

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 11th June 2012.

Councillors Present: **D Jones**
 K Pace
 S Wiseman
 P Sapsford

Parish Clerk: **S Millson**
Trainee Clerk: **J Fisher**

Members of the Public Present:- I Jones, S Winspear, G Tate.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Leveson, Ward Councillor Doughty.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings.

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council both on 14th May 2012 were approved as accurate records by the councillors and signed. Minutes for the Annual Parish meeting on the 14th May were ratified.

4. Members of the Public.

Comments were received from Members of the public concerning the following issues:-

a. The Scented Garden committee want to know the deadline for the next newsletter so they may contribute.

Action DJ/JF

5. Clerks Report

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

- The Parish Council is awaiting a quote from Mr Thompson to make a commemorative notice board for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee;
Action PL
- The Parish Clerk had responded to a letter from the Secretary of the Scented Garden;
- The employment contract for the new clerk is under discussion;
Action DJ/JF
- Due to the difficulty in costing and locating the charging of batteries for a Xmas Tree from Speedi – Tree it was decided that Huntington Parish Council would be approached to see how their Xmas Tree and lights are financed;
Action JF
- The damaged notice board in Shilton Garth has been removed using the Clerk's emergency powers.

b. The following pre authorised payments have been made for May and June 2012;-
One clerks salary for May;
£48.00 to British Gas for service contract for May & June;
£1170.95 to Zurich Insurance.
No other payments could be confirmed as the clerk is awaiting the May bank statements.

The following payments were authorised:
Stationery expenditure to Mrs J Fisher of £18.85.

c. The Internal Auditor (Mr J McTurk) is still awaiting a response from HMRC regarding the annual accounts ending 31 March 2012.

6. Planning Applications

Planning application 12/01225/FUL, 18 The Village has been withdrawn.

7. Monthly Equipment Check

Councillors discussed the need for strimming and pruning the BMX track and agreed to use the services of the payback team. There is a hole in the sports field but it requires no action at present.

The children's play area fence is awaiting repair.

8. Scented Garden Benches

Councillors authorised £150 + VAT to Andy Hill to have four benches in the Scented Garden cleaned and restained, and to be back in situ by 8th July 2012. **Action JF**

9. Printing Diamond Jubilee Programmes

Councillors withdrew this item as programme costs were taken out of the proceeds raised at the Diamond Jubilee Party.

10. Weed Spraying/Maintenance of Footpaths and Tennis Courts

Councillors authorised £276 (incl VAT) to Andy Hill for weed killing on all footpaths from the BMX track and passed the tennis courts. **Action JF**

11. Strimming/maintenance of Pond Area

Councillors authorised £168 (incl VAT) to Andy Hill for two strims of the banking adjacent to the pond. **Action JF**

12. Cutting/weed spraying of River Access Land (including flower meadow)

Councillors authorised £480 (incl VAT) to Andy Hill for two grass cuts and weed kills of River Access Land, and £180 (incl VAT) for cutting the flower meadow and trimming the hedge, in September 2012. **Action JF**

13. Extra cut and weed spraying for Enclosed Open Space

Councillors discussed the current maintenance contract which covers two cuts and two strims. Councillors agreed not to authorise any further funding to cut the grass or carry out weed spraying in the Enclosed Open Space other than that already contracted.

14. Working With Your Council (WWYC) course and classes

Councillors authorised £30 for the Clerk to attend the WWYC course. They also authorised £18.84 travel and parking expenses to attend the WWYC training course in Selby on 16 May 2012. They also agreed to authorise travel and parking expenses for the Clerk to attend future WWYC training courses on 13th June, 4th July, 12th September, 3rd October, 24th October and 14th November.

15. Parish Council Meetings for July and August

Councillors agreed to move the Parish council meeting for July to the 23rd July and to cancel the meeting for August. The Parish council meeting for September remains on the 10th of that month. **Action JF**

16. Payback Team

Councillors agreed to ask the payback team to do strimming. They authorised £30.44 to Councillor Pace for strimmer cord and petrol to do this work. Councillor Pace agreed to hold this petrol in her garage.

17. Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)

Councillors approved the amended figure supplied by CYC of £2596 (excl VAT) for the VAS which will be positioned on a post opposite 235 Strensall Road.

Action: SM/JF

!8. Enclosed Open Space (EOS)

Councillors reported that meetings were held in May with residents whose properties back onto the EOS and with the Environment Group. Councillors agreed to accept a recommendation from the Conservation Officer at the City of York Council to remove 'inappropriate' species of trees, particularly those bordering fences. Councillors also reported that Askham Bryan College will send students to do this work, free of charge, after the nesting/growing season ends in September 2012.

Councillors discussed maintenance work of the ditch. It was reported that there is no maintenance contract for the ditch because it is not needed on an annual basis. They went on to say there is £500 in this year's budget for any ad hoc work on the ditch.

Furthermore, they discussed how work on the ditch is very specialised and that therefore, on the advice of the Drainage Board, needs to be carried out by specialists. Councillors reported that a tree has fallen into the ditch adjoining property 18, The Village, which will need removing. The Clerk was asked to write to the owner and ask them to have the fallen tree removed or to agree to have the Parish Council reimbursed if they have it removed.

Action JF

Councillors discussed the gates to the EOS. It was agreed they would be kept unlocked but shut by use of a rope.

It was reported that Andy Hill has already been contracted to cut and strim the EOS twice between June and October 2012.

19. Code of Conduct

Councillors agreed to sign up to the Code of Conduct. They asked the Clerk to send them the current register of interests so they may update it where necessary.

Action JF

20. Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor S Wiseman was nominated and seconded by Councillors present.

21. Items for Information

- Earswick Parish Council was represented at a Foss Internal Drainage Board meeting.
- There is a Ward meeting on 2 July at Strensall.
- The AGM of the Village Hall is on 14th June.
- Items for the Parish Council newsletter to be included on the next Agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m

Signed.....

Date.....

Sarah Millson
Joanne Fisher (trainee)
Parish Clerks