

## **EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

***A public participation session took place with Parish Councillors immediately prior to the following Parish Council meeting.***

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**Councillors present:** D Jones  
S Wiseman  
P Leveson  
G Offler  
B O'Connor

**Parish Clerk:** J Fisher

**Members of the Public Present: J McTurk, I Jones, P Doughty**

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Ward Cllr H Douglas.

### **2. Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations**

Cllr Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 13 as a relation is working for the company involved on a self-employed basis. He took no part in discussing/voting on that agenda item.

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

Minutes for the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

### **4. Ward Councillors' Reports**

Ward Cllr Doughty reported the following:

- Council Tax has been increased by 3.7% in York. 3% of this will be used for adult and social care, and 0.7% will be used for all other services. All but four Councils across the Country have increased the contribution towards Adult and Social care by 3%.
- The City of York Council (CYC) decision on the planning application to change Hall pig farm to an equestrian centre (16/02886/FUL Hall Farm YO32 9SW) has been deferred for further discussion on the reasons for/against development in the greenbelt, between planning officers and the applicant.
- Further work on the Local Plan is awaiting the results of investigation/comment on how the closure and development of the Strensall and Fulford barracks in York might affect the Plan.
- CYC Officers are compiling a more wide ranging policy on speed limits in York. It is expected that the decision on whether or not the speed limit along Strensall Rd will be reduced to 40mph will be made in May.

## **5. Clerk's Report**

The following pre-authorized payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017:-

- J Fisher's salary for February;
- £204 to LazenbyBrown Digital Ltd for domain name and web hosting;
- £13 to J Fisher for ink;
- £5.50 to J Fisher for Village Hall key cutting;
- £2,100 to Signs of Cheshire Ltd as 50% deposit towards new notice boards;
- £48 to Signs of Cheshire Ltd as 50% deposit towards polycarbonate for doors for new notice boards;
- £120 to Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd for mole removal (qtr 2).

The following amounts have been received by the PC:

- £0.28 RBS interest on current account for January;
- £1,750 grant from Groundwork UK for the Neighbourhood Plan.

£390 was transferred from the tennis account to the current account for new tennis court nets.

Advance Fire Services who check the Village Hall's fire alarm system and extinguisher had been sending their invoices to the wrong email address and had not chased them up. Only when the Clerk rang to query why no invoices had been received did this error come to light. This follows on from similar problems experienced last year. There were three quarterly inspection invoices to pay for £40.20, £44.70 and £40.20. There was also an invoice for £48 for a call out in October 2016 because the Village Hall Committee could not reset the alarm. The PC authorised all four payments. **Action: JF**

The following amounts were authorised:

- £22.38 to J Fisher for ink;
- £11.52 to J Fisher for postage;
- £13.20 to J Fisher for postage (tennis);
- £19 to J Fisher for stationery.

The Clerk has queried the Double Taxation sum with CYC and they are going to send a further £215.12.

## **6. Planning Applications**

The PC discussed planning application 16/02738/FUL 1 The Garden Village YO32 9TP (Alterations and extensions to existing detached garage to create rooms in roof with greenhouse extension to rear elevation and erection of boundary walls to side

and rear). Earswick Parish Council object to the proposed application for the following reasons

- Over domestication of Green Belt land;
- Formal water features not “natural” in Green Belt land;
- Hard landscaping not in keeping with Green Belt land;
- Tight lapped fencing over 1metre not in keeping with the surrounding Green Belt land;
- Concerns that this application sets precedence in the Green Belt.

Earswick Parish Council do not have objections to the extension to the garage. The Clerk will submit these comments on behalf of Earswick PC. **Action: JF**

The following planning applications have been approved by City of York Council:

- 16/02475/FUL 62 Earswick Chase YO32 9FY (single storey rear and side extensions);
- 15/02950/FUL Land Between 121 And 125 Strensall Road York (Erection of two storey dwelling with attached garage). The Clerk was asked to write to CYC to see why approval was given on this application without the PC concerns on access being addressed, particularly with potential modifications to Earswick roundabout under discussion. **Action: JF**

#### **7. Monthly Equipment Check**

The Chairman had circulated details of the monthly check to the PC. The play area equipment is currently being repainted. The benches in the play area and playing fields need re-varnishing (see agenda item 16). The benches and net posts on the tennis courts have been repainted, and there are new nets. The life buoy post needs cementing (Mr Hill will do this in the summer). The equipment on the playing fields needs re-varnishing. New gates at the Lock House Lane car park will be installed mid-April.

#### **8. Authorisation of reimbursement for Coffee Morning expenditure**

The PC authorised £4.18 to Cllr Offler for coffee and sugar purchased for Coffee Mornings.

#### **9. Disclaimer Sign for Lock House Lane Car Park**

The PC authorised £53.50 plus VAT to York Sign Company Ltd for a disclaimer sign for Lock House Lane car park similar to the ones at the Village Hall car park. **Action: GO/JF**

As York Sign Co. Ltd no longer accept cheques, the Clerk was asked to investigate on-line banking and making BACS payments. **Action: JF**

#### **10. Printing Costs for the Parish Newsletter**

The PC authorised £126 plus VAT to Inc Dot Com Ltd for printing of the Parish newsletter. **Action:DJ/JF**

### **11. Installation of Ceiling Panels in the Village Hall to Improve Acoustics**

Two quotes had been obtained from Floorscan and Sonata which were circulated to the PC prior to the meeting. Although the Floorscan quote was cheaper, the area of panelling was a lot less and it was felt the improvements to the acoustics would be less. Also, Floorscan proposed to suspend the panels by wire as opposed to being fixed directly to the ceiling. Sonata also offered three options for fixing – the PC want removable ones. The PC discussed and decided to apply for ward funding to purchase the panels at £2,650.80 (inc VAT) from Sonata Acoustics Ltd. The Clerk was asked to obtain a ward application form and pass to Cllr Ofler. **Action: GO/JF**

### **12. Village Hall Hire**

The PC approved payment of £295.75 to the Village Hall Committee (VHC) for hall hire during 2015-16, of which £21 related to hire for Neighbourhood Plan work. **Action: JF**

The Clerk was asked how much rent the VHC pays the PC for lease of the VH. The Clerk confirmed that the VHC was charged £144 per annum. The Clerk was asked to check through files to see if the VHC agreed to being charged the same amount of rent (variable) as the PC pay them each year for hall hire. The Chairman agreed to copy papers he holds on this subject.

**Action: JF/DJ**

### **13. Neighbourhood Plan Consultancy Work**

The PC approved £2,100 (inc VAT) to Yourlocale Ltd for Neighbourhood Plan consultancy work. **Action: JF**

NB Cllr Jones did not take part in any discussion/voting on this item (see declaration at item 2).

### **14. Moss Removal From Tennis Courts**

The PC agreed to obtain quotes on annual maintenance/moss treatment.

**Action: PL**

### **15. Repairs to the Scented Garden Shed Roof**

The Scented Garden shed roof was damaged last year when stood on by children. Yardmaster had confirmed that the necessary parts to make repairs were still available at a cost of £34.99 (incl VAT), which the PC approved.

The Clerk was asked to place an order.

**Action: JF**

The PC agreed to ask Mr M Whittaker if he could make the repairs once the parts have been received and, if so, to supply a quote. **Action: SW**

### **16. Maintenance of benches in the Scented Garden and Open Space**

The PC approved £440 to Mr M Wilson to clean, prepare, apply wood stain and varnish four benches in the Scented Garden, one in the playground and one on the edge of the playing fields. **Action: GO**

### **17. Centre retaining tape and fittings for tennis nets**

The PC agreed to reimburse Cllr P Leveson £140 (incl VAT) for her purchase of centre retaining tape and fittings for tennis nets, purchased from IT Sports Ltd. The PC thanked Belinda Turnbull for her assistance on deciding what parts were required.

### **18. Approval of 2017-18 regular/committed expenditure**

The PC approved the 2017-18 regular/committed expenditure as given at appendix A.

### **19. Authorisation of padlocks**

As all the gates on PC land will now have the same locks and keys, the PC authorised £31.88 to Baton Lock Ltd for three extra padlocks. **Action: JF**  
The Clerk was asked to contact the clerk at Huntington PC to see where they acquired a timed padlock and how they prevent it being stolen. **Action: JF**

### **20. Items for Information**

The Village Hall Committee held a successful wine evening. York against Cancer will be holding a similar event in July.

Decoration of the VH kitchen has been completed. The external doors are due to be painted. Strip lights and external lights have been fitted with more energy efficient lights.

The Scented Garden Committee has a plant sale on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. Any raffle prizes and cakes would be welcome.

The Foss Internal Drainage Board (FIDB) will be piling the Foss from the concrete bridge towards Huntington later in the year.

Yorkshire Water feel there may be a problem with water pressure and are running tests at Landing Lane and the end of The Village.

Cllr Wiseman has asked for reinforcement at the foot of the concrete bridge where there has been erosion. In 2006/7 plans were submitted for a new bridge at a higher level. Richard Hoyland from the Highways Dept has said the funds are not available now but he would want to include the option in future funding plans.

The Submission Version of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has been sent to the CYC. They will hold a 6 week consultation for all stakeholders to ensure their comments have been incorporated in the Submission Version of the NP where legally obliged. Once this 6 week consultation has been completed the NP document will be sent to an independent examiner after which a referendum with local residents will be held.

Cold callers have been reported to Trading Standards. Only electioneers are permitted to cold call.

Change of Date: The Annual Meeting of the Parish will now take place on

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 commencing at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Joanne Fisher  
(Parish Clerk)

**Signed:** ..... **Date:** .....

**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL - PRE-AUTHORISED PAYMENTS 2017/18**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Total authorised up to &amp; incl VAT £</b>
Maintenance Contract: <i>Grass cutting, strimming, weedkilling, marking out football pitch</i>	A. Hill	8,616
<i>Cutting hedges &amp; shrubs</i>	A. Hill	1,152
River side hedge cutting	M Harland	102
Clerk's salary	J Fisher	4,990
Village Hall Boiler Heating Maintenance	Reynolds Plumbing & heating	100
Quarterly Fire Equipt Maint	Advance Fire Services	244
Water Rates	Yorkshire Water	35
Mole Treatment	Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd	530
YLCA membership	YLCA	300
SLCC membership	SLCC	114
River Foss Society membership	River Foss Society	27
Audit Fee	PKF Littlejohn LLP	278
Data Protection Licence	Information Commissioner	43
ROSPA	Playsafety Ltd	172
Website Domain name & word press hosting	LazenbyBrown Digital Ltd	214
Bus stop lease	Mr & Mrs Beaumont	100
Maintenance of Scented Garden Lawn	R Warriner	70
Insurance	Zurich Municipal	988

**Agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 27th March 2017**

Chairman.....*D. J. Jones*.....

Councillor.....*B. A. Arsenian*.....

Date.....*27.3.17*.....