

## **EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Earswick Parish Council meeting held in Earswick Village Hall on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>W Gambold</b> <b>M Leach</b> <b>P Norman</b> <b>S Wiseman</b> <b>P Anderson</b>
	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>S Leach</b>
	<b>Responsible Finance Officer</b>	<b>S Millson</b>

**Members of the public present: J Nicholson, I Jones, D Jones, Mrs J Hepworth, Mr J Hepworth, J Gambold, B Woodward, M Woodward**

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

All present.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None received

#### **3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Councillors agreed the minutes of the meetings of 20<sup>th</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 as a true record.

#### **4. Officers Reports**

##### **4.1 Clerks Report**

- The planning application for a touring caravan site in Landing Lane, Haxby has been refused by City of York Council
- Confirmation has been received from City of York Council that the Highways department has formally adopted Earswick Chase, Lock House Lane, Northlands Avenue and Whitelands.
- Councillors reviewed and updated the newly introduced Actions tracking sheet
- The agreement relating to the installation of a new land drain on Public Open Space has been signed by the Clerk, Andrew Thompson and Barbara Thompson and work is due to commence this week.
- The RoSPA play areas report has been received – no urgent action required.
- Councillor Gambold has donated £25 from the Chairman's Allowance to St Leonard's Hospice in memory of retired Councillor David Baxter who died last week having served over 30 years as a Parish Councillor.
- The Parish Council has received a number of complaints regarding large groups of rowdy youths gathering around the village hall area on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October. These were referred on to the police who it is felt did not respond appropriately. This has been followed up by Councillor Wiseman.

- Two complaints have been received about the use of the village hall car park for a supervised skate boarding session held by City of York Council.

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

**a.** Councillors discussed and agreed the bank reconciliation.

**b.** Councillors authorised the following expenditure

£500 – scented garden project (transferred via the Parish Council from CYC

£470 – Mazars for Audit

£37.01 – Advanced Fire Service for quarterly inspection

£90 – Andy Nicholson Joinery for repairs to notice board

£49.86 – Councillor Anderson for repairs to chain saw

£227.80 – Lappsett for replacement parts for play equipment

£1606 – Deans for grass cutting contract

£25 – St Leonards Hospice (from Chairman's Allowance)

£91.65 – RoSPA – for play areas safety inspection and report

£15.95 – Councillor Leach for ink cartridge

£500 – Hague & Dixon for new land drain.

Clerks and RFO salaries.

The following expenditure was pre authorised

up to £550 for skip hire

Room hire for parish council meetings

Advance Fire service for insurance.

**c.** Audit Report

The audit report has been received from Mazars with no outstanding actions.

Councillors Anderson and Leach carried out a spot internal audit of the accounts and Councillors have agreed to alter the budget report to record where an item has been pre authorised.

A claim is to be made on the Parish Council insurance following the theft of lead from the roof of the Village Hall (police incident number 12080117398) on 13<sup>th</sup> October.

**Action BG/SM**

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

None received

#### **6. Removal of Weeds from the Tennis Courts**

Councillors agreed expenditure of up to £200 to employ Garden Creations to spray to remove the weeds at the start of the next growing season.

**Action:SW**

As in interim measure it was agreed that a topical weedkiller would be applied.

**Action:BG**

#### **7. Member ship of the Country Land & Business Association**

Councillors agreed to becoming members of the association and authorised expenditure of up to £175.

**Action:SL**

### **8. Ward Funding for Swings**

Councillors agreed to an application for ward funding for swings on the Public Open Space.

**Action:BG**

### **9. Removal of Cycle Barrier**

Councillors agreed to request that City of York remove the redundant cycle barrier and make good the footpath on the river side footpath. A request for repairs to the southern footbridge is also to be made as it is missing a plank.

**Action:SL**

### **10. Restoration of the Footpaths**

Arrangements have been put in place for a community youth group to clear back vegetation from the two footpaths running from Earswick Chase to the river on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors agreed to hire 2/3 skips at a cost of up to £550.

**Action:ML**

### **11. Inspection of the Land Drain**

Whilst the blockage of the land drain on POS to the north of Lock House Lane has been resolved the land drain from the village hall to the river still appears to be blocked. Councillors therefore agreed to go ahead with the investigation into this blockage and ask City of York to provide advice on the best solution. Councillors agreed expenditure of up to £500.

**Action:SW**

### **12. Maintenance of the BMX Track and Public Open Space.**

Councillors agreed to organise a working party to cut back overhanging vegetation on the BMX track and to clear the trunks of trees around the POS to aid sight lines and improve safety.

**Action: ML,SW**

City of York has agreed to replace the bin by the BMX track.

**Action:BG**

### **13. Removal of Vegetation in the Ditch**

Foss Internal Drainage Board has advised that whilst the Ditch does not need to be excavated the vegetation both within the ditch and overhanging the ditch needs to be cut back. It will also investigate possible problems caused by an unauthorised culvert at the back of 10 the Village. Councillors authorised up to £500 for this work. Once the proposed date is confirmed the affected householders will be notified.

**Action:SL,PN**

### **14. Representatives Reports**

a. Burial Authority – Councillor Baxter, who had been a founder member of the burial board, was remembered at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Memorabilia has been stolen from a grave and problems have been reported with mole activity within the graveyard. The next meeting is 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

b. Garden Committee – A cheque for £500 has been received by the Parish Council from YorkPride and passed onto the garden committee. Mrs Mary Norman has resigned from the committee and a replacement secretary is yet to be appointed. A working party is to be organised to get the beds ready for planting and a further working party organised for planting.

c. Foss Internal Drainage Board – estimates to clear the pond are being sought prior to seeking grant aid. **Action:PN**

Councillors discussed the possibility of getting students from Askham Bryan to carry out hedge laying along the river footpath. **Action:PA**

d. **Village Hall** – The meeting is next week.

**15. Items for the next agenda/information/newsletter**

Next agenda – precept, memorial tree for David Baxter

Information

- Councillor Wiseman is seeking information about any obscured signs in the village which need clearing/cleaning such as the 30mph signs and will ask Highways to add yellow reflective borders to these signs. **Action:SW**
- Clarification is being sought of the proposed fees being introduced for tipping waste and whether or not Parish Councils are affected. **Action:SW**
- Councillors are aware of the proposal to install a VAS speed warning in the village which will be coming to a future meeting for consultation.

Newsletter

POS Working party 30<sup>th</sup> November, ward funding, Highways handover, Fosslands update, garden working party, donations of plants to garden, info on tipping fees.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Shirley Leach  
Parish Clerk