

EARSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earswick Parish Council, held in Earswick Village Hall on Monday 13th September 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

Kate Pace

2. Declarations of Interest and Any Other Declarations

Cllr E Dowsett declared an interest and did not take part in any discussion or decisions regarding agenda item 7, planning application 21/01990/FUL, 47 The Village

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes for the Extraordinary Parish Council (PC) meeting, held on the 22nd July 2021, were approved as accurate records by the Councillors and signed.

4. Ward Councillors' Reports

- Both Ward Cllrs, and Parish Cllrs Jones and Wiseman, attended a meeting with the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Philip Allott. All agreed the 101 telephone service is not operating as it should and Mr Allott will be working to improve this.
- Ward Cllr Doughty has requested that planning application 21/01755/FUL 27 Lock House Lane YO32 9FT (see item 7 below) will be considered at the Planning Sub-committee meeting around mid-October.
- The Parish Council and Ward Cllrs are due to meet City Of York Council representatives on Monday 20th September to discuss the latest proposals regarding the A1237 development.

5. Ratification of Expenditure Items

The following items of expenditure were ratified:

- £32.99 to J Fisher for tennis court padlock;
- £12.48 to BS Wiseman for Village Hall flash speed mop.

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

6. 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 12th July 2021:-

- J Fisher's salary for July and August 2021;
- Village Hall cleaning - £120 (June) & £120 (July);
- G Offler - £34 for plants & grass seed;
- A Hill - £2,964 for grass cutting, strimming & pitch marking, May & June;
- Yorkshire Local Council Assns - £48 for training;
- J Fisher - £84.98 reimbursement for Norton security 20/21 & 21/22;
- E-ON Next payments for the Village Hall - £45.59, £54.03;
- British Gas payments for the Village Hall - £38.77, £16.81;
- J Fisher - £32.99 reimbursement for tennis padlock;
- Mole removal (qtr 4) - £120;
- Advance Fire Services fire check- £47.40;
- A Hill - £2,688 for grass cutting, strimming, weed kill, July & August;
- P Leveson - £42 reimbursement for Dogs on Lead sign.

The following amounts have been received by the PC into the RBS a/c since reported at the meeting on 12th July 2021:

- £60 in tennis membership fees;
- £0.22 RBS interest to 30.7.21;
- £100 donation towards Scented Garden plants;
- £550 Cambridge & Counties Bank interest;
- £845 Cambridge & Counties Bank interest;
- £60 Village Hall hire income (RBS a/c).

The PC has received £545 in the Village Hall Fund NatWest account from July to August 2021.

7. Planning Applications

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

- 21/01755/FUL 27 Lock House Lane Earswick York YO32 9FT (Link extension to side, raising of roof height to side and garage to provide upper floor, front and rear extensions to garage. Single storey extensions to front, single storey extension to rear with terrace above, and dormer to rear) – objections raised by the Parish Council

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

- 21/01802 20 Lock House Lane Earswick York YO32 9FT (Single storey rear extension – retrospective) – no objections from the Parish Council. The PC was surprised another structure recently erected at 20 Lock House Lane was not included in this planning application, especially as Fosslands has no permitted development rights. Ward Cllr Fisher will follow this up.

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

- 21/01990/FUL 47 The Village Earswick York YO32 9SL (Two storey side extension, single storey front porch, single storey rear extension, 3no. dormers and 1no. rooflight to front, 1no. dormer to rear after removal of existing dormer, off-white render to external walls, and erection of detached garage to front);
- 21/01951/FUL 242 Strensall Road York YO32 9SW (Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and porch to front following demolition of existing detached garage and replacement of existing septic tank with sewage treatment plant).

The following planning application was approved by City of York Council (CYC):

- 21/01238/FUL 37 Earswick Chase, York YO32 9FZ (Two storey and single storey side extension to form self-contained annex and garage following demolition of existing detached garage).

8. Monthly Equipment Check

A check was carried out by Cllr Offler and papers circulated prior to the meeting. Please see items 7 and 14 below.

9. Fencing replacement around the Children's Play Area and New Equipment

The PC thanked Mr Offler for repairs he made to the Children's Play Area fence. The Ward Cllrs confirmed there is no Ward Funding available for this financial year. The PC agreed to defer this matter till next financial year.

10. Renewing the Mole Removal Contract

The PC agreed to renew the mole removal contract with Huntcatchkill PCS Ltd at £120 per quarter, commencing 1st November 2021. **Action: JF**

11. Dogs to be kept on lead sign

The PC ratified a payment of £42 to P Leveson for purchase of a sign from Signs Express asking dog walkers to keep their dogs on leads on paths. (NB This expenditure supersedes the £42 approved on 12.7.21, item 10).

12. Scented Garden Benches

The PC approved £12.24 to G Offler for sanding sheets to treat the Scented Garden benches.

13. Daffodil Bulbs

The PC approved £10 to G Offler for the purchase of daffodil bulbs for the public open space.

14. Installation of wetpour under the children's play equipment

The PC had been awarded £3,346 from City of York Council towards the replacement of the surface under the children's play equipment. Three quotes were obtained to complete this task and the PC agreed to accept the quote

from LJD Construction Ltd at £5,988 (incl VAT). The PC will fund the balance of £2,642.

Action: PL

15. Parish Council's Bank Accounts, On-line Banking and Finance Reports

The PC agreed to move onto on-line banking provided two signatories authorise the payment and instruct the bank transfer.

RBS has a system called Bankline which costs £20 per month and would appear to meet the two signatory requirement. The Finance Working Party will look into this option further.

Action: Finance Working Party

The PC manages three RBS bank accounts and one Nat West account. It was felt it would be preferable to consolidate these into one account – or maybe two, with one holding the PC's reserve of £20,500. This will be considered by the Finance Working Party at the same time as Bankline.

Action: Finance Working Party

16. Parish Council Newsletter

The PC approved up to £150 for printing of the Parish Council Newsletter.

Action: DJ

17. Parish Council Internal Audit

The PC appointed Cllrs Leveson and Dowsett to perform the audit on 11th October.

Action: JF/PL/ED

18. Grass Area at Entrance to Shilton Garth

The PC has a 3 year contract with A Hill to cut the grass at the entrance to Shilton Garth, so they agreed to write to owners of properties neighbouring the site and ask them to refrain from planting/cutting this area.

Action: JF

Mr Hill will be asked to cut this area before the winter.

Action: JF

19. British Gas Fixed Rate Plan

The PC agreed to accept the British Gas fixed rate plan for the Village Hall for 3 years from 1.10.21 (Standing charge 47.712 p/day; unit charge 5.163p/kwh - excl VAT and climate charge levy).

Action: JF

20. Ratification of non-financial decisions made since 12th July 2021

The following decisions made by the PC were ratified:

- i. Meeting with Luke Dixon (Huntington firefighter) on 17.9.21 to discuss wildfires;
- ii. Writing to Northernpower regarding any outstanding electrical work in The Village, Stablers Walk, Shilton Garth and Rowley Court;
- iii. Meeting with Philip Allott, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

21. Items for information

- Kate Pace, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, had issued a report to the PC before the meeting stating there is no equipment currently available for Speed Watch as it is all in use.
- Coffee mornings had started up again and were welcomed by residents
- Cllr Wiseman had attended a Foss Internal Drainage Board (FIDB) meeting. There are ongoing negotiations between the FIDB and Environment Agency regarding maintenance of the upland water pond at Warbutts. The FIDB are struggling to get timber for piling. The FIDB and Environment Agency were both aware of the recent pollution in the River Foss, caused by a burst main in Haxby.
- Item for next agenda – to consider banning the use of sky lanterns on PC land at the request of Ward Cllr Fisher following fears they may drift onto Strensall Common and cause a fire. **Action: JF**

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

J Fisher