Charter. Councillors agreed with the content of the existing charter but noted that the Parish Council does not always get either an acknowledgment or response to letters and enquiries within the agreed time frames.

Action:SL

#### 10. Footpath

City of York Council has clarified that it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain the width of the footpath from the hall to the river whilst it is the responsibility of City of York Council to maintain its surface. Councillors therefore resolved to ask Martin Whittaker to weed kill the grass either side of the footpath to restore its width.

Action:ML Councillors also agreed to explore the option of using Community Service volunteers/young offenders to carry out the work on a regular basis.

Action:PN

## 11. Land Transfers

Some trees in the nature reserve are thought to have caused problems with the land drain from Thompson's farm and the Parish Council has been advised that the trees need to be removed. As this is likely to be expensive, Councillors are reluctant to take over the area until the problem has been resolved. Clarification also needs to be sought that the Parish Council will not be held responsible for clearing or repairing land rains running across its land that are damaged through no fault of the Parish Council. Councillors resolved to organise a meeting with City of York Council prior to signing any land transfer documents.

Action:BG,ML

#### 12. Land Drains

The Parish Council has been advised to infill the hole created in the Public Open Space caused by a blocked land drain blowing back. Martin Whittaker is to be asked to carry out the work.

Action:ML

### 13. <u>Items for Information/Next Agenda</u>

- The Parish website is now up and running and the criteria for advertising on the site will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The next meeting for Councillors and Officers to discuss the proposed creation of a parish plan is on 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- The hole by the footpath from the hall to the river will be discussed at the next meeting.
- A request from the public has been received to include an item in the next newsletter reminding people not to block pavements when parking

The	meeting	closed	at	8 50nm
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Signed	
Date	
Date	

Shirley Leach