

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 10th February 2020.

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

Parish Clerk: J Fisher

Members of public present: Five

1. Apologies for absence

Ward Cllr Doughty and Cllr Leach.

2. Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations

Cllr Offler declared an interest in item 14 and did not discuss/vote on this item.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes for the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 13th January 2020, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

4. Ward Councillors' Reports

Cllr Fisher reported the following:

- He has reported the potholes in The Village and Shilton Garth Close and asked for them to be included in the City of York Council's (CYC) schedule for repairs.
- Following recent injuries to two cyclists, provision of additional cycling tracks has come to the forefront. CYC are going to re-examine the option of making pavements dual use for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Upgrades to roundabouts on the A1237 will be delayed because they are to be integrated with dualling of the A1237.
- He will look into the possibility of providing no parking bollards for the Earswick VE Day event.

5. Clerk's Report

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

The following pre-authorised payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 13th January 2020:-

- J Fisher's salary for January 2020
- £109 membership fee to Society of Local Council Clerks;
- £143 to J Fisher for reimbursement of Team Knowhow protection for PC laptop;
- £440 for tree cutting in the public open space;
- £180 for website maintenance including backing up and updating wordpress, files, theme and plugins.

A cheque for £120 was correctly prepared by the PC in November for mole removal yet only £20 was withdrawn from the RBS account. RBS has corrected their error by making a £100 transfer in January.

The following amounts have been received by the PC since reported at the meeting on the 13th January 2020:

- £13.48 RBS interest;
- £254.84 double taxation payment from CYC.

The PC authorised £8.40 to J Fisher for postage.

6. Appointment of Internal Auditor

The PC agreed to appoint Mr J McTurk to audit the 2019/20 Parish Council Annual Accounts.

7. Planning Applications

None.

8. Monthly Equipment Check

Nothing to report.

9. Garden Village Noticeboard

A quote of £1,710, plus £390 installation and £102 delivery (all incl VAT), was obtained from Signs of Cheshire Ltd. The PC agreed it would submit a ward grant application for the full amount. **Action: JF**

10. 75th Anniversary of VE Day

The PC discussed the VE Day event which it has planned for the 10th May. It agreed it would sell tickets (£10 for adults, £5 for children aged 3 – 12) to cover the costs of the event which are expected to be no more than £4k. The PC agreed to authorise this amount for the event costs but with a view to full reimbursement through ticket sales. For expediency, the Village Hall Sole Charity Trustee had funded the deposits for Inspired Structures, Yorkshire Hog Roast and Speedkix, totalling £777. The PC agreed to reimburse Earswick Village Hall Fund this amount, being part of the budgeted £4k event costs.

The Clerk suggested insurance against cancellation of the event and was asked to approach Zurich Municipal.

Action: JF

A risk assessment for the event will be made.

Action: DJ

11. 2020/21 Tennis Subscriptions

The PC agreed the tennis subscriptions should remain at £30 for residents of Earswick. Up to 10 non-residents may apply for tennis membership at an annual cost of £55 – provided they obtain sponsorship by an Earswick resident. The PC agreed York Disability Tennis Network may have use of the tennis courts on a Wednesday evening between 8 and 9pm at a nominal charge of £20.

Action: JF

12. Newsletter Printing

The PC authorised up to £175 to Inc Dot Com Ltd for Newsletter printing.

Action: DJ

13. Village Hall Playground

It was reported that The Village Hall Sole Trustee has placed an order for new play equipment (costing £7,165.34 + VAT) for the Village Hall children's playground, to include a log rope walk, stepping stones, cradle swing seats and new swings.

This will be installed during week commencing 9th March 2020. The play area will be closed all that week.

A notice will be placed in the play area and hirers of the hall will be informed.

Action: DJ

The Clerk was asked to forward a copy of the latest RoSPA report to Cllr Wiseman.

Action: JF

14. PC Boundary Fence between Stablers Walk and Diamond Wood

A resident had approached the PC for permission to access PC land to replace his boundary fence, at no cost to the PC. The PC believed it had no claim to the fence and agreed to allow access over its land for this fence replacement.

15. Facebook

The PC discussed the option of starting a Facebook page but as they felt the website, newsletters and noticeboards were sufficient means by which to keep residents informed (and that it would be difficult to keep the page up to date), they voted against a Facebook page.

16. Items for Information

- CYC Highways were looking into a recent accident at the Earswick roundabout, and information gathered around Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in Strensall, before replying to the PC who have requested new VAS signs at the mini roundabouts in Earswick. Cllr Fisher said he would chase this up.

- Cllrs Wiseman and Offler attended a meeting between CYC and Parish Councils to discuss how communication between the two may be improved. A Parish Charter to improve communication is to be drawn up by CYC - with PCs being asked to contribute their views.
- Neil Ferris, Corporate Director of Economy and Place, CYC, held a meeting with the Yorkshire Local Council Associations (YLCA) and other interested parties on the 6th February to answer questions posed by Parish Councils.
- The Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator reported there had been no response to a request for information from residents, following a break-in in Earswick. This follows a break-in in Wigginton when jewellery and a car were stolen

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Joanne Fisher (Parish Clerk)

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....