

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Earswick Parish Council meeting held in Earswick Village Hall on Wednesday 9th January 2008

Present:	Councillors	W Gambold P Anderson M Leach S Wiseman P Norman
	Clerk RFO	S Leach J Cook

Members of the Public:- I Jones, D Jones, J Hepworth, K Beamish, J Gambold, M Norman, G Offler, J Gill.

1. Apologies for Absence

None received.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None received.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 5th December 2007.

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

4. Officers Reports

4.1 Clerks Report

- The installation of a loop system is to be deferred until the acoustics in the hall have been tested.
- The land transfer documents in relation to the river access lands, flower meadow etc have not yet been received from City of York Council. **Action:SL**
- The proposal to increase the number of Councillors to seven will be on the next agenda. **Action:SL**
- The Parish Council has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Mrs Cook as RFO. An advert is to be placed for a replacement. **Action:SL**

4.2 Responsible Finance Officers Report

a. Councillors discussed the bank reconciliation report previously circulated.

b. Authorisation of Expenditure
£109.27 – Mike Harland, hedge cutting
£52.58 – Signs Express
£325.87 – S Leach, salary
£128.67 – J Cook, salary
£205.47 – Martin Whittaker

An internal auditor is still needed Councillors agreed to advertise via the notice board and newsletter.

Action:SL

5. Maintenance of the Balance Pond

5.1 A quote for £11304.90 has been received from Foss Internal Drainage Board. The work needs to be carried out in the winter months but as there is insufficient money available in the Precept the Parish Council will aim to seek grant funding to enable the work to be completed by March 2009.

Action:BG

Councillors resolved to liase with the drainage board to spend £1000 to carry out essential weed killing to the pond area this year to prevent the problems escalating.

Action:SW, PN

5.2 Working Party

A working party to clear some of the vegetation around the pond will be organised for Sunday 10th February.

Action:ML

6. Setting the Precept

Councillors resolved to set the Precept for 2008/9 at £13500

7. Planning Applications

Applications for conservatories to the rear of numbers 8 and 50 Earswick Chase were dealt with by the Clerk using delegated powers. No Objections.

8. Scented Garden Project

Councillors resolved to lease the area presently known as the Bowling Green to the Scented Garden Project for the sum of £12 per year. Councillors further resolved to agree to the Project's request for permission to install new wrought iron gates in the northern boundary facing the car park.

City of York Council has confirmed that planning consent is not required for either change of use or for certain structures to be installed in the garden.

9. Public Open Space

9.1 Further correspondence from the Land Registry has been received following the registration of the ditch in the Parish Council's ownership. As no direct approaches have been made by any householder to the Parish Council Councillors resolved to leave matters as they stand.

9.2 Councillors resolved to ask Martin Whittaker to remove any structures/fences on Parish land within the enclosed public open space with the exception of those relating to 6 The Village as per the letter previously sent to residents .

9.3 Councillors resolved not to sell any of the Public Open Space following a request from a resident to purchase part of the enclosed Public Open Space.

10. Meeting Dates 2008

- Wednesday 13th February
- Wednesday 12th March
- Wednesday 16th April – Annual Parish Meeting and PC meeting
- Tuesday 20th May – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and PC meeting
- Wednesday 11th June
- Wednesday 9th July
- Wednesday 10th September
- Wednesday 8th October
- Wednesday 12th November
- Wednesday 10th December

11. Goal Posts

Councillors resolved to keep the wooden poles in place but to also install the new goal posts purchased by a group of residents via a grant.

Action:BG

12. Signage

The new signs have now been erected.

13. Website

Councillors agreed to an expenditure of £100 to set up Earswick.com as a village website to be maintained via the Clerk.

Action:ML

14. Burial Authority

The new building is now complete. A decision by the Burial Authority is yet to be made as to whether the graves need rodding to confirm correct burial depths.

15. Items for Information/Newsletter/Next Agenda

Newsletter – RFO, website, working party, scented garden, internal auditor, meeting dates.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Shirley Leach
Clerk