

## EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>D Jones</b> <b>S Wiseman</b> <b>P Leveson</b> <b>K Pace</b>
	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>S Millson</b>

**Members of the Public Present:-** I Jones, D Jones, J Gambold, G Offler.

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

P Sapsford.

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

None.

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

Parish Council Meeting minutes for 8<sup>th</sup> August were approved as an accurate record by the councillors and signed.

### **4. Members of the Public.**

Comments were made regarding the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations, that a fire engine or police vehicle would be popular with children. A request that the Village Shelter could be put on the next agenda. A request was made for an update on the development of the River Access Land.

### **5. Clerks Report**

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

- i.** The Clerk had returned the Double Taxation form to City of York Council which had included 2010/11 and 2011/12.
- ii.** A redraft of the lease with the Village Hall had been sent to the Village Hall Committee.
- iii.** Work had been undertaken by the Pay back unit in the Enclosed public space and a bonfire will be required to clear the material. **Action D**
- iv.** The clerk had received a reply to the letter sent to Morewood regarding the development of the River Access Field. This has been passed to Councillors and will require a reply agreeing to the terms **Action SM,DJ**
- vi.** The clerk had received a telephone call on 10<sup>th</sup> August regarding a further incident with the alleged dangerous dog. The clerk asked the resident to ask the owner of the dog, who had been attacked to contact her to report the incident. No contact has been made.
- vii.** The climbing frame from Strensall which could not be accommodated in the children's play area may now be allocated to Ralf Butterfield school in Haxby.
- viii.** The clerk had received an updated quote to supply a stand alone hearing loop system. The original quote was for £750 plus VAT the new price is £835 plus VAT. A form can be obtained from the VAT office so that the purchase can be made with

zero VAT as it is for the use of disabled people. Councillors approved the purchase from the Ward fund. **Action SM**

ix. Regarding the lowering of the hanging bars Councillors decided that advise should be sought from the manufacturer. **Action SM**

x. The clerk had been asked by a resident to approach the enforcement officer regarding the building work at 17 Lock House Lane to ensure the work was in line with planning regulations.

xi. The clerk had received an e mail from BTCV requesting information as to why the councillors wanted a site meeting. Councillors decided they still want to meet with BTCV to discuss the quality of the work. **Action SM**

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

£24.00 to British Gas for service contract for September.

£216.00 to A Hill for Contract work

£672.00 to A Hill for Contract work

£72.00 to A Hill for contract work

£342.00 to Mazars for the annual audit

£6.37 to Yorkshire Water for the standing charge

The following were authorised:-

£11.04 to S Millson for stamps.

£21.93 to D Jones for a strimmer line and oil for work undertaken by the Payback unit.

£12.76 to P Sapsford for petrol for work undertaken by the Payback unit.

The Annual Audit had been returned from Mazars and there were no recommendations, the Annual Return has been displayed.

There has been correspondence from the Royal Bank of Scotland requesting a new mandate and paperwork from some Councillors as they have misplaced some paperwork. **Action SM,DJ,PS**

## **6. Planning Applications**

None received

## **7. Monthly Equipment Check**

There were no problems from the equipment check, although it was noted that the stepping stones were becoming worn and may need replacing a price is to be obtained. **Action SM**

## **8. Date for the Annual Parish Meeting**

It was agree to move the date from the 10<sup>th</sup> May to the 14<sup>th</sup> May. This would be for the Annual Parish meeting, The annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Parish Council Meeting. **Action SM**

## **9. Parish Boundary Line**

The Ward Councillor informed the Parish Council that Andrew Flecknor from City of York Council had spoken to her concerning the proposed increase in the number of Councillors for Earswick and that this proposal would be taken further. At the same time it may be possible to move the Parish Boundary line. Currently the River Access Field is in Huntington Parish but owned by Earswick Parish. Councillors proposed to write formally to Andrew Flecknor to request this change and send a copy to Huntington Parish. **Action SM**

### **10. Village Survey**

Councillors discussed the Village Survey at length and decided on actions to take from the replies. The actions were formulated and the results shown below, they will also be displayed on the website. This will be mentioned in the forthcoming newsletter with a comment that paper copies can be obtained by contacting the clerk.

### **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE VILLAGE SURVEY**

Leisure	Action	Progress
Investigate possibility of constructing a play area for older children on Lockhouse Lane Sports Field.	Consult with residents and CYC to assess suitability.	Residents consulted and agreement reached on location. Investigate provision of grants to purchase equipment. Estimated date of completion of play area 2015.
Improvements to the Scented Garden:	To pass onto the Scented Garden Committee the suggestions received together with the names of potential volunteer helpers.	Comments and names passed to committee-Aug. 11.
Desire for more sports/fitness facilities.	Investigate possibility and cost of marking out a fitness trail around the Public Open Space.  Consider improvements to the existing outside gym equipment on the Sports field.	Fitness trail measured out (Sept. 11). To be displayed on parish website (Oct. 11). Distance markers and noticeboard to be purchased and erected. Estimated date of completion-summer 2012  Sept. 11
Support for more community events for families and socials.  Requests for more clubs.	Pass suggestions to Social Committee for consideration.  Establish a “social network” section on the Parish Council website so that interested parties can set up their own groups.  Establish list of people who volunteered to help	Sept.11  Dec. 11  Sept. 11

	run social events.	
<b>Communications</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Improve usage of Parish Council website as a way of communicating events and keeping people in touch with each other.	Publicise website in next Parish Council newsletter. Update website more frequently.	Sept. 11  Ongoing
Utilise email as means of communication from the Parish Council to residents.	Increase features available.  Establish distribution list of those residents who indicated that they wish to receive communications in this way.	Ongoing  Sept. 11
<b>Travel</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Strong support for a cycle path to be constructed along the river from the end of The Village to All Saints Church, Huntington.	Parish Council to lobby the City of York Council for construction of a cycle path along the river.	Letter sent from the Parish Council to City of York Council –Aug. 11
<b>Traffic</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
50% of village concerned about speed of traffic from Towthorpe to Garden Village.	Continue to monitor the situation and request police carry out regular speed checks.	Ongoing
Overwhelming support for a 20mph limit on local estate roads.	Pass views on to City of York Council.	At Sept.11 meeting Parish Council agreed to write to governing Labour group outlining the wishes and support of the residents for a 20mph limit. Aim for limit to be in place by 2015.
Strong support for a further speed control sign to be installed on the approach from Strensall.	Consult with Highways and investigate funding options.	At Sept.11 meeting Parish Council agreed to investigate possibility of installing Speed Control sign. Meeting to be arranged with Highways Dept.  Sign installed in 2012.
Condition of carriageway surface in The Village.	Notify Highways but will need chasing to get action.	Ongoing

Cars parking too near junction of the Village and Strensall Road	Discuss with Highways and consider yellow lining of road near High Garth.	Highways informed, site visit carried out, proposals being discussed (Sept 11). Yellow lining to be carried out before year end.
<b>Environment</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Bulky refuse items require trip to the tip for disposal. Particularly difficult for older and non car driving residents.	Check with City of York Council to see if they offer a collection service for such items.	CYC offer a Household Waste Special collection Service for collecting bulky household items. A charge applies.  Publicise in next newsletter.
Good support for keeping dogs on the lead on public footpaths, public open spaces and on the village green.	It is already a requirement in York for all dogs to be kept on a lead whilst on public footpaths.  Fosslands Farm Management Company to be advised of findings regarding dogs on the village green.	Publicise in next newsletter.  FFMC advised Aug. 11.
Strong support for the village to have its own Environment Group.	Parish Council to consider and if appropriate seek volunteers from interested residents to form such a group.	At Sept. 11 meeting the Parish Council approved the setting up of a village Environment Group.
<b>Development</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Considerable resistance to further development of the village.	Continue to monitor planning applications and planning policy at City of York council.	Ongoing.
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Most people do not believe that the village is well policed with burglary, theft and antisocial behaviour the main issues.	Request higher profile police presence.	Discuss issue at next Neighbourhood Watch meeting (Oct.11) with Chief Constable.
High level of fear of crime, of all sorts, not reflective of actual situation.	Reassure residents using available police info./data via this analysis and/or newsletter.	Publish quarterly crime figures for the Strensall ward in the next newsletter (Sept.11).

Most residents want a Police service where officers know local people, where residents know how to contact the local police team and for the police to have a much higher profile in the village.	Invite local police team to attend Parish Council meetings.  Publicise police contact information.  Request higher profile police presence.	Parish Clerk to issue invitation to attend Council meetings and to provide details of meeting dates to local police team. (Completed Aug./Sept 11).  Issue Safer Neighbourhoods leaflet detailing local police contact information with the next newsletter (Sept. 11).  Discuss issues raised with Chief Constable at meeting in Oct.11.
High level of concern over unsolicited salesmen.	Issue guidelines to residents.	To be included in next Parish newsletter (Sept. 11)
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Contact unknown and/or coverage of the scheme not known.	Request Neighbourhood Watch re-issue list of coordinators and addresses covered.  Pass onto Neighbourhood Watch list of potential volunteers.	Request made Aug.11  List passed on Aug.11

**Action SM, DJ**

### **11. Neighbourhood Watch Meeting**

Councillors listened to a request from the Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator that Earswick Parish Council would pay for the hire of the Village Hall for a meeting with Neighbourhood watch co-ordinators and the Chief constable. Councillors agreed to pay for the hire of the Village Hall for 2 hours from 7pm to 9pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. It was also agreed that Councillor Leveson would be the Parish Council representative.

**Action SM**

### **12. Parish Council Surgery**

Councillors proposed to invite residents to an informal event on 12<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm to 9 pm in the Village Hall, where wine and mince pies will be provided. The event will be advertised in the newsletter and on the notice boards.

**Action SM**

### **13. Community Payback Team**

Councillors would like to use the services of the Payback team to trim the pond area on either side of the work undertaken by the BTCV, to prune trees in the enclosed

public space and to put in the 700 stakes for the trees in the river Access Land. It was proposed to request the stakes be put in on 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November and the other work undertaken as soon as possible **Action SM**

**14. Wild Flower Seeds**

Councillors had investigated the cost of purchasing 5 kilos of wild flower seeds to sow in the River Access Field amongst the new trees. However it was decided that the cost of £750 plus VAT was too expensive.

**15. Enclosed Public Space**

Due to staff at City of York Council being on holiday there is nothing to report on the possible sale of the land. **Action SM**

**16. Items for Information/next agenda**

Foss Internal Drainage Board would be cutting back the grass on the sides of the river and piling the river banks. They will also be looking at the structure of the footbridge.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m

Signed.....

Sarah Millson

Date.....