

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 13th November 2017.

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

Parish Clerk: J Fisher

Members of the Public Present: I Jones, W Gambold.

1. Apologies for absence

Ward Cllrs Doughty and Douglas.

2. Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations

None.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes for the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on the 9th October 2017, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

4. Ward Councillors' Reports

None.

5. Clerk's Report

The following pre-authorised payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 9th October 2017:-

- J Fisher's salary for October;
- £120 to A Hill for Diamond wood grass and path cut in August
- £48 to A Hill for River Footpath cut in August;
- £84 to A Hill for cutting Centenary Wood in August;
- £900 to A Hill for grass cutting in August;
- £120 to A Hill for Diamond wood grass and path cut in September
- £84 to A Hill for footpath weed kill in September;
- £156 to A Hill for Pond strimming in September;
- £48 to A Hill for River footpath cut in September;
- £84 to A Hill for Centenary Wood cut in September;
- £780 to A Hill for grass cutting in September
- £81.60 to Signs Express York for signs;

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

- £19.90 to J Pace for plants;
- £79.80 to Playsafety Ltd for play equipment inspection;
- £2171.11 to Sovereign Play Equipment as 20% deposit for new Sports Field Play Equipt;

The following amount has been received by the PC since reported at the last meeting on the 9th October 2017:

- £0.58 interest on the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) savings account.

The PC authorised a payment to Fiona Hill for emergency clerk duties.

6. Planning Applications

The Parish Council considered the following application and recorded no objection on planning grounds:

- 17/02393/FUL Fossbank Boarding Kennels, Strensall Rd YO32 9SJ (Erection of four detached dwellings, garages and associated access following demolition of existing buildings);

and the City of York Council's (CYC) has approved the following planning applications:

- 17/01565/FUL 37 Earswick Chase, YO32 9FZ (Two storey side extension to form garage, self-contained annex and single storey side and rear extensions to link to main dwelling and relocation of boundary wall);
- 17/01996/FUL 18 Lock House Lane YO32 9FT (Erection of single storey store to side elevation and replacement of boundary fence with brick wall to side).

7. Monthly Equipment Check

The Chairman had circulated details of the monthly check to the PC prior to the meeting. RoSPA checks earlier in the year had reported no problems with the playground matting near the slide. However, the PC felt this matting will soon require attention. The Clerk was asked to record the issue on the action list.

Action: JF

The PC thanked the Chairman for adjusting the life buoy brackets.

8. Sports Field Fence and Equipment for Children's Play Area

The PC decided to postpone discussion on a possible new fence until the site for the new Sports Field equipment was agreed.

Following the Village Hall Committee (VHC) meeting, it was reported the VHC might contribute to new play equipment, for the children's playground near the VH, once the options and costs are known. The PC agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

9. Parish Online

The PC approved £33.60 to Getmapping PLC for Parish Online annual subscription renewal. **Action: JF**

10. Laptop Support

The PC approved up to £125 to PC Knowhow for the PC laptop annual support agreement. The PC will do a review of IT in the New Year. **Action: JF**

11. Ratification of Payment to Sovereign Design Play Systems Ltd

The PC ratified a payment of £2,171.11 to Sovereign Design Playsystems Ltd, being the 20% deposit for new play equipment to be installed in the Sports Field in March 2018.

12. Budget 2018-19

The proposed 2018-19 budget figures were approved by the PC. It was resolved to increase the parish precept for 2018/19 by 3%, in line with inflation.

Action JF

The Clerk pointed out that, as in recent years, no amounts had been budgeted for any Burial Authority expenditure.

13. Diamond Wood Oak Trees

Lewis Tree Surgery had quoted £96 plus VAT to perform root ball preparation this year on three oak trees in Diamond Wood, with a view to moving them before any works commence on the CYC A1237 improvements.

They also quoted £108 plus VAT (per tree) to transplant these trees next year. The Clerk was asked to contact James Stephenson, who are acting as PC agents on the A1237 improvements, to ask him to include these costs (£420+VAT) in the PC claim to CYC. The Clerk will also ask Mr Stephenson to inform CYC that there are badger sets under some of the Diamond Wood Trees.

Action: JF

The PC agreed to write to MPs and Ward Cllrs to ask them to intervene with the Highways Dept to ask them to reconsider proposed engineering work on the A1237 improvements, eg traffic lights option.

Action: SW/JF

The PC discussed the possibility of a silver birch tree barrier to trap pollutants and assist with noise reduction.

14. Neighbourhood Watch Signs

The PC approved up to £100 plus VAT for new Neighbourhood Watch signs.

15. Bulb Planting

No expenditure required.

16. Internal Audit

Due to the Clerk's unforeseen family circumstances, the PC agreed to postpone the internal audit until January 2018. **Action: JF/BOC/DJ**

17. Wordpress

The PC approved £180 to Andy Jones for annual maintenance of Wordpress.
Cllr O'Connor would like Andy Jones to let him know about the process.

Action: JF/BOC

18. Mole Removal

The PC agreed to renew the Mole Removal contract with Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd, from 1st November 2017, at an annual cost of £480.

Action: JF

19. Items for Information

The PC will ask Andy Hill if he could cut back brambles at the entrance to Centenary Wood when he clears the ditch.

Action: GO

Following the erection of new signs which request businesses who perform commercial activities on PC land to seek approval from Earswick PC, the PC felt they needed a firm policy on what to do if such businesses do not comply. The PC agreed Cllr Wiseman will seek advice from Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA).

Action: SW

Cllr Doughty had supported ward funding for a new solar light on Strensall Rd. The Clerk was asked to investigate the cost of a long, thin notice board to be placed under the solar light, to show meeting dates.

Action: JF

Cllr Leveson reported that CYC has approved the change of use of agricultural land to an extension to the existing Huntington Cemetery, subject to certain conditions. Unfortunately the Burial Authority does not have enough money to follow this through at present. Huntington Parish Council has suggested that Earswick and New Earswick PCs, who are members of the Joint Committee known as the Burial Authority, should consider making financial contributions towards the cemetery and the old cemetery by Huntington Church. It was agreed Cllr Leveson will ask for a copy of any legal agreement.

Action: PL

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Joanne Fisher
(Parish Clerk)

Signed: **Date:**

Chairman's Signature:

Date: