

## EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

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

**Parish Clerk:** J Fisher

**Members of public present:** Six (check)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Wiseman.

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

None

**3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes for the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 18<sup>h</sup> March 2019 were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

**4. Ward Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Doughty reported that the Local Plan was going to public consultation, probably commencing in June 2019, because the Planning Inspectorate consider the removal of the proposed Strensall Barracks development from the Local Plan as a major change to the Local Plan.

**5. Clerk's Report**

The following pre-authorised payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019:-

- J Fisher's salary for March and April 2019;
- £100 to A Jones for installing Hallmaster booking system & changes to the website home page;
- £40.20 to Advance Fire Services;
- £108.79 to Society of Local Council Clerks Enterprises Ltd for book on Local Council Administration;
- £120 to Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd for mole removal;
- £115 to Yorkshire Local Council Association training for Cllr Bell;
- £1,018.56 to Sports Surfacing Solutions Ltd for tennis court cleaning;

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

- £7.37 to Yorkshire Water;
- £25 to A Jones for installation of Captcha on the website;
- £200 to A Jones website homepage redesign;
- £135.57 to Inc Dot Com Ltd for newsletter printing;
- £500.50 to Village Hall Fund for Village Hall income received by the PC;
- £4,020 to Alwoodley Developments Ltd for artificial grass on sports field;
- £840 to LJD Construction Services Ltd for lowering the Village Hall kerb
- £220 to Laurel Bank Locksmiths for replacing the Village Hall door lock and installation of a key box;
- £120 to M Whittaker for maintenance to benches;
- £120 to Mario Cleaning Service Ltd for April;
- £1,174.37 to Zurich Municipal for PC insurance;
- £303 to Yorkshire Local Council Associations for membership.

The following amounts have been received by the PC since reported at the meeting on the 18th March 2019:

- £3,801.59 VAT;
- £144 Village Hall rent for 2018-19;
- £60.33 Village Hall Fund contribution towards insurance;
- £22.01 interest on the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) savings account
- £0.41 interest on the RBS tennis account
- £530 tennis subscriptions.

As a temporary measure, all fees for hire of the Village Hall are being paid into the PC's bank account. This money will be transferred in full to the Earswick Village Hall Fund as soon as administration arrangements allow. £616.50 income was received during April by the PC on behalf of Earswick Village Hall Fund.

The PC approved £14.64 and £12.97 to J Fisher for stationery and postage

**6. Annual Governance Statement 2018/19**

The PC approved the Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 which was signed by the Chairman.

**7. Accounting Statements 2018/19**

The PC approved the accounting statements for 2018-19 and these were signed by the Chairman and Responsible Finance Officer. The Internal Auditor, Jim McTurk, had approved the annual accounts for which he was formally thanked by the PC. **Action: JF**

**8. Investment of £85,000 Section 106 Money**

Following the last PC meeting the Clerk had looked into investing the £85k with Vanquish, Aldermore bank and Virgin. Unfortunately none were able to offer investment to Parish Councils. The Clerk had asked Mr McTurk, internal auditor, to investigate and he suggested Sector Capital but the PC felt their products were unsuitable for the PC. The PC asked the Clerk to contact

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

Strensall PC to see if they have any recommendations for a bank/building society for investing funds. **Action: JF**

### **9. Planning Applications**

The Clerk had reported no objections to CYC planning department, on behalf of the PC, on the following planning applications:

- 19/00459/FUL 13 The Village YO32 9SL (Single storey rear extension);
- 19/00620/FUL Fossbank boarding kennels, Strensall Rd YO32 9ST (Change of use from dog grooming parlour to holiday cottage).

### **10. Monthly Equipment Check**

The artificial turf in the goal mouths has been well received.

The park slide platform has been repainted at no cost to the PC.

The protective matting in the playground needs replacing. However, the PC will consider this at a future date when considering the purchase of additional children's play equipment.

There has been no recent comment on the sports field play equipment.

### **11. Planning Seminar**

The PC ratified a payment of £115 to Yorkshire Local Council Associations for a planning seminar for Cllr Bell.

### **12. Captcha**

The PC ratified a payment of £25 to Andrew Jones for installation of a Captcha system because the Clerk was receiving inappropriate emails.

### **13. Extra Lighting in Earswick**

The PC has identified two areas in Earswick where they feel street lighting is inadequate – around 22 The Village and at the bus stop opposite the Vets.

Ward Cllr Doughty agreed to follow this up with CYC who had quoted £400 per sight for a 'design check', and then between £1,000 and £1,500 for each lighting column and connection. **Action: Cllr Doughty**

### **14. Speed Signs for mini-roundabouts**

North Yorkshire police has no record of any road accidents at either of the two roundabouts in Earswick despite a number of collisions and near misses having occurred.

CYC has two criteria which need to be met in order to justify the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) which the PC was considering, to indicate to drivers they are approaching a roundabout. One of the criteria is a record of accidents, and the second is a speed survey showing inappropriate speed.

The PC asked the Clerk to arrange a site visit with CYC to discuss options. **Action: JF**

**15. York Disability Tennis Network (YDTN)**

The PC resolved to allow YDTN sole use of the tennis courts from 6 till 7pm on Wednesday evenings with a nominal payment of £20 for the year, and with the proviso that the tennis coach (who will always be present) has appropriate insurance. Users of the Village Hall on a Wednesday evening have agreed to allow the YDTN players to access the Hall to use the toilets if necessary. The Clerk was asked to notify tennis members of this new arrangement. Any member who is unhappy with the arrangement can surrender their membership and apply for a refund of membership fees. **Action: JF**

**16. Painting the playground bench**

The PC authorised £50 to Michael Wilson to paint the playground bench. **Action:GO**

**17. Garden Village Land Transfer**

The PC approved and signed the Garden Village Land Transfer documents from Persimmon Homes (at no cost to the PC). **Action: JF**

**18. Flower Meadow**

Advice had been sought from Yorkshire Arboretum on how to restore a flower meadow. The contractor the PC used to remove the identified trees had been recommended. Following flailing, the grassed area has been opened up and wild flowers will grow. A number of complaints had been received by residents whose properties are close to the flower meadow. The PC will endeavour to warn residents when any future flailing of the area occurs. The PC agreed to contact the contractor to ask them if they could cut back flailed branches to the trunks. **Action: GO**

**19. Football pitch and sports area**

The PC discussed dogs on the football pitch. They agreed the option of banning dogs off lead could not be policed. They considered a fenced area for dogs off lead as can be seen at Wigginton. However, the preferred option for further consideration is a fence around the football pitch and exercise equipment, with double gates to allow access for the Foss Internal Drainage Board (FIDB). The PC agreed to obtain quotes. **Action: PL/SW**

**20. Scented Garden**

The Scented Garden Committee (SGC) feel there is too much grass imbedded in the flower beds. The PC resolved to obtain two quotes to dig up the plant beds, select the plants for replanting, place a weed membrane and reduce the size of the beds. A member of the SGC and Cllr O'Connor will meet with the gardeners supplying the quotes to explain what is required. **Action: BOC**

**21. Repayment of Village Hall Income for 2018-19**

The PC ratified a payment of £500.50 to Earswick Village Hall fund, being income paid to the PC on behalf of the Village Hall Fund during wind up of the Village Hall Committee.

**22. Hallmaster booking system for Village Hall bookings**

The PC authorised payment of £187 to Cllr D Jones as reimbursement for purchase of the Hallmaster booking system.

**23. Light bulbs for the Village Hall**

The PC authorised £12 to Cllr D Jones as reimbursement for purchase of two light bulbs for the Village Hall.

**24. Installation of footpath to side of Village Hall gates**

The PC authorised £2,790 (incl VAT) to LJD Construction services Ltd to remove and relocate part of the Village Hall iron fence, drop the kerb, form a new tarmac footpath and add yellow lines to a parking bay.

**25. Village Hall fascias, soffits, gutters, fall pipes, eaves guard, bird comb**

The PC authorised £1600 (plus any VAT) to Chris Parkin (UPVC specialist) to replace/install the above-mentioned items on the Village Hall.

**Action: JF**

**26. Earswick Village Hall Fund Bank**

Action for transferring banking arrangements to the Parish Council as Sole Charity Trustee for the Village Hall Fund is continuing.

**27. Baby changing table and toilet rolls for the Village Hall**

The PC authorised £119.54 to Cllr BS Wiseman as reimbursement for a baby changing table (£111.54) and toilet rolls (£8.00). The Clerk was asked to contact Martin Whittaker to quote on installing the baby table. **Action: JF**

**28. Village Hall Cleaning Products**

The PC authorised £31.15 to Cllr P Leveson as reimbursement for purchase of cleaning products for the Village Hall.

**29. Village Hall Leak**

The PC authorised £72 to Reynolds Plumbing and Heating Ltd for repairs to a Village Hall leak. **Action: JF**

**30. Reimbursement of telephone charges to J Fisher**

The PC authorised £50 to J Fisher as reimbursement of telephone charges for 2018-19.

**31. A1237 Strensall Rd Roundabout Improvements**

Residents whose properties back onto Diamond Wood have received letters from Lister & Haigh offering to represent them in claiming compensation from CYC if the proposed changes to the A1237 Strensall Rd roundabout proceed. Stephenson's Land Agents are representing the PC for the sale of its land for this development. It was felt there may be a conflict of interest if Stephenson's represented the PC over the sale of its land, and compensation for residents. Any Parish Cllrs claiming compensation will have to declare.

**32. Refund of CYC Neighbourhood Plan Grant**

The PC authorised £3,000 to CYC as a refund of unspent Neighbourhood Plan grant money. The PC formally thanked Cllr Jones for all his hard work on the Neighbourhood Plan. **Action: JF**

**33. Increase in Clerk's Salary**

The PC agreed to increase the Clerk's salary to £11.22 per hour (Paypoint SCP 22) in line with the 2019-20 National Salary award. **Action: JF**

**34. Items for Information**

On 25<sup>th</sup> June is an Executive meeting of CYC after which point any future planning in Earswick should pay heed to the Neighbourhood Plan.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Joanne Fisher (Parish Clerk)