

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 9th April 2018.

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

Parish Clerk: J Fisher

Members of the Public Present: None.

1. Apologies for absence

Ward Cllr Douglas, Ward Cllr Doughty.

The Parish Council (PC) noted the resignation of Gill Offler as Parish Councillor and thanked her for all her hard work and support.

2. Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations

None.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes for the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on the 19th March 2018, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

4. Burial Authority

The PC voted Cllr Sian Wiseman as the Earswick PC representative on the Huntington Burial Authority, to replace Gill Offler. Cllr Pat Leveson is the other PC representative on the Burial Authority (BA).

The PC discussed the recruitment process for a new Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer for the BA. They agreed the recruitment process adopted thus far by the Chair of the BA had not followed Yorkshire Local Council Associations' (YLCA) and National Association of Local Councils' (NALC) guidelines. Despite the BA comprising of representatives from Huntington, New Earswick and Earswick PCs, representatives from all three PCs had not been appropriately involved in the recruitment process, including the establishment of criteria for sifting candidates, the sifting of candidates and agreeing the interview questions.

The PC agreed to attend an informal meeting of the BA that evening and request:

- A temporary Clerk be placed at the BA until a permanent Clerk can be selected following the correct procedures, and following a review of the

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

Burial Authority Governance Procedures (or 'constitution') - as recommended by YLCA.

- The appointment of a new Clerk and the Review of the Governance Procedures to be ratified at a formal meeting of the BA.
- The current BA Chair consider their position and avert a proposal for a vote of no confidence following their disregard of YLCA and NALC guidelines, and the recommendations of the three PC Chairs.

Under the current BA Governance Procedures, each of the three PCs are represented proportionally based on population per parish. This means Huntington PC has five Cllrs on the BA, New Earswick PC has three and Earswick PC has two. This puts Earswick at a great disadvantage as it is very likely to be outvoted on any action to which it does not agree.

It has been suggested that future costs of the BA be divided between the parishes in the ratio 75% for Huntington, 20% for New Earswick and 5% for Earswick, to reflect population. However, Earswick PC's precept is so small, in comparison to Huntington PC, that 5% of any BA expenditure could have serious implications for Earswick's budgets. Earswick PC is, therefore, going to question the BA 'constitution' as per Clause 15 of said constitution.

5. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Training

The PC ratified a payment of £45 to Yorkshire Local Council Associations for GDPR training for Cllr P Leveson. The PC authorised a further £90 to Yorkshire Local Council Associations for GDPR training for one other Councillor and the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.

Joanne Fisher
(Parish Clerk)