

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council held in Earswick Village Hall on Wednesday 11th November 2009.

Present: Councillors

**W Gambold
M Leach
P Norman
P Anderson
S Wiseman**

Clerk

S Millson

Members of the Public Present: -G Offler, I Jones, D Jones, D Hepworth, J Gill.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None received.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings.

Parish Council Meetings – 9th September, 22nd September and 22nd October 2009.
Councillors agreed the minutes as a true and accurate record.

4. Clerks Report

a. The ongoing action tracker was reviewed and it was noted that:-

i. The Ward Grant for £2000 for the playground had been approved.

ii. The work on the web site was progressing.

iii. The open surgery was to be held in the Village Hall on 14th November.

iv. The Internal audit is to be rearranged and the Form to Increase the Fidelity Insurance is to be checked and returned to Allianz.

Action SM, ML, PA

v. The problem of stones in the grass verge by the River Foss was being investigated by City of York Council.

b. The following pre authorised payments have been made since the last meeting;-
Clerks salary for September and October.

£341.00 to Homeskills Handyman.

£542.00 to Allan Dunford.

£9.12 to Yorkshire Water.

£225.00 to Martin Whittaker for Contracted work.

The councillors authorised the following payments:-

£26.25 S Millson, Stamps, stationery and photocopying.

£93.15 Playsafety Limited(RoSPA report).

£7.00 W Gambold, key cutting.

£34.50 SLCC course in Wakefield.

£50.00 maximum contribution for computer repair to clerk's computer.

£18.00 to the Village Hall for rent to hold the Open Surgery on 14th November 2009.

£20.00 charge from Lloyds Bank for the issue of a cheque which is being disputed.

Reference No. 73963275

Credits have been received from;-

CYC for Double taxation £51.18

HM Courts compensation payment for damage to the bus shelter £9.12.

5. Planning

None received.

6. Review of Standing Orders.

Councillors resolved to make the following changes to Standing Orders:-

Standing order 12 to be amended to include the following item:

'At the ordinary meeting of the council a public session will take place lasting no more than 15 minutes and it will be held after the approval of minutes. Members of the public will be allowed to address the meeting however, the session will be governed by rules set by the Parish Council. Such sessions form part of the meeting in law and shall be duly minuted.'

Standing order 70, 2) to be amended to the following:

'Any proposed contract for the supply of goods, materials, services and the execution of works with an estimated value of less than £500 is at the Council's discretion. For contracts of £500 and over the Council should (whenever possible) seek at least 2 quotes from reputable suppliers'.

7. Village Hall Signage.

Councillors discussed the sign on the Village Hall relating to the playground and agreed to purchase 2 signs for the playground and 1 for the Scented Garden to prohibit dogs and cycles from these areas. Councillors authorised a maximum payment of £150.

Action SW

8. V.A.S. on Strensall Road.

Councillors discussed the possibility of moving the sign to the Garden Village end of Earswick but decided it was beneficial in its present position and decided to take no further action at this time.

9. Fencing around the Pond.

Councillors discussed the fact that during the drainage work on the pond some of the fencing had been discovered to be rotten and was therefore unable to be reused. It was estimated that 27 meters of fencing would be required and they authorised a maximum payment of £200 to Wrights of Crockey Hill to complete the work. **Action PN**

10. Flower Meadow & River Access Land.

Councillors discussed the access problems to the land from the River Foss and agreed that the fence still needed to be removed as they had agreed in July. However, access to the land would need to be from Strensall Road and in order to keep the area secure a new fence (post and 3 rail) and gate with a boxed in padlock would be required.

Councillors resolved to obtain quotes for the work.

Action SW, ML

Councillors also decided to contact the Environmental Officer at CYC, Bob Mission, so they could seek advice on how to develop the area.

Action SW

11. Children's Play Area

Councillors were informed that the additional Ward grant of £2000 had been approved to further improve the play area this added to the £4000 already received. Councillors had already spent £4652 on the new swings which leaves a surplus of £1348. It was decided to obtain more brochures.

Action BG

12. Scented Garden

Councillors discussed the temporary closure of the Scented Garden and decided that it was to remain closed until the maintenance work was completed and the new sign prohibiting cycles from the area was in place. This was to ensure the Insurance was valid in case there were any accidents involving members of the public.

13. Public Open Space - Shrubberies

Councillors discussed the quotes received to provide the upkeep of the shrubs in public open space. It was decided to offer the work to Andy Hill and he is to be asked to do the initial work as soon as possible and he is to be given a contract to upkeep the area for one year from 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. **Action SM**

14. Public Open Space – Trees

Councillors discussed the problem of the overgrown trees in the area of the Village Hall and Tennis Courts and decided to contact the Probation service to arrange a working party to help clear the area. **Action ML**

Councillors authorised £20 to Councillor Anderson to buy a new chain for the Chain Saw and £150 to hire a shredder.

15. The Ditch

Councillors discussed the problem of the culverts and decided to cover the cost of removing the illegal culverts at numbers 8 and 10 The Village. Quotes for the work are to be obtained. **Action PN**

16. Ilford House Development – 106 money

Councillors discussed the £10,000 received from the development and decided to allocate the following:-

The Scented Garden will receive £1000 per year for 3 years commencing April 2010, £1000 will be allocated to the tennis court fund for future maintenance, £2000 will be spent on upgrading play equipment in the children's play area.

Councillors decided to approach CYC to ascertain whether the remaining money could be used to develop the Flower Meadow and River Access Land. **Action SW**

17. 2010 - 2011 Budget

Councillors briefly discussed areas of consideration for future expenditure and decided to look at cost to install a new gate and fencing in the River Access Land and to install drainage in the Flower Meadow. **Action SW,ML**

18. RoSPA Report.

Councillors had read the recent RoSPA report and felt the only area which needed action was the manhole cover in the children's play area. It was decided to concrete over the cracks. **Action PN**

19. Future meeting dates.

Councillors set the following meeting dates for the forthcoming year. Meetings will be held in the Village Hall and commence at 7.30 pm.

16th December 2009, and for 2010:- 13th January, 17th March, 12th May, 30th June, 11th August, 13th October and 8th December.

20. Items for Information/Next Agenda

Councillors listened to a report from the Ward Councillor concerning the 40 mph speed limit proposal on Strensall Road. Councillors were disappointed to hear that the proposal was to be looked at again by CYC. Councillors decided to write again to CYC expressing their disappointment in the delay and to support the implementation of a speed restriction at the Towthorpe Junction. **Action SM**

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m

Signed.....

Date.....

