

## EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

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

**Parish Clerk:** J Fisher

**Members of public present:** Two

**1. Apologies for absence**

Ward Cllr Fisher, Kate Pace.

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

Cllrs Wiseman declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 12.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes for the Extraordinary Parish Council (PC) meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

**4. Ward Councillors' Reports**

Ward Cllr Doughty reported:

- i. There had been three ASB incidents in Earswick during the previous weekend. As such, a zoom meeting had been arranged between Cllr Doughty, Philip Allott, various members of the Police, City of York Council (CYC) and the PC. As well as ASB, one of the main issues for discussion was the difficulty for residents reporting incidents via the 101 phone line.
- ii. Both Ward Cllrs Doughty and Fisher had written to the Director of the Council expressing their concerns regarding reinstatement work in Rowley Ct, following works carried out on behalf of Northern Powergrid. The Council Director passed the matter onto the Highways Manager. However, they felt the reinstatement work met the standards required.

- iii. Further complaints were made to York Council again – this time about blocked drains following the work by the contractors. The contractors were given until the 24<sup>th</sup> May to clean the area.
- iv. The PC reminded Ward Cllr Doughty that it was agreed in the Parish Charter that York Council would inform the PC of any works on its roads. This had not happened with this latest works. Cllr Doughty agreed to chase this up.
- v. A resident had made a complaint that the state of Strensall Rd had caused cracks in their property. A York Council officer will visit this resident.
- vi. Ward Funding will be used to repair the road surface at the junction of Shilton Garth and The Village.

*Two PCSOs joined the PC meeting and informed all present that the police should be visiting Earswick every night, as Earswick is on the police patrol plan for the summer. They were going to liaise with schools to establish end of school/exams timetables and put measures in place to curb any potential trouble. Residents should continue to report any incidents by phoning 101. If they cannot get through on the day, residents should report the following day. Residents are invited to email PCSO Andrew Smith at Andrew.Smith1@northyorkshire.police.uk – but this will not produce an incident number so calling 101 is the preferred option. The PCSO suggested the PC might like to consider allowing clubs such as a football club run by the York City Foundation to happen in Earswick, to maybe get young people to respect the area. The police would be happy to meet residents.*

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

The following pre-authorized payments (incl VAT where appropriate) have been made from the RBS bank a/c since the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020:-

- J Fisher's salary for December 2020, January, February, March, April 2021;
- For Village Hall cleaning:£90 (November), £60 (January), £60 (February), £60 (March), £90 (April);
- £240 for mole removal (qtrs 1 & 2);
- £240 for PKF Littlejohn LLP for external audit fees;
- £240 for cutting between trees in Diamond Wood;
- Business Stream payments for Village Hall water rates - £53.87,
- British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £76.17, £110.31, £90.88, £126.54, £81.45;
- Npower payments for the Village Hall - £40.86;
- E-on Next payments for the Village Hall - £49.37; £33.46, £39.58, £39.28;
- Business Stream payments for the field tap - £7.97, £7.24, £6.15;
- £112 membership fees for Society of Local Council Clerks;

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

- £154 to J Fisher - reimbursement for Knowhow laptop protection;
- £300 for hosting domain name and website updates;
- £28 for River Foss membership;
- £1,037.76 tennis court wash & moss treatment;
- £2,316 for flower meadow mowing, flailing and reseeding public open space;
- £360 for hedge cut & cleaning ditch;
- £2,172 for Lock House Lane car park, and goal post, repairs;
- £114 for riverside hedge cut;
- £15 to Yorkshire Local Council Assns (YLCA) for training;
- £315 for YLCA membership;
- £540 for Scented Garden hedge cut
- £876 for grass cutting in April;
- £120 for strimming in April
- £60 for river footpath cut in April
- £84 for weedkilling in April
- £36 for football pitch marking/weedkilling in April
- £48 for grass cutting Shilton Garth in April;
- £72 for grass cutting Garden Village in April;

The following amounts have been received by the PC into the RBS a/c since reported at the meeting on 7th December 2020:

- £1,193 Lloyds bank bond interest;
- £60 in tennis membership fees to 31.3.21;
- £845 in tennis membership fees since 1.4.21;
- £0.27 RBS interest to 31.12.20;
- £688.80 reimbursement to PC for bench purchase;
- £0.51 RBS tennis a/c interest to 16.12.20;
- £10,976 precept from City of York Council;
- £0.21 RBS interest to 29.1.21;
- £256.60 double taxation refund;
- £0.21 RBS interest to 26.2.21;
- £3,018.53 VAT refund;
- £12 Scented Garden rent;
- £0.50 RBS tennis a/c interest to 16.3.21;
- £0.23 RBS interest to 31.3.21;

#### **6. Closure of Royal Bank of Scotland Branch York**

The PC agreed the newly formed Finance Working Party would examine all banking arrangements and come back to the PC with proposals.

**Action: JF/BOC/AB/PL**

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

**7. Annual Governance Statement 2020/21**

The PC approved the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 which was signed by the Chairman.

**8. Accounting Statements 2020/21**

The PC approved the accounting statements for 2020/21 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**

**9. Planning Applications**

(a) The Clerk used delegated powers to record no objections from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- 21/00350/FUL 2 Northlands Ave, Earswick YO32 9FS (Single storey rear extension) – no objection;
- 21/00194/FUL Proposed Residential Development Site, Shilton Garth Close – no objection;
- 21/00541/FUL The Briars 358 Strensall Rd YO32 9SW (Single storey rear extension, raising of ridge height and dormer to rear) – no objection;

The Clerk used delegated powers to record objections from the Parish Council on the following planning application:

- 21/00237/FUL 116 Strensall Rd (Erection of 4no. dwellings with associated landscaping and access following the demolition of existing building). This application was withdrawn.

The following planning applications were approved by City of York Council:

- 20/01837/FUL 10A Willow Grove, Earswick, YO32 9SN (Single storey side extension);
- 20/02171/FUL 120 Strensall Rd, Earswick YO32 (Erection of outbuildings to rear to form two storey annexe accommodation and attached single storey garage following demolition of existing garage. New boundary wall to front with brick piers, railings and stone copings);
- 21/00350/FUL 2 Northlands Ave, Earswick YO32 9FS (Single storey rear extension);
- 21/00541/FUL The Briars 358 Strensall Rd YO32 9SW (Single storey rear extension, raising of ridge height and dormer to rear).

(b) The Parish Council agreed to include a reference to the Earswick Neighbourhood Plan in all future Parish Council responses to planning application consultations.

**10. Monthly Equipment Check**

A check was carried out by Cllr Offler and papers circulated prior to the meeting. The PC is awaiting a response to its application for a Ward Grant to replace the matting in the Childrens' playground.

### **11. Parish Council Email Accounts**

The PC approved £75 to Andrew Jones to create an email account for all 7 Parish Cllrs and the Clerk. The Cllrs will commence using these new email accounts before any transfer of the Clerk's email data, to see how well they operate and reveal any data storage issues, etc. **Action: All**

### **12. Consideration of Transferring ownership of hedge running between River Access Field/Diamond Wood and residents' properties on Shilton Garth**

(Cllr Wiseman left the meeting for this item)

Three residents from Shilton Garth had written to the PC regarding the state of the jointly owned hedge mentioned above, and requesting full ownership be transferred to them.

The PC agreed to withdraw the motion for the following reasons:

- The hedgerow has marked a boundary since at least 1850 and, therefore, is classed as an 'Important Hedgerow' as defined in the Hedgerows Regulation 1997;
- Any land transferred by the PC should be open to competitive bidding.

The PC appreciated the residents' concerns regarding the hedge and agreed it will not be cut this year. The PC will continue to monitor the situation and will do what it can to improve the condition of the hedge. **Action: JF**

### **13. Reimbursement of Telephone Charges**

The PC agreed reimbursement of £50 to J Fisher for 2020/21 telephone charges.

### **14. Ratification of Payments**

The PC approved the following payments:

- i. The 2021-22 pre-authorized payments schedule (see Appendix A);
- ii. £15 paid to Yorkshire Local Council Assns for training for Cllr Leveson;
- iii. 2020-21 payments from the Earswick Village Hall Fund NatWest Account (see Appendix B);
- iv. £1,323 to Advance Fire Services to replace the fire alarm panel, eight emergency lighting units and two smoke detectors;
- v. £10 to BS Wiseman for demarcation tape;
- vi. £48 to Yorkshire Local Council Assns for training for Cllr Dowsett;

### **15. Renewal of the Parish Council Insurance**

The Clerk had requested quotes from two insurers but only one had been received by the time of the meeting. The PC agreed to defer its decision until two quotes had been received. **Action: JF**

**16. Security arrangements for end of school term**

The PC agreed the Clerk would obtain a quote from Eboracum Security Services for two men to patrol Earswick 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30pm till Midnight.  
**Action: JF**

**17. Code of Conduct**

The PC agreed to adopt the latest Local Government Association Code of Conduct once two Cllrs have received the relevant training.  
**Action: SW/ED**

**18. Adding a volunteers page to the Earswick PC website**

A quote of £125 was obtained to add a volunteers' page to the website. The newly formed Website Working Party will do a review of the website and consider adding a volunteers' page. Expenditure not yet approved.  
**Action:BOC/AB/ED**

**19. Ratification of decisions**

The PC ratified the following decisions:

- i. To write to Julian Sturdy MP to ask him to look into the matter of inaccurate reporting of crimes on applications such as Walksafe, which are based on Police.UK data, and see if some controls could be implemented to improve the accuracy of such applications.
- ii. To forward a request from a member of the public to make repairs to the footbridge over the River Foss at the end of The Village, to avoid potential injury to dogs, to the Rights of Way Officer.
- iii. To inform City of York Council of the Earswick Litter Pick on Monday 7 June and Sunday 13 June.
- iv. To request Planning Enforcement investigate a possible breach of planning control on land to the rear of 112 Strensall Rd.
- v. To apply for a City of York Council grant to replace the surface in the children's play area.

**20. Items for information**

Regarding Item 19(iv) above, Planning Enforcement has visited the site and established the owner has applied for pre-application advice. The owner has been advised not to carry out any further works until planning permission has been acquired. He has also been advised he may have to rectify any breaches from works already carried out.

Regarding Item 19(v), the PC is awaiting a final decision

Cllr Leveson had attended a Yorkshire Local Council Assns (YLCA) zoom meeting. CYC is awaiting the next stage of the Local Plan. Neighbourhood Plans still 'hold weight'.

The YLCA is looking for a replacement Chair.

Cllr O'Connor had attended a Scented Garden Committee (SGC) meeting. The SGC has asked for plant donations through the Neighbourhood Watch network.

The SGC has a list of 10 volunteers who will help with work on the Scented Garden.

The SGC has to hold its AGM in June and this cannot be deferred as members of the SGC need to be elected.

Cllr Wiseman has attended 3 Drainage Board meetings. The Upwater Retention Scheme has started at Warbutts Farm, Northeast of Strensall – using fields as wetland. Ditches have been cleared and a dam will be built on the River Foss.

Cllr Offler has arranged two litter picks in Earswick for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June.

The PC was very concerned about the disruption caused by the Northernpower grid contractors in Rowley Ct, The Village, Shilton Garth and Stablers Walk. They very much appreciate Ward Cllrs Doughty and Fisher listening and acting on the PC's concerns.

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Kate Pace, had circulated the report at Appendix C prior to the meeting.

A letter had been received from Avison Young regarding the possible compulsory purchase of Diamond Wood by CYC for the A1237 developments. The PC are going to meet their agent to ascertain the compulsory purchase process.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.


**J Fisher**


Appendix A

**EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL - PRE-AUTHORISED PAYMENTS 2021/22**

Description	Payee	Total authorised up to & incl VAT £
<i>Maintenance Contract:</i>		
<i>Grass cutting, strimming, weeding, marking out football pitch</i>	A. Hill	10,224
<i>Cutting hedges &amp; shrubs</i>	A. Hill	2,352
River side hedge cutting	M Harland	114
Clerk's salary	J Fisher	5,824
Mole Treatment	Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd	554
YLCA membership	YLCA	325
SLCC	SLCC	120
River Foss Society membership	River Foss Society	30
Audit Fee	PKF Littlejohn LLP	278
Data Protection Licence	Information Commissioner	43
ROSPA	Playsafety Ltd	182
Website Domain name & word press hosting	Andrew Jones	450
Bus stop lease	Mr & Mrs Beaumont	100
Insurance	To be agreed	
Tennis Court Maintenance	Sports surfacing solutions Ltd	1,037.76
Field Water Rates	Business Stream	37
Plants for Earswick Planters	G Offler (as reimbursement)	100
Flower meadow & nettle flailing	D & J Stead Contracting	780
Village Hall Boiler Heating Maintenance	Reynolds plumbing & heating Ltd	263
Quarterly Fire Equipmt Maint	Advance Fire Services	256
Village Hall Water	Business Stream	181
Village Hall Gas supply	British Gas	682
Village Hall Electricity supply	E.on Heat Energy Ltd	708
Village Hall Cleaning	Mario Cleaning Service Ltd	1638
Hallmaster fees	D Jones (as reimbursement)	236

Agreed with Parish Council via email April 2021

Chairman 

Councillor 

Date 17.5.21



(Bank A/C 36592552 Sort Code:56-00-70)

Earswick Village Hall Fund Nat West Account 2020-21

DATE	Cheque No	Payee/Payer	Expenditure Item	Income	Exp	Balance
1.4.2020			Opening Balance			1,977.85
15.4.20	762	J Cook	Refund for VH Hire		-48.00	1,929.85
13.5.20	759	BS Wiseman	Toilet bloc, rolls, soap & hooks		-38.65	1,891.20
13.5.20	766	BS Wiseman	Floor Cleaner		-3.98	1,887.22
15.5.20	764	Advance Fire Services	Call out to test/reset call points		-54.00	1,833.22
15.5.20	765	Advance Fire Services	Fire Safety Check		-40.20	1,793.02
19.5.20	758	Mario Cleaning Service	VH Cleaning Feb 2020		-120.00	1,673.02
2.6.20	768	Sovereign Design Play Systems Ltd	Swings		-1,623.32	49.70
28.7.20	769	P Leveson	Hand Gel		-18.81	30.89
24.8.20	770	D Jones	Reimbursement for refund to hire		-24.00	6.89
1.9.20	Tmfr	Helen O'Grady	VH Hire	480		486.89
2.9.20	Tmfr	M Taylor	VH Hire	60		546.89
7.9.20	Tmfr	J Cook	VH Hire	140		686.89
8.9.20	Tmfr	Welbourn RR	VH Hire	40		726.89
17.9.20	Tmfr	M Taylor	VH Hire	30		756.89
23.9.20	Tmfr	M Taylor	VH Hire	10		766.89
1.10.20	Tmfr	E Moore	VH Hire	160		926.89
6.10.20	Tmfr	Welbourn RR	VH Hire	30		956.89
14.10.20	Tmfr	True Pawtental	VH Hire	145		1,101.89
19.10.20	Tmfr	M Taylor	VH Hire	150		1,251.89
26.10.20	Tmfr	True Pawtental	VH Hire	240		1,491.89
29.10.20	Tmfr	E Moore	VH Hire	170		1,661.89
2.11.20	Tmfr	Welbourn RR	VH Hire	40		1,701.89
7.12.20	Tmfr	M Taylor	VH Hire	150		1,851.89
31.3.21			Closing balance	Total	1,845.00	1,970.96

Chairman *[Signature]*  
Date 17.5.21

Councilor *[Signature]*

Neighbourhood Watch Report - 13.5.21

Neighbourhood Watch has worked tirelessly over the last year. As well as circulating information from The Community Messaging and incidents reported by residents, much of the local community have come together in generosity and friendship.

The three Lockdowns have been difficult and lonely for many but made more manageable with the help from neighbours. Shopping and odd jobs but I think friendly communication has been the most beneficial and a lifeline to some. Those who have embraced walking locally have become more aware of unusual behaviour and strange vehicles and happy to share, long may this continue. Sadly the problems with teenagers has been ongoing. Thanks to those who persevere to ring 101 and hold until answered and to the PC for clearing the undergrowth in the wooded area at the end of the field.

I have had recent communication from Will Monkman Community Speed Watch. He has submitted his assessment of both ends of Strensall Rd to NYP Traffic Bureau.

We wait in anticipation.

Kate Pace for NW